NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION Presidential Libraries Withdrawal Sheet

WITHDRAWAL ID 018009

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:

President 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

DATE AND TIME:

Tuesday, June 10, 1975

9:37 - 10:20 a.m.

PLACE:

The Oval Office

President: I got that memo on Brezhnev's health. It is disturbing. Do we know about his possible replacements?

Kissinger: The paper mentioned Shelepin and Andropov. Shelepin is gone and it would be a first if Andropov, head of the KGB, were to make it.

[There was some discussion of the Malenkov-Beria days.]

They obviously count on having a CSCE summit in July. Dobrynin says that Brezhnev wants to meet with you there. That would be a good time to make progress on SALT. I can do a little beforehand, but not much.

We got a letter from Demirel. [He reads it.] Once they have said this, they are not bluffing.

President: We ought to talk to the House leadership the last of this week, or early next. Get some language, and something on refugees.

> HENRY A. KISSINGE CLASSIFIED BY

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President: How do you assess the Marcos visit there?

<u>Kissinger:</u> He feels he can no longer appear as an American stooge. He seriously doubts our ability to stay the course and has decided China is the wave of the future. China won't hurt us over the near term. They won't push us from Thailand or the Philippines. After 3-5 years, there may be hell to pay. In ten years if the President and Secretary of State have sense, we will probably be lining up with the Soviet Union against the Chinese.

Schlesinger is releasing the pictures of Berbera today. It is a mug's game to score these little victories against the Soviets.

President: What is the reason?

<u>Kissinger:</u> Diego Garcia. But we have to start talking with one issue. We are going to humiliate the Soviet Union enough in the Middle East that we just shouldn't overload the circuit.

President: Do you want a directive?

<u>Kissinger:</u> Let me think about it. I tried to make peace with him but I fear he took it as a sign of weakness.

President: Why does Sadat say "after our victory in the October war?"

Kissinger: He is an Arab. And at the end of the first week, without our intervention, the Israelis would have run out of ammunition.

<u>President:</u> Can we do something for John Lodge -- some commission or something?

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