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## WITHDRAWAL SHEET (PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARIES)

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President's Meeting with UK Foreign Minister Callaghan  
September 24, 1974

Statement for White House Press Secretary

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The President met this afternoon with British Foreign Minister James Callaghan, who as I believe you know is in the United States for the current session of the U. N. General Assembly.

During the meeting the President and Foreign Minister Callaghan had a very positive, broad-ranging and useful exchange of views on US-European relations and international issues including Cyprus, the Middle East and the finance/energy situation. The President reaffirmed his commitment to close and continuing consultations with the leaders of Western Europe, and he and the Foreign Minister agreed that such consultations among the NATO allies will be of special importance in the coming months. The President and Foreign Minister Callaghan also discussed East-West issues, including the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the status of MBFR.

The President and the Foreign Minister agreed that their consultations today were valuable and mutually beneficial. The President asked Foreign Minister Callaghan to convey his personal regards to Prime Minister Wilson.

\* \* \* \* \*

9/24/74

- 2 -

Q: Should the President's meeting with Foreign Minister Callaghan be viewed as an expression of support for the Labor Party in the forthcoming British election?

A: I would not relate this meeting in any way to domestic political events in Great Britain. As the President's schedule suggests, he is meeting with a number of foreign leaders currently in the US to attend the UN General Assembly session. The President's meeting with the Foreign Minister took place in that context and reflects the President's commitment to close and continuing consultations with the leaders of Western Europe. Additionally, you may recall that the President met with Mr. Edward Heath only two weeks ago.

Q: Can you be more specific as to what subjects were discussed in the meeting?

A: There was no set agenda and I really do not have any details for you. The focus of the meeting, however, was generally on the topics I gave you a moment ago.

Q: Has the President any plans to meet with UK Prime Minister Harold Wilson?

A: The President looks forward to meeting with Prime Minister Wilson but no date has been set at this time.

Q: Who participated in the meeting, especially since Secretary Kissinger is in New York?

A: Foreign Minister Callaghan, British Ambassador Sir Peter Ramsbotham and General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs.

Q: Whatever became of the "special relationship" between the United States and the United Kingdom?

A: As a result of many years of close ties and friendship, both countries are strong friends and allies. The importance of this relationship has not been diminished by efforts to promote a strong sense of cooperation and partnership among the Atlantic Alliance.

1. Wilson Visit

1/29/75  
As you know Prime Minister Harold Wilson of Great Britain will begin an official visit of the United States tomorrow. There will be a South Lawn arrival ceremony, an official Oval Office meeting and a State dinner tomorrow and on Friday there will be a second Oval Office meeting. The President looks forward to this opportunity to review with the Prime Minister a number of matters of current interest, including bilateral affairs, the Atlantic Alliance and East-West relations, and international financial and energy issues. The Prime Minister's visit is an important part of the process of close and continuing consultations with our friends and allies in Western Europe.

President's Meeting with UK Prime Minister Wilson  
January 30, 1975

Guidance for White House Press Secretary

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President Ford and Prime Minister Harold Wilson of the United Kingdom began their meetings this morning after the South Grounds arrival ceremony. The session lasted about \_\_\_\_\_ minutes and provided the President and Prime Minister Wilson an opportunity to become personally acquainted and to begin in-depth discussions on a number of international issues of mutual interest.

The President and the Prime Minister devoted special attention this morning to international financial and energy issues and to related economic subjects. The focus of their discussion was best described by the President during the arrival ceremony this morning when he said that "the key to solving the formidable problems confronting us today is close cooperation and mutual help." The two leaders noted progress already made toward international cooperation, and agreed on the need for close and continuing consultations among the Western leaders to prepare the way for further cooperation.

This morning's meeting included a review of issues of current importance to the Atlantic Alliance. The President and the Prime Minister also exchanged views on developments in East-West relations -- including a review of the European Security Conference and the force reduction (MBFR) negotiations.

The President's meetings with Prime Minister Wilson continue the very important process of close and continuing consultations with our friends and allies in Western Europe on the cooperative policies and programs required to meet the economic, energy and security challenges confronting the Atlantic Community.

