

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
Presidential Libraries Withdrawal Sheet

WITHDRAWAL ID 014222

REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL National security restriction
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Rumsfeld
CREATION DATE 04/13/1976
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Scowcroft, Rumsfeld
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Scowcroft H.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SECRET/NODIS/XGDS

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WITH PORTIONS EXEMPTED
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NSA ltr 2/14/08
MR 08-58 #24; State ltr 10/1/01

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

BY dal NARA DATE 3/6/08

PARTICIPANTS: President Ford
Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State
Donald Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, April 13, 1976
10:04 - 10:44 a.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office

The President: What is happening in Lebanon?

Kissinger: Our big problem now is Egypt wants us to get the Syrians out. Arafat is asking Egypt to get the Syrians out.

The President: Arafat was jus t recently blasting Egypt.

Kissinger: I think we are okay on our present course. I think over the long run the Lebanese developments will help. I think Arafat will lose his influence in favor of Saiqa. This will remove the PLO's veto over the actions of Syria. The danger is that Asad may be overthrown.

The President: But if this works out, won't he be strengthened?

Kissinger: He may be thrown out anyway. He has been in there longer than anyone else. If my prediction is right, we may have a unique peace window next year.

The President: Won't all this help with the renewal of UNDOF?



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Kissinger: Asad, we have proved, is scared to death of the Israelis.

The President: How about the Sixth Fleet?

Kissinger: I think we should keep it there until a new Lebanese President is elected.

Rumsfeld: The problem is money for steaming time.

Kissinger: Bitsios is here today.

Rumsfeld: I think it is important that we coordinate these things and insure that everyone knows it is important to you. It would be good domestically.

The President: It sure is very important to me. Let's get a coordinated approach for the meetings and discussions.

Kissinger: We can put together a package of the C-130's, Greece, Turkey, Spain and the Philippines. That we have anchored our defense relations and readjusted to the new world situation.

Rumsfeld: I think we should also extend this to Europe. If we can get the Europeans to increase their NATO spending we would really be in good shape. We should help the Europeans understand our purposes and strategy.

Kissinger: You have Giscard coming in May. It should be high profile.

Scowcroft: And Schmidt in July.

Kissinger: Maybe we should think about getting Callaghan over here.

[Discussion of the British -- Callaghan, Crosland, and the Queen's visit.]

The President: I think it would be good to have Rambouillet II in this connection.

Kissinger: It could be in June, maybe. We would also take up Britain and Italy -- though not Italy overtly. Schmidt is the key to a meeting. We have to get his support.



Rumsfeld: You asked a question yesterday about the future and you got three answers. I think mine basically covers all -- miniaturization, which will give us a capability to do so many other things.

The President: But that isn't particularly glamorous. It doesn't catch people's fancy.

Scowcroft: I think it should be defined in somewhat broader terms, but built on what Don said -- target acquisition and fire control over long distances by satellites and extreme accuracy of weapons. These could revolutionize conflict.

The President: How is that anti-satellite study coming? I think that one is really important.

Scowcroft: A progress report will be in within a week.

Kissinger: I have one purely foreign policy matter -- your participation in the Giscard visit. I think you should basically agree to whatever he wants you to do. Like a second meeting, reception, dinner and farewell call.

The President: That is fine with me.

Scowcroft: There is the sound and light ceremony too. Perhaps the Vice President and Mrs. Ford can do that.

Kissinger: Yes. You probably wouldn't have to do that in person.



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