THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:

President Ford

Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President

for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME:

Friday, August 13, 1976

PLACE:

The Oval Office

<u>President:</u> I met a real politician from the Vatican -- Cardinal Pignatelli. Cardinal Krol said he is a real candidate for Pope. What do you have?

Kissinger: I plan to go to the Convention only Thursday.

President: That's fine. I am going to Vail Friday but we'll have a chance to talk.

Kissinger: Is there anything you want me to do?

President: Let's wait until I get there and see.

[There is discussion of Secretary Kissinger's flying problems. He will come on Friday on the C-135.]

Kissinger: [Discussed the Olson appointment.]

There are two problems -- \mathcal{S} y Weiss and the IRS. I'll put him in if you wish, but these are the problems. If you would agree to another Caribbean post. [Discussed the Dominican Republic and Haiti.]

<u>President:</u> That's okay. I just have to place him. Did you see this piece in the Christian Science Monitor? [He hands it to Secretary Kissinger.] [Mentioned the PDB on dismantling.]

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DECLASSITIED E.O. 12868, SEC. 3.5 <u>Kissinger:</u> This is another example of our problem. Brent says this PDB item bears no relation to what his reconnaissance says.

Scowcroft: The word I have is that all the agencies agree there is compliance and the exceptions are insignificant.

<u>Kissinger:</u> I talked Africa with the British. It is obvious they are playing their own game for short-term gains. They want to get Smith out and don't care what happens after. I don't mind that, but if we can't get something for it, I would just as soon let them go to hell on their own. We also have indications that Tanzania may be falling off.

My proposal is to send Schaufele and Rogers to Tanzania and Zambia to give them the outline of the plan. Then I would meet with Vorster. At a minimum we could deal with Namibia. The British have their own game there, too. They want to scrap the convention for SWAPO. If we can't sell Namibia, I think we may have to veto it in the United Nations. I just don't think we can go further.

If Rhodesia breaks down, it will be because the blacks want to drive the whites out, and allow them any guarantees. I don't think we should be part of such a plan.

President: Does the British plan have guarantees?

<u>Kissinger:</u> Yes. The key will be whether the blacks will accept guarantees rather than kicking the whites out. Our scheme for Namibia was originally proposed by Nyerere, but they may want more now.

<u>President:</u> That was our plan before and I think we should stick with it. What will the Soviets and Cubans do?

<u>Kissinger:</u> I think it would be like this Monitor article says -- they are playing in Mozambique and Tanzania.

President: I think we should go ahead.

<u>Kissinger:</u> In Iran, I don't think we realize what our domestic politics do to these people. This Humphrey [Senate subcommittee] report was a disaster. We have no better friend than the Shah. He is absolutely supportive.

President: What is Humphrey doing?

<u>Kissinger:</u> He now feels badly. But he has Ellsworth's former staff assistant who did the study and Bob is anti-Iranian. Then the Jews want to stop arms to the Middle East and there is an anti-arms sale binge on the Hill.

[Pitch about getting the Government in shape after November.]

I had to take Bhutto on on the non-proliferation issue. It was too bad to do that to him, but if we didn't take a stand, it would get out of control. Actually it should be good for you for me to have been tough on it.

Don [Rumsfield] is planning to testify before Jackson on the 24th. I think it would be bad.

President: I completely agree. Why does he have to do it now?

Scowcroft: Jackson has been pressuring him. But he didn't indicate to me he couldn't get out of it. Henry has refused for a year.

President: I don't think he should do it.

Kissinger: I am going to the Law of the Sea Conference tomorrow. It is a real mess -- but not because of our delegation. It's the deep sea bed. We have a position which no one else will support. If we can get it, fine, but we may have to change. It is the same problem -- Treasury wants free enterprise, but it's questionable whether private enterprise would go out there without guarantees. You don't need to decide now. [He discusses the proposals we are fighting.]

President: Is that the only issue?

<u>Kissinger:</u> No. There is the economic zone, scientific research, and voting for the seabed authority. Tomorrow I just am going up to see what is going on.

I am also meeting with the Greek and Turkish Foreign Ministers. That is a disaster. The Greeks are claiming most of the Aegean and the Turks are challenging it.

[More discussion]

President: When will this come up in the UN?

Kissinger: It's under discussion now. The problem is a vote next week.

<u>President:</u> I hope there are no Greek uncommitted delegates. [Laughter] I see you visited our old friend the Dutchman.

<u>Kissinger</u>: They head the EC now. Den Uyl was all sweetness and light. He wanted our imprimatur.

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