

MEMORANDUM

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

MR 08-91 #31; OSD LCU 10124108

BY dal NARA DATE 3/10/09

PARTICIPANTS: President Ford
Dr. James R. Schlesinger, Secretary of Defense
Gen. George S. Brown, Chairman,
Joint Chiefs of Staff
Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant
to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME: Saturday, August 9, 1975

PLACE: The Oval Office
The White House

SUBJECTS: Soviet Grain;
in Turkey; Personnel; Budget

Secretary Schlesinger: You have much leverage with Brezhnev on grain. They feed about 100 million tons to livestock. They will have to slaughter a lot of them.

The President: Yes, I know. The astronauts told us about the brown Soviet fields.

Secretary Schlesinger: It is worse than '72. If they come in surreptitiously, you are in for a domestic political surprise.

The President: Without going into detail, I think we have taken adequate precautions.

Secretary Schlesinger: I was going to recommend an Export Security Board. It's a departure from free enterprise, but it protects you. Or, require announcement of intent to purchase. This would prevent them from coming in low and buying quietly, leaving the subsequent higher prices for the American consumer.



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The President: We are very aware of the problem and I think it is under control.

Secretary Schlesinger: My main point today is to insure that you know about the situation in Turkey -- and it applies generally. The situation is that we have a small guard, and general security responsibility belongs to the host. It hasn't been a problem and shouldn't be unless Turkey decides to do something.

The President: It was a problem before. Pastore briefed me on it. What is your appraisal?

Secretary Schlesinger:
.....
..... You are responsible for the rules of engagement and the de jure custody. We have drafted a cable to U. S. SACEUR. It would not require forcible resistance, but if an attempt was made to physically
.....
..... It does not apply to though.

If we would not fight but go to the Government of Turkey and say we are sure it is a mistake and get them out. This would avoid a nasty incident and them seizing all the areas or taking other drastic actions.

Gen. Brown: My concerns about this is that when Turkey took over, a couple of Turks wandered into these areas. Right now the U. S. commander (a Captain or Major), if he can't communicate, has the discretion to start shooting. I would modify these unless it was an obvious raid with the intent to when his current instructions would apply.

Schlesinger: The present procedures have the approval of the Joint Committee. Any change will have to go past Pastore.

The President: I have a suspicion that some of the Congress would use this as an excuse to get

Sec. Schlesinger: We can't get the without their agreement.

Gen. Brown: We have joint instructions with Turkey for destruction, etc.

The President: Let me think it over at least 24 hours.



Secretary Schlesinger: The U. S. can't afford to let anyone
..... impunity.

A worst case -- worse than our having to.....
..... -- would be to allow to be
left in the hands of locals.

Gen. Brown: So far they have acted very responsibly.

The President: This directive would apply only to Turkey.

Gen. Brown: Yes. We would change nothing except the contingency where
the local commander exceeded his authority and it would take time to sort
out.

Secretary Schlesinger: !.....
.....
.....

Gen. Brown: At..... there is much activity; he can get help. He can
talk to other people, etc. I am not concerned about like I am
about the isolated bases.

The President: We need to get the Turkish aid situation straightened
out. Incidentally, I am shocked to see 60 A-7s were sent to Greece.

Secretary Schlesinger: State was fully involved. They felt the impact
on the Greeks of turning it off would outweigh that on the Turks.

The President: I was amazed and had I known I would have stopped it.
If I were a Turk I would have been furious. I can't imagine how I was
not informed.

[General Brown leaves].

Secretary Schlesinger: On Schedule C appointments, your political
people still seem to think it is the place to tuck away deserving people.
And that they want to clear them here.

The President: My recollection is we wanted notification with the right
veto. I am not aware we have crammed anyone down your throat. That is
the way I think it should be done.



Secretary Schlesinger: Good.

On the budget, he sent guidelines for \$8 billion in the budget and \$5 billion in outlays.

The President: I brought this up with Lynn. They said they weren't in contradiction to the five-year growth, but it looked that way to me. I said to talk to you.

Secretary Schlesinger: The '76 plan is \$116 billion in obligational authority and \$104 billion in outlay. We will have the budget review in the fall. That is fine.

The President: The five-year projection must be adjusted based on what the Congress does to the '76 budget.

Secretary Schlesinger: Yes.



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