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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

**PARTICIPANTS:** 

President Gerald Ford 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

Jean Sauvagnargues, Minister of Foreign Affairs of France Jacques Kosciusko-Morizet, Ambassador of France

DATE AND TIME:

PLACE:

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7:30 a.m. - 8:20 a.m. (Breakfast)

September 28, 1974

First Floor Family Dining Room The White House

Sauvagnargues: The UN affair is exhausting. If there were more time you could get quite a bit done.

<u>Kissinger:</u> Yes, I am less cynical now about the UN than I used to be. It is a tremendous concentration of decision-makers.

Sauvagnargues: I had lunch with the Arab Foreign Ministers. There was no substance, but it was very interesting.

Kissinger: I had lunch with the Africans. Quite an experience.

President: Rush is going over to Paris soon.

Sauvagnargues: It will be good to have him as a partner in Paris. We worked closely in the Berlin negotiations. It was a tough business, but Abrasimov was quite sentimental when we finished.

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Gromyko has warmed up a bit. He used to be quite blank-faced.

Kissinger: I think he is the most reliable -- or I did until last night. They gave us a formulation for CSCE. They said it was the same as they gave the Germans, but in fact they gave us an old one.

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Grechko is very sharp. He's in his seventies, but very acute. We talked once about FBS. He showed me a map of how he would employ them. It was very good.

<u>Sauvagnargues</u>: The Soviet Union always claimed that the bases around the Soviet Union created a disequilibrium.

Kosciusko-Morizet: Grechko asked how many Communists there were in the French Army.

<u>President:</u> Does a military man like that ever get into the political arena?

Kissinger: He is in the Politburo, the first one since Zhukov.

Sauvagnargues: I think the military has a little more influence now.

[Dr. Kissinger described the discussions with Brezhnev at which Brezhnev presented Soviet maps of our FBS deployments and discussed how they would use them.]

<u>Sauvagnargues</u>: I had a conversation once with Brezhnev. I wasn't very impressed.

<u>Kissinger</u>: That is true, except on military matters. When I was negotiating with him on missile silo dimensions, he drew diagrams about how new missiles could be put into old silos with some modifications. They are doing it by this method now. At least it gives us knowledge of their new missile installations.

We were talking before about nuclear weapons in Europe. Mr. Sauvagnargues was worried about withdrawals of our nuclear weapons. I assured him there would be no withdrawals except under MBFR.

Sauvagnargues: But you might use them to get out a tank division.

Kissinger: Possibly, but we have not yet broached the idea.

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Sauvagnargues: MBFR is going nowhere, yes?

President: Not so far.

<u>Kissinger:</u> We could get something if we linked it to CSCE. But that gives you a problem.

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<u>Sauvagnargues</u>: We are critical of MBFR, so a link with CSCE would bring us problems. I know it is useful to you domestically.

<u>President:</u> We have a problem with Congress every year on the troops in Europe. Each year it gets closer. Who knows what will happen next year? We are trying to hold out for mutual withdrawal.

Kosciusko-Morizet: The pressure in Congress this year doesn't seem so high.

<u>President:</u> That is true. But if we get a more liberal Congress in January, our margin would evaporate.

<u>Kissinger</u>: And before the '76 elections, they will try to develop some foreign policy issues. Our European troops are a likely candidate.

Mr. President, you may be interested that France has introduced an impressive conservation program.

President: It was mentioned in the energy conference yesterday.

<u>Sauvagnargues</u>: Next year we will spend only a fixed number of millions of francs on oil.

Kissinger: So if prices go up, the quantity goes down.

Sauvagnargues: We feel the solidarity of the West must be maintained now, but we also seek a dialogue between consumers and producers. We are not ready to join emergency sharing, but we don't object to the idea. But we would rather approach it in a more general way -including the producers. And the first step we think is to demonstrate that big consumers take oil seriously -- by each getting its house in order by conserving.

