MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE \SECRET/NODIS/XGDS WASHINGTON

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 & TIME:

Thursday, April 24, 1975

10:43 - 11:00 a.m.

PLACE:

The Oval Office

Kissinger: Muskie says there is a deterioration of support for Israel but Dinitz doesn't know it because they are afraid to tell him. He said \$2.6 billion was way too high -- maybe hundreds of million.

[President reads the Martin cable.]

President: I think he has to tell the contractors and civilians to get going. We can't be responsible for their delaying to get the dependents out. I can understand the official American numbers.

It is not helpful to have a typhoon coming.

Kissinger: We can get out at any time. We have to believe his figures because he is the guy on the ground.

President: What worries me is, while he has given the figures, he always ends up higher. I don't like that.

Kissinger: I agree. He has not carried out orders and hasn't. I think we should say the President approves but it's the second time he has approved one. There can be no equivocation on this figure. The President

CLASSIFIED BY EXEMPT FROM GENERAL (SECRET/NODIS/XGDS/A EDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER EXTIPTION CATEGORY AUZDMATICALLY DECLASSIFIE

E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.5

NSC Memo, 11/24/98, State Dept. Guidelines

wants all non-essential contractors and non-government people moved out. Those who stay after the 1090 figure is reached will stay at their own risk. The press should slim down to an absolute minimum.

President: If he is down to 1090 and non-essentials the day after, when is the final evacuation?

Kissinger: Whenever we trigger.

<u>President:</u> I would give him a final figure -- what would the number be of contractors, etc. by Saturday morning.

<u>Kissinger:</u> About your trip: June 2 is the Italian national holiday. So that effects the Rome schedule.

Do Sadat in the afternoon and the next morning.

President: I would spend more time.

Kissinger: You could have dinner on the 2nd, meetings on the morning of the 3rd, have dinner, then a meeting with the Pope early in the evening and then return. One and one-half hours with the Pope is plenty.

[The Vice President enters.]

Kissinger: [Tells story of Mel Laird's cigar burning at the meeting with the Pope in October 1970.]

[Gets the President to sign Presidential Determination.]

[Hands the President the VE Delegation.]

[Discussion of VE Day Delegation.]



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P I would spend were him FORDING Hal Can Stuhais Lute on zul Phon a be house onight of still I gam und homedommen a z wed entip enoung of zel, humbern, then with al Pope early Par and then uturn. I've has all Pope is plenty. (VP enters)

K (Tells striff hel Laised or (Pope) (Goto Prepart & rigor PD) Hambo Pohn VED eliyati P (Disworm of VE Day Delegation)