MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Gerald Ford
               Mr. Max Fisher
               Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State
               and Assistant to the President
               for National Security Affairs
               Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant
               to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME: Monday, September 8, 1975
               1:55 - 2:00 p.m.
               [Before the President's meeting
               with the Jewish Leaders]

PLACE: The Oval Office
       The White House

Fisher: I have a most representative group -- thirty-six. This is the
whole spectrum of the Community.

There are a couple of questions which will come up. One is your discussions
with Syria. Then whatever discussion you can give.

I could open up with a statement of appreciation.

The President: Then I can say a few words and then let Henry describe the
agreement.

Fisher: Then Rabbi Miller can end with some words of support.

Kissinger: On Syria I have to say this: They can blow it up if they want.
If Israel keeps saying that nothing can be done, they will join the radicals.

Fisher: I would just say we hope something will come, but not by putting
pressure on Israel on it. Can you also mention Israeli flexibility? Don't
smile!

Kissinger: Will they support the agreement on the Hill?

Fisher: You better believe it!

[The President et al. proceeded to the Cabinet Room for the meeting.]
MEMORANDUM

HE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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- Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State
  and Assistant to the President
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DATE AND TIME:

Monday, September 8, 1975
2:00 p.m.

PLACE:

The Cabinet Room
The White House

Max Fisher: I want to present to you, Mr. President, the president of virtually every organization in the Jewish community. I want to congratulate you and, first of all, say how pleased we are at your escape Friday. Prayers for you were said in every synagogue.

We are deeply grateful to you and the Secretary for what you have accomplished and the manner in which you did it. It was good for the country and world peace.

The President: Thanks, Max. It has been a tough year and this has been one of the principal issues. I don't know how many hours Kissinger and I have spent together and with foreign diplomats on this. But I think we have achieved a great step forward. Let me say right now that the one who deserves the credit is Henry. Without him it could not have been done and I want to thank you before your colleagues.

It is a good agreement, but we now need quick action. We need Congressional approval within ten days. We appear to be getting support from the Leadership of both Houses. The form is a simple concurrent resolution which doesn't require my signature. We need your help in getting Congress to act quickly, and the bigger the vote the more unanimity we will show.

Henry, why don't you describe some of the details.
Kissinger: I want to underline the importance of the President's words on getting a substantial vote. It shouldn't be a grudging vote after acrimonious debate. The Soviet Union is beginning to snipe and mobilize the radicals. We also need a substantial vote on the aid package, including that for Egypt.

I assume you know the basic provisions. Israel's dilemma is that it is asked to give up something tangible, which can't be taken back, for something intangible -- a promise -- which can be changed. The most attractive route would be an overall settlement, but even if it could be negotiated -- which is doubtful, because it would put the negotiations in radical hands -- there is no way to test it. This agreement gives us a chance to test Egypt's good faith without jeopardizing Israeli security.

[He describes its major provisions.]

This is the most far-reaching agreement ever made in the history of the Middle East conflict. They could turn into empty promises, but if they do, Israeli security will not have been threatened. I think this could be a hopeful beginning for a very long and complicated peace process.

The President: I had a difficult decision on the American technicians. First, both Israel and Egypt asked us to do it.

Kissinger: That in itself is really something.

The President: Many people have likened this to Vietnam. There is no analogy. In Vietnam we went in on one side against another side. Here the U.S. is asked to send people to a neutral zone by both parties who are not at war.

We will be working hard with the Congress and would like your support.

Rabbi Miller: I join Max in thanking the Almighty for your deliverance. During our Holy Days we appreciate what you have been able to achieve. These are days of sober hopefulness. We hope this is a giant step on the road to peace. This will give us a chance to gauge Arab and especially Egyptian intentions. Israel is taking risks for peace and we hope and pray that these risks will lead to that peace. We know there will be problems, both on the technicians and magnitude of assistance. Underlying the words of the agreement is agreement between Israel and Egypt that the U.S. will
have the major role in bringing peace. We know the technicians are not military. One of the things we are proudest of is that Israel can handle the military problem by itself.

As you know, this is but one of our concerns. One other is Soviet Jewry, and we are bothering the Secretary on this. Another is Syrian Jewry. I have 400,000 signatures asking that something be done. I just mention them to let you know our shopping list is long, but now on these holidays we come back to the gratitude we feel for you.

The President: We are conscious of these other problems. We must take one step at a time.

Kissinger: Whether anything can be done on Syrian Jews depends in part on what happens between Syria and Israel. We don't expect any dramatic results between Israel and Syria given the nature of the Golan problem. But if Syria feels there is no hope, they will line up with the radicals and could even pressure Egypt. But we have explained our views on this to all the parties.

