

POOL REPORT

Pool 8 - Breakfast with Suleyman Demirel - PM of Turkey
July 31, 1975

Secretary Kissinger, Scowcroft, and Hartