

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Nixon  
 George P. Shultz, Secretary of the Treasury  
 John D. Ehrlichman, Assistant to the President  
 for Domestic Affairs  
 Charles J. DiBona, Special Consultant to  
 the President  
 Major General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant  
 to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME: Thursday, February 8, 1973  
 1:15 p. m.

PLACE: The Cabinet Room

SUBJECT: Energy Meeting

The President introduced Charles DiBona. The President spoke of the importance of the energy problem. Our national security said we should keep our oil in the ground and import what we need. But the unsettled nature of much of the oil-producing areas made this a problem.

Many interests were involved, the President continued: the needs of our security, industry, and the conservationists.

There were many spokesmen, and we must keep in touch with all of them. The Congress had many views. Conally was a good spokesman for compromise, but with also a good understanding of our security needs. Jackson had a very good grasp of the problem. There were also many bureaucratic interests involved: Departments like State, DOD, Interior, Commerce, Treasury, the NSC, the Domestic Council, and CIEP.

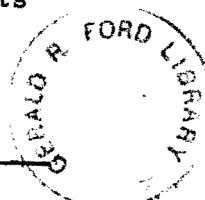
DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5

NSC MEMO, 112400, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES  
 BY LA . NARA, DATE 2/20/04

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CLASSIFIED BY Brent Scowcroft  
 EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION  
 SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652  
 EXEMPTION CATEGORY 5 B (1)  
 AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON Imp. to def.



This issue cut across all lines and that is why we set up DiBona separate from any particular interest. It would be a very tough job.

People like Long say we should spend our money here at home instead of giving it to the Arabs.

Mr. DiBona mentioned the fact that he had been in the Oval Office previously as Selective Service Director. The President agreed, but said that Mr. DiBona ended up outlasting Senator Smith.

Secretary Shultz agreed this was a very complex problem and we had varying degrees of knowledge about different parts of it. Probably we should package the things we felt confident about, and allude to the things we need to pursue farther before making recommendations to send to the Hill.

The President wished DiBona well, told him this was a tough job, and that the Selective Service was too easy for him. Curtis Tarr had done well, but that this was more challenge.

In parting, he said DiBona shouldn't be captured by Shultz, Ehrlichman, and Scowcroft, because they were special interests. The President said there was an enormous national security aspect to the issue. The environmentalists were a problem. There were of course good ones, but the kooks would have us going back to rubbing two sticks together.

The President said that we must consult and keep in contact with all these groups. He hoped Russell Train was aware of the situation Train should be kept read in so he knew what was going on, but not so much that he could substantially interject himself or interfere.

✓ d. Bona mtg w/ Puro - 8 Feb

Energy mtg  
w/ Skully,  
Ehrlichman  
& d. Bona

### Introduction of D. Bona

Spoke of importance of issue

- Natl Security says key point in regard to M  
~~is the~~ ~~nature~~ ~~of~~ ~~much~~ ~~of~~ ~~oil~~ ~~producing~~ ~~areas~~  
- makes this a problem

- Many interests are involved

- Security
- Industry
- Conservationists

- Many spokesmen - must be pertinent w/ all

- Congress has many views

- Connally is good spokesman for  
compromise, but w/ also good security under  
standing.

- Jackson very good grasp of a problem.

- Many bureaucratic interests

- Depto (State, S.D., Justice, Commerce, Treasury)
- NSC, OMB, CIA, FBI
- ~~NSC~~ - has some cuts across all

lines & that is why we set up  
d. Bona separate from any  
particular interest.

~~NSC~~ - Very tough job

d. B - mentioned fact that he had been in Oval  
office previously - Sel Sen Dir.

P - Said yes, but you ended up contacting Sen.  
Smith, and this

AS - Said this is very complex problem & we have  
varying degrees of knowledge about different parts.  
Why should package the things we feel  
important about, all into a thing we need  
to pursue further before making recommendations.



and send it to Hill

(cont'd) P. People like Long say we should spend our money here at home instead of giving it to Arabs.

P. Wished d. B. well, told him this was a tough job, that c. Sal Sme was too easy for him - Tom had done well - but that this was more challenge.

In parting, said d. B. shouldn't be captured by S, E, S because we were special interests

---

P. Said there was an enormous natl security aspect to this issue.

P. Environmentalists are a problem. There are of course good ones, but the books would have us going back to clubbing 2 sticks together.

P. (part of ladies) Must consult (not key contact) w/ all these groups. Is Train aware of the situation. He should be kept real in so he knows what is going on, but not so he ~~becomes~~ substantially involved himself or interferes.