MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:

Amb. Anatoliy F. Dobrynin, Ambassador of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Soviet Pilots

General Aleksandr V. Belyakov

Georgi F. Baidukov Col. Igor V. Chkalov

President Ford

Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME:

Monday, June 23, 1975

12:50 - 1:12 p.m.

PLACE:

The Oval Office The White House

President: I heard about your welcome in Vancouver.

Baidukov: The welcome was great. We were shown photos and clippings. It was very touching.

[The President gives a wooden mead bowl as a gift.]

Baidukov: This is the model of the plane we flew. It had one motor, and big wings. We flew for 63 hours nonstop, Moscow to Vancouver.

President: Just the three of you?

Baidukov: Just three in the crew.

President: How was the ice?

Baidukov: Very bad. The airports from Seattle to San Francisco were not being used for two days, so we used military airfields.

President: No de-icing equipment?

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Baidukov: Just on the propeller.

President: Did you fly it back?

Baidukov: No. It was dismantled and exhibited at the New York World's

Fair. It is now in a museum in Gorky dedicated to flight.

President: How long does it take now to fly that route?

Baidukov: Ten hours.

President: Are both of you jet pilots?

Baidukov: We don't fly anymore.

Belyakov: Here is a copy of the navigation log book of the flight. [He gives the President copies in Russian and English. The President looks it over; then escorts his guests into the Rose Garden for the public

presentation].

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