We are doing what we can with Soviet Jewry, but we have little to offer them. They can't get credits, MFN, and now they can't get grain loaded. We raise it at every meeting, but thus far they haven't been too forthcoming.

Question: We certainly intend to help on the Hill. How have the Committees reacted and what are the negative arguments?

Kissinger: On the technicians, the basic question is the analogy with Vietnam and why the U.S. and not Sweden, and so forth. I point out that Sweden and many others have larger contingents than we will. Also they ask what will happen if the technicians get into trouble.

I get the impression that the aid figures are much more of a problem than technicians. On aid I have taken the position that we would be giving aid in any case and there is just a small differential for the agreement itself.

Question: Are you asking other groups for help? We can't do it all ourselves.

The President: We are mounting an all-out effort with the Congress.

Question: Has the reassessment period now concluded?
The President: In the broader sense, yes. We felt we had either to do what we have done, or go for a broad agreement.

Question: We pledge our support in Congress. The technicians will get through because it is easy for Democratic liberals. A harder bullet will be two-point-something for Israel and the hardest will be $800 million for Egypt. We will be asked if the Saudis have gotten poor suddenly.

The President: The dollars will be the most difficult. We have held off sending the aid bill up to see what happened in the Sinai and with respect to Cyprus. The bill will contain two-point-something for Israel. We are still negotiating the details. It does contain something for Egypt. Israel has two and a half million people. Egypt has 40 million. Surely their allies will help, but this is one whole package.

One other point: Max hasn't given me authority to discuss this, but we have to solve Cyprus and to do that we have to lift the embargo. Try to get Ben Rosenthal to see the light. He is a good friend of mine, but he can really help and we need your help there.

Kissinger: In the 1973 war, we knew what the Soviet Union was doing -- because of Turkey. Also, if Turkey is rebuffed, it will turn to the radical Arabs. On aid for Egypt, Sadat wanted an agreement to demonstrate the benefits of working with the United States. He needs to show that there are benefits to cooperating with the United States. So it is not just the money, but where it comes from.

Fisher: You have been most generous with your time. You have our support.

The President: I think we need 75 percent of the vote in both houses.

I thank you for your sentiment on the little incident last Friday.

I want to reiterate that none of it would have been possible without Henry.

[Applause]
F. I have a non-official group of Chinese in a certain station.

There are a couple of questions which will come up. One is your definition of success. The other is the admission process can you.

I could sign up as a fragment of support.

F. Then I can sign up for awards and the like.

K. Define a deal agreement.

F. Then I'll fill in some sort of some weeks of support.

K. On Syria. They can fill in if they wish.

If I sign any written thing can be done they will give me a receipt.

F. I would just say I hope something will come, but not putting pressure on it or is it just a formality I'm looking. Don't smile.

K. Would they support a conformation? Would you give better assistance.
grading with the above conditions relates. The S V is
larger & larger magnification & rapid. Also
much more material with one and perhaps, another
that for E.

[Note: Further text appears here, but is not transcribed in full.]
A. How can we manage stress in our daily lives?

B. Can you give an example of a successful stress management strategy that you've used?

C. I've been feeling really overwhelmed with work lately. What advice do you have for managing stress?

D. I've noticed that I tend to procrastinate when I'm under stress. How can I overcome this habit?

E. Are there any specific exercises or breathing techniques that have helped you manage stress?

F. I've heard that mindfulness meditation can be helpful. Have you tried it, and if so, how has it worked for you?

G. How do you deal with stress in your personal life, such as family or friends?

H. I've been feeling really anxious about an upcoming project at work. What coping mechanisms do you use to manage your anxiety?
The dollars will be most expensive. We have
bought a bundle at a high price. The final
agreement for Dorna will be the French
and for E, we will be with a German.

They will have a point of view.

I think that the U.S. should have a
clearer view. This will help, but this is one
factor.

We are taking a position. We will have to
agree to disagree. Also, I have a..some
delay. The second quarter is the
delay. It is a good friend of mine, but I have
some help on the delay.

For this, we know what is working
decently of Turkey. Also if the Turkey is
released, it will turn the radical right.

Demand for E. Just wanted to agree
the agreement of benefit of working with E.
He needs to show that there are benefits
agreement of E. Not just a money but
we should come from

I hope that you have some of your time. You,
show your support.
1. I think we need to split notes in both
   forms.

2. Thank you for your feedback on
   with minimum risk.

3. Want to validate that we do it well
   have been passed 05/12.

   (Applause)