As you know, the President will host a dinner in honor of Prime Minister Wilson tonight. The two leaders will meet again tomorrow morning to continue their talks.

Secretary of State Kissinger and UK Foreign Secretary Callaghan participated in the meeting.

\* \* \* \* \*

Q: Have the President and the Prime Minister met before?

A: They have not met since the President took office. They may have met when the President was a Congressman, but I would have to check that.

Q: When was the Prime Minister last in the U. S. ?

A: Mr. Wilson's last visit here as Prime Minister was in January, 1970.

He visited here as leader of the opposition late in 1970. He attended a meeting here twice in 1971, and in 1972 he was here on a lecture tour.

Q: Did the President and the Prime Minister discuss a European Security Conference (CSCE) summit meeting this summer?

A: As the announcement stated, their discussions included a review of the CSCE negotiations. I have no details beyond that.



Q: Did Prime Minister Wilson ask the President for financial aid for Great Britain?

A: I do not have the details of the discussions between the President and the Prime Minister. I believe, however, that their talks focused primarily on cooperation and mutual help among all the industrialized democracies.

UK

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March 20, 1975

UNITED KINGDOM DEFENSE SLASH

In reaction to the United Kingdom's decision to cut some \$11 Billion in defense spending over the next 10 years, NATO released a statement March 19 (attached).

Q. What is the U. S. reaction to Great Britain's decision for significant reductions in its defense budget over the next ten years? Will this affect the NATO alliance?

A. GUIDANCE: The United States' position is fully reflected in the statement in the form of a press release issued by NATO yesterday. The essence of the statement is that NATO is pleased that the United Kingdom is maintaining its support and commitment to the Alliance, but disconcerted at the scale of the reductions proposed.

The Alliance has urged the United Kingdom to keep its new program under review, in consultation with its allies and in the light of developments in the economic, political and security situation as they arise. It hopes that the British government will continue to judge the scale and nature of their military contribution to NATO not in financial terms alone, but in terms of its total value to deterrence and defense throughout the Alliance.

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March 19, 1975

CHANGES IN UK DEFENSE PROGRAM

In response to the question at today's press briefing, as to the United States' view of the announced UK Defense Program, the United States' view is fully reflected in the NATO press release made on March 19 in Brussels. The text of the release follows:

1. In accordance with the usual NATO practice, the United Kingdom government, having reached provisional conclusions on their defense review, initiated the process of consultation with their NATO allies in December 1974. The implications of the changes proposed have been assessed by the NATO military authorities and there have been several exchanges of views in the Defense Planning Committee of the Alliance. These took place against the background of a statement that the British government regarded their plan to reduce defense expenditure to 4½ per cent of GNP by the middle 1980s as a firm decision.

2. As a result, the Alliance welcomes the assurance that NATO commitments remain the first charge on British defense resources; that no reductions are envisaged in advance of an MBFR agreement in the forces deployed in the central region; and that the United Kingdom will maintain the effectiveness of its present strategic and tactical nuclear contribution to NATO.

3. The Alliance has nevertheless expressed its disquiet at the scale of the reductions proposed and their effect on NATO's conventional defense vis-a-vis the increasing capability of the Warsaw Pact. The changes of special concern are: the reduction of reinforcement capability in the northern and southern regions; the removal of naval and air forces from the Mediterranean area; and the decline in maritime capabilities in the eastern Atlantic and channel areas.

4. The Alliance is pleased to note, however, that in response to its representations the British government have announced in today's white paper their willingness to introduce certain compensatory measures to alleviate the more damaging features of the proposals, although the total resources allocated to defense will not be increased. It attaches particular importance to the undertakings to continue to participate in NATO maritime exercises in the Mediterranean and to maintain certain reinforcement options for the southern region. It also accepts the British offer to continue allied consultation about other measures aimed at mitigating the effects of the reductions.

