

June 11, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

President Ford received the President of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Nicolae Ceausescu, at the White House this afternoon during the Romanian President's short stopover in Washington. Their talks, which lasted about one hour and 10 minutes, were held in a cordial, open and constructive atmosphere. Participating for the American side were Secretary of State Kissinger, Ambassador Barnes and General Scowcroft. Foreign Minister Gheorghe Macovescu and Vasile Pungan, Counsellor to the President, represented the Romanian side.

The two Presidents discussed a wide range of subjects of mutual interest. They reviewed the state of bilateral relations which they found to be developing in a satisfactory and positive manner in accordance with the Joint Statement of Principles of December 5, 1973, and the Joint Statement on Economic, Industrial and Technical Cooperation. They particularly noted the growth of trade during the last few years and expressed their conviction that both sides should strive for the approval of the Agreement on Trade Relations, which will contribute importantly to the further extension and strengthening of their relations. They expressed their satisfaction with the continuing progress in the field of cultural and scientific-technical exchanges.

President Ford and President Ceausescu also exchanged views on several current international issues. They affirmed their determination to work constructively for the successful conclusion of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and for the preservation and consolidation of peace in other areas of the world in accordance with the Joint Statement of Principles. They stressed the need for broad cooperative efforts to solve pressing international problems on an equitable basis. They underlined the need for effective disarmament measures and for continuing efforts to achieve progress in Middle East and Cyprus negotiations.

President Ford thanked President Ceausescu personally for his invitation to visit Romania and conveyed his expectation that the visit would take place at the earliest mutually convenient date.

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