MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:

President Ford

Amb. T. Vincent Learson (LOS)

Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President

for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME:

Saturday, January 10, 1976

12:00 - 12:17 p.m.

PLACE:

The Oval Office

The President: I appreciate your taking on this responsibility. It is important for 1976 but has far-reaching economic and national security ramifications. It has been going on for years, but I guess we at least have a document now. One critical aspect now is the fisheries question in Congress. We will try to slow that down as much as possible but we really need to have some definitive action this session so we can hold them off.

<u>Learson</u>: Anything you can have your legislative people do to slow it down would be helpful. I will do my darnedest to take charge the way you did.

The President: We have some supporters, like Gravel, but we can't keep dragging our feet.

When do the new statistics come out?

Scowcroft: They are out now.

<u>Learson</u>: If we could get the bill recommitted to Commerce for 90 days, that would help. It would be done on the basis of the new fishing figures and Commerce objections to some administrative provisions of the bill.

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DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5

NSC MEMO, 11/24/98, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES

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