5. The Alliance has urged the United Kingdom to keep its new program under review, in consultation with its allies and in the light of developments in the economic, political and security situation as they arise. It hopes that the British government will continue to judge the scale and nature of their military contribution to NATO not in financial terms alone, but in terms of its total value to deterrence and defense throughout the Alliance.



APRIL 21<sup>OK</sup>.

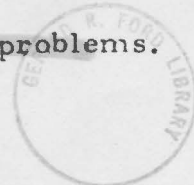
Q: Mr. President, today it was announced in London that the British Prime Minister Harold Wilson will again be visiting Washington on May 7 ... this only three or four months after his official visit in January. You have also endorsed the British suggestion for a NATO summit at the end of May. Is this quickened pace of activity a reflection of the perils confronting the Atlantic Alliance and the lack of unity within the Alliance?

A: The British Prime Minister, as you may know, will be in Jamaica for a Commonwealth Summit Conference from April 29 - May 6. We agreed that his presence on this side of the Atlantic offered a very welcome opportunity for consultations, and I am looking forward to seeing him in Washington on May 7.

These consultations, I believe, are a clear reflection of the strength of the Atlantic Alliance rather than any weakness. Let me put this meeting with the British Prime Minister and the NATO summit in late May in perspective.

There are no peoples with whom America's destiny has been more closely linked than those of Western Europe. None of the members of the Atlantic Community can be secure, prosper or advance unless all do so together. At a time when our close collaboration is essential to assure our common security, to improve East-West relations and to pool our energies on the great new economic challenges, our relations with Western Europe have never been better.

Since the beginning of my Administration, I have devoted special attention to fostering this spirit of unity and common purpose through close and frequent consultations with our NATO allies. Substantial progress has been achieved in promoting cooperation to meet our current problems.



These new steps, East-West relations and our traditional common security interests, and the pace of international developments in recent months suggest an agenda for the Western leaders. I look forward to the meeting with Prime Minister Wilson and the meeting in Brussels as opportunities to take stock, to consult on our future, and to affirm once again the common goals we share as good friends and allies.



WILSON VISIT

Q. Today it was announced in London that the British Prime Minister Harold Wilson will again be visiting Washington on May 7....this only three or four months after his official visit in January.

A. The British Prime Minister, as you may know, will be in Jamaica for a Commonwealth Summit Conference from April 29 - May 6.

We agreed that his presence on this side of the Atlantic offered a very welcome opportunity for consultations, and the President is looking forward to seeing him in Washington on May 7.

Bill Greener

WHITE HOUSE PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT

STATE VISIT OF HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Friday, June 27, 1975  
10:00 a.m. (EDT)

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The President has invited Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh to pay a State Visit to the United States from July 7 - 11, 1976, during the Bicentennial Year, and the invitation has been accepted with pleasure.

\* \* \* \* \*

Q: When did Queen Elizabeth last visit the United States?

A: Her Majesty's last visit was in 1957 -- October 16-21, 1957. She visited as Princess Elizabeth in October 31 - November 2, 1951.

Q: When did she become Queen?

A: February 6, 1952.

Q: Is there anything further that you can announce with regard to foreign participation in the Bicentennial?

A: No, I do not have anything further on the subject of the Bicentennial today either with regard to announcements or planning.

Q: What about the itinerary for the Queen's State Visit.

A: The details of the visit have not yet been developed, other than the fact that there will, of course, be a welcoming ceremony, talks and a State Dinner at the White House.

## WHITE HOUSE PRESS GUIDANCE

President's Meeting with Mrs. Margaret Thatcher  
September 18, 1975

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The President met this morning with Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, presently Leader of the Opposition in the U. K. House of Commons.

Mrs. Thatcher is in the United States in her capacity as Conservative Party leader and will be meeting with senior U. S. officials and several Congressional Committees during her visit. The President wished to take this occasion to invite Mrs. Thatcher to the White House to become acquainted and to have an exchange of views on international issues of interest to the United States and Great Britain.

\* \* \* \* \*

Q: Isn't it rather strange for the President to meet with the Leader of the Opposition?

