

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: President's Meeting with the Cabinet  
DATE & TIME: Wednesday - July 16, 1975  
11:00 a.m.  
PLACE: The Cabinet Room

[There is discussion of Hathaway being in the hospital.]

President: The Indochina refugee program is being transferred from State to HEW. I will stop at Camp Chafee in August. Please be helpful with your people on loan so we can get the job done. If we don't get it handled expeditiously it will be a festering problem.

[There was discussion of the regulatory agency meeting which took place last week.]

[Jim Cannon and Rod Hills gave a briefing.]

Marsh: The response to Congressional correspondence is too slow. We need a seven-day turnaround time, starting with when the response request leaves Friedersdorf.

[There was discussion of this subject.]

President: I would like Jim to say something about the controversy over Berbera. I claimed in a press conference last fall that the Soviet Union had a base there. They denied it; we showed our photos, and the Somalis asked some Congressmen to visit.

Schlesinger: The Soviets have had a tracking station there for some time. Recently our photo reconnaissance showed clear evidence of major construction, including the largest airfield on the Indian Ocean and a missile storage and handling facility. We took some releaseable photos. The upshot was that a group of reporters and eight Congressmen went there. [He described the visits] The upshot has been that American



~~TOP SECRET - FROTH (S)~~  
CLASSIFIED BY [redacted] FOR [redacted]

Determined to be Administrative Marking

Date 2/26/98 By KBH

credibility is upheld and those who opposed Diego Garcia on the faith of Soviet statements are in disarray. Diego Garcia should therefore pass. It also indicates the success of verification by National Technical Means. Heretofore, many have argued that we could not rely on it without having on-site inspection.

President: We do have a reliable technical surveillance capability. The Congressmen have verified the reliability of that technical means through this trip. The important point is our verification capability has been enhanced.

The last item is the status of our energy program. [He described decontrol program being sent up today.]

Zarb: [Described decontrol of oil and natural gas.]

Butz: As the oldest Cabinet member, Mr. President, I want to say we are very pleased at the announcement of your candidacy. I hope all of us will tilt a little -- within proportion -- in our department programs to help the President's program. [He tells a joke about the tillie-millie tilt.]



K. [unclear] [unclear] for FBI [unclear],  
Cia [unclear] [unclear]  
[unclear] [unclear] - raised [unclear] [unclear]

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11/10/153

# Cabinet Mtg



P (Hathaway in hospital)

Judith [unclear] [unclear] being transferred from State to HEW. [unclear] stop at Chapel in Aug. Please be helpful w/ your people on loan so we can get job done. If we don't get it handled effectively it will [unclear] [unclear]

(Regulatory agency mtg last week, Cannon/Hills [unclear])

check status

Mand - Response to Cong. case is too slow. We need a 7 day turnaround time starting w/ when a response request leaves F. [unclear]

(Discussion)

P I would like Jim to say something about the controversy over Barbara. I claimed last fall they had a base there. They denied it; we showed photos, and Somalia asked Congress to visit.

try to [unclear] [unclear]

Sch. Sars had had tracking station [unclear] for some time. Recently we saw photos [unclear] clear evidence of engine construction, and largest oil on Indian Ocean + a missile storage + handling facility.

We took some releasable photos. Upshot was [unclear] 4 or 5 Congressmen went there (describable [unclear]). Upshot has been that US credibility is upheld + that who opposed Diego Garcia on faith of Sars statements are in disarray. Deals should pass.

It also vindicates [unclear] verification by NTM. Heretofore, many have argued we could not rely on it w/o also having on-site inspections.

P We do have a reliable [unclear] surveillance capability. The Congressmen have verified reliability of that tech means there this trip. The important point is our verif. capability has been enhanced.

Last item is status of our energy prog. (Desired decontrol prog being sent up today).

Zab (Desired decontrol of oil + Natl Gas)



Butz As oldest cabinet member, I want to say we  
are very pleased at announcement of your candidacy.  
I hope all of us will tilt a little - as in perspective -  
in our dept prog to help a PMS prog. (Joke about  
Tuthe - Willie's test)

Mr. President -  
I would not ask

