

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Ford  
Ambassador Abdullahi Ahmed Addou, Somalia  
Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy  
Assistant to the President for National  
Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME: Wednesday, September 24, 1975  
2:00 - 2:15 p.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office  
The White House

The President: I appreciate your message after the incident in San Francisco.

Addou: We are praying for your safety. You are very important for your country and the world and we hope this will not reoccur. We are all in the hands of the Almighty and will live so long as he wills.

The President: How is your President?

Addou: He is well and has the best memories of his visit with you. He wants to the maximum extent to have the closest relations with the United States. We have had close relations with the United States going back to our struggle for independence, which you supported.

We have no reason to be anything but grateful to you. We had a misunderstanding which was ended with the visit of President Siad to you. We are fiercely jealous of our independence and will not jeopardize it for anyone.

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~~TOP SECRET~~  
CLASSIFIED BY

DECLASSIFIED  
E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5  
NSC MEMO, 11/20/00, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES, State Dep. 2/11/04  
BY law, NARA, DATE 4/2/04

The President: I am glad to hear that. We have supported your independence. It is in our interest to have a strong self-reliant Somalia and we will continue to support your independence. We were pleased to help in the drought and are reviewing proposals to be of economic assistance to you.

Addou: We are very grateful for your help for the worst drought in Somali history. We have had a difficult time and we appreciate your aid -- also with your plans for economic aid.

The President: Does the drought last more than a year?

Addou: It is cyclical, but this one has been longer and deeper. 20,000 have died. We are moving 250,000 into agricultural areas where they can be self-supporting. We hope for support in this from friendly nations.

I have here a letter from President Siad which I have the honor to present to you.

The President: Please convey my best wishes to the President.



✓ P/ Amb Adnan <sup>ADDON</sup> of Somalia  
24 Sept 75 2:00 pm

P I appreciate your worry after a visit  
in SF.

A We are praying for your safety. You are  
very important for your country & the world  
& we hope this will not happen again.  
We are all in a hurry for attorney & will  
try so long as he will.

P How is P.

A He well & has best interests of his visit  
w/ you. He wants to the max extent to have  
a close relation <sup>at</sup> to U.S. We have close  
relations w/ the young back to our strength  
for advice, which you supported.  
We have no reason to be anything but  
grateful to you. We had a very friendly  
relation w/ a visit of P. Said  
to you. We are free friendly relations  
from advice and will not participate  
in any way.

P I glad to hear that. We have supported  
your advice ~~that~~ It is in our interest  
to have a strong self about Somalia  
& we will continue to support your advice.  
We were pleased to help in drought &  
are working plan proposals to be of use  
over to you.

A We are very grateful for your help for worst  
drought in Somali history. We have had  
difficult & we appreciate your aid - also

W/ your plans for loan out.

P Does a drought last more than a year?

A It is cyclical, but this one has been longer  
& longer. 25,000 have died. We moving 25,000  
into agri circles where they can be self  
supporting. We hope for support in  
this from friendly nations.

I have here a letter from P. S. Smith  
which I have a honor to present  
to you

P Please convey my best wishes to the  
President.