A: To the contrary, there is considerable precedent for the meeting. It is fully in keeping with previous calls at the White House by Leaders of the Opposition in Britain -- most recently by Edward Heath, Mrs. Thatcher's predecessor, last September and Mr. Wilson when Labor was in Opposition.

Q: Who else is Mrs. Thatcher meeting with while she is here?

A: I do not have her detailed schedule but I believe she is meeting with Secretaries Kissinger, Simon and Schlesinger and also with the Senate

Foreign Relations Committee and the House International Relations Committee. The British Embassy should be able to give you additional details.

Q: Is Mrs. Thatcher visiting other American cities?

A: I believe she has visited New York and, of course, now has this round of meetings in Washington. I don't have the remainder of her itinerary.

Q: When did Mrs. Thatcher replace Heath as Leader of the Opposition?

A: In February, 1975.

Q: Can you tell us something about this morning's meeting?

A: The meeting was cordial and informal in tone. There was no set agenda. The President and Mrs. Thatcher discussed matters relating to the Atlantic Alliance, the Middle East and international economic and energy developments.

Q: Has the President any plans to meet again with Prime Minister Wilson in the near future?

A: I have no meeting to announce at present. The President has met with the Prime Minister four times this year, including an official visit by Mr. Wilson in January and, most recently, a meeting in Helsinki. While the President and the Prime Minister remain in close touch, another meeting is not set at this time.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FAISAL MEETING

The President will meet with Prince Saud Bin Faisal Al-Saud, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia, today at 12:30 p. m. His Royal Highness Prince Saud is in the United States as the head of the Saudi Delegation to the United Nations General Assembly in New York and has come to Washington at the invitation of Secretary Kissinger as well as to some meetings on the Hill. The Prince's presence in Washington afforded an opportunity for a personal meeting with the President in the spirit of the very close relations that exist between the United States and Saudi Arabia.

We will have a read-out of that meeting for you later today.

Q. Who invited the Prince to come? How was the meeting arranged?

A. On his last trip to the Middle East, Secretary Kissinger extended an invitation to the Prince to visit Washington and the Prince accepted. It was convenient for him and for the President to arrange a meeting while he was here. Secretary Kissinger will participate in today's meeting.

September 18, 1975

ANNOUNCEMENT OF GROMYKO MEETING

The President will meet with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko in the Oval Office at 4:30 p. m. this afternoon. Foreign Minister Gromyko is in the United States for the current session of the UN General Assembly, and he is coming to Washington at the President's invitation for a review of U. S. - USSR relations and international issues of interest to the two countries.

I don't have an agenda for you now, but we will hope to provide you with a read-out shortly after the meeting.

Secretary Kissinger will also participate in the meeting.



NATO SUPPORTS NUCLEAR CUTBACK

The Washington Post carries a story today datelined Brussels stating that the NATO nations have agreed to offer a reduction in the number of U. S. tactical nuclear weapons in Western Europe during East-West troop reduction talks which resume in Vienna later this month. The report states further that the alliance had accepted in principle a Kissinger proposal to revive the previously stalled MBFR talks.

Q: Is the report accurate, and if so, isn't this just one more example of the U. S. appeasing the Communists in the name of detente and at our own expense?

A. As you know, the U. S. maintains regular and frequent contact with our allies on all aspects of the force reduction question. Discussions are now being held on a number of proposals. While the discussions and negotiations are in progress, however, I am not going to comment on the substance of the issues, which are extremely complex and affect the vital interests of some 19 participating countries.

GERALD R. FORD LIBRARY

This form marks the file location of item number 1  
as listed on the pink form (GSA form 7122, Withdrawal  
Sheet) at the front of the folder.

July 8, 1976

DINNER FOR QUEEN ELIZABETH

Q-- Why was the Dinner held in the Rose Garden?

A-- The Rose Garden provides much more room for guests/ The dinner had 240 guests. This compares to the 120 which can be seated in the usual State Dining Room Dinner.

It is the most beautiful location for a Dinner.

And it allows more use of the White House for other activities not possible when the State Dining Room is being used, including more hours for the tourist visits.

Q-- How much did the Dinner cost?