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<u>Kissinger:</u> We agree a cooperative approach should be tried first, but we don't think it will work unless consumers show some solidarity.

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Sauvagnargues: We don't disagree, but we will have to see what you propose. We would prefer a longer-range approach to study the problem first. We could include countries like India and Brazil, and include producers.

<u>Kissinger:</u> India and Brazil won't. They want us to fight their battles. We don't object to your approach, but we don't think you can talk to the producers until the consumers know what to talk about. We have to build financial institutions to take care of the Nine and Japan. Another must be to find a way for the Third World -- and first is conservation.

Sauvagnargues: I don't agree with this approach at all. Western unity should be based on three parties - Japan, the EC, and the United States.

Kissinger: Nothing in our plan would permit European participation as a unit. In fact it would make it easier. The fund contributions could be from Europe rather than individuals.

Sauvagnargues: We do need some unity before talking with the producers, but I would start all three at once. That is why I would use a study group. Because we don't want to antagonize Algeria, and the others.

<u>Kissinger:</u> Why should the producers be able to organize and not the consumers?

Sauvagnargues: But that is the way it is.

<u>Kissinger</u>: We were told that in February, but our relations with the producers are now better than before, even though we organized the Energy Conference.

Sauvagnargues: But you tried to get the Saudis to lower prices.

Kissinger: Some did, but I never thought it would work. My conception is to work on prices in the second phase - after we have the emergency energy sharing program.



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<u>Sauvagnargues:</u> But the emergency sharing doesn't depend on actions by the producers. It should be done anyway.

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Kissinger: True, but this builds a basis of unified action.

Sauvagnargues: What will the Japanese do?

<u>Kissinger</u>: They will go along, but they will try to slightly dissociate themselves.

President: I am looking forward to meeting President Giscard.

<u>Kissinger:</u> We are thinking of the evening of the 14th, the 15th, and maybe part of the 16th.

<u>Sauvagnargues:</u> Then it is decided. It will be a very easy conversation, because Giscard speaks English.

I am looking forward to seeing Martinique.

<u>Kosciusko-Morizet</u>: It is not luxurious. There may be press and communications problems.

<u>Kissinger:</u> We can't start planning before the announcement. When should we do it?

<u>Sauvagnargues:</u> Maybe within the next two weeks. I will check with the President.

Kosciusko-Morizet: Will you bring a huge team of journalists?

Kissinger: It is hard for us to keep it under 200.

President: They will be eager to go to Martinique.

Sauvagnargues: Thank you for this meeting.

<u>President:</u> It has been a pleasure. I hope you will have a good time at Camp David. Secretary Kissinger has my total backing.



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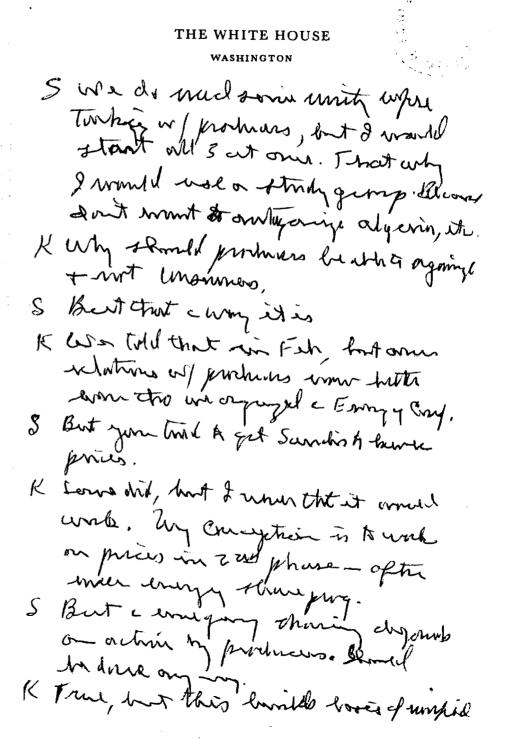
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