A-- The State Department is responsible for the cost of entertaining visiting heads of State or similar guests.

Q-- So how much did the Dinner cost? Doesn't the White House audit the bills it sends to State? Surely it knows how much it spent?

A-- It is difficult to get accurate estimates of the cost allocations. I am told, for instance, that the Rose Garden tent will be used for other functions this month, including the visit of Chancellor Schmidt of Germany, and for a diplomatic ~~reception~~ reception later this month. I will have to check.

FYI ONLY --Scouten estimates the tent costs at \$5,000. Other dinner costs were higher than normal, because of the larger number of guests--240 as against the 120 in the State Dining Room or 160 when the Red Room is used with the Dining Room. The air conditioning cost won't be known till all the bills are in but will be at least twice that of the tent/ That, however, will be retained by the White House for use for other occasions

The system can be used for heating or cooling, and is now considered part of the White House equipment inventory. Therefore, the White House will pay for that, so it will not be assessed against the Dinner costs.

23 July, 1976

British Budget Cuts

Q: What is the President's reaction to the British budget cuts?  
Will this affect the British defense capability or impact on their contribution to NATO?

A: The President received a call from Prime Minister Callaghan in which the Prime Minister advised him in advance of what measures the UK was taking.

I would point out that this is a British decision to deal with the issues facing Great Britain.

However, the President is fully confident that our mutual interests will continue to be served. Our security, economic and political interests will continue in terms of the excellent relationship between our two countries.

*We regard this as a very positive step by the British. We understand, as Chancellor Healy said, this has been a difficult decision, and we support their efforts.*

*Use if asked if UK contacted US.*

ASSISTANCE TO THE UNITED KINGDOM

Q Will the Ford Administration agree to extend emergency assistance to the United Kingdom in its current financial crisis?

A We have been watching economic developments in the United Kingdom very closely and have been encouraged by the approach taken by the Callaghan Government. In addition, we are hopeful that the current negotiations between the UK and the IMF , to which the United States is not a party, are concluded successfully. We will continue to follow events in the United Kingdom very closely.

Q Will the United States support sterling balances?

A I have no comment on that.

1. President's meeting with United Kingdom's Foreign Minister Callaghan.

*Q - "Special relationship"*  
*A - Close, historic bond with G.B. which is not demanded by West*

*V.C.D*

Guidance: The President will meet this afternoon with British Foreign Minister James Callaghan who as you know is in the United States to attend the current session of the UN General Assembly. Today's meeting will give the President and the Foreign Minister an opportunity for an exchange of views on U.S. - European relations and other international interests of common concern. Secretary Kissinger breakfasted with the Foreign Minister this morning in New York.

*To promote stronger Alliance*

FYI: A readout for the Callaghan meeting and related Q's and A's are

2. Honduran disaster relief

attached. End FYI.

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WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT OF WILSON VISIT

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Q: What is the purpose of this meeting?

A: From the outset of this Administration, the President has maintained the policy of having close and continuing consultations with our friends and allies in Western Europe. The Prime Minister's visit will be a part of that very important process.

Q: When was the Prime Minister last in the United States?

A: Mr. Wilson's last visit here as Prime Minister was in January, 1970. He visited here as leader of the opposition late in 1970. He attended a meeting here twice in 1971. In 1972 he was also here on a lecture tour.

Q: Have the President and the Prime Minister met before?

A: They have not met since the President took office. Whether they have met at some earlier time I will have to check.

Q: Why has the President not met with Mr. Wilson before January?

A: This is the earliest mutually convenient date that could be scheduled.

Q: Is this an official visit?

A: Yes.

Q: How long will the visit last after January 30?

A: The itinerary is not yet fixed.



## WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT

The United States is very pleased with the economic program presented today by the British Government and with the agreement reached between Britain and the IMF. The President has consistently been a strong supporter of the United Kingdom's efforts to achieve stable economic recovery and the courageous actions the British Government is taking in this direction. The measures announced today and the agreement reached between Britain and the Fund are major steps toward a stronger and more stable British economy, which is important both to the British people and to the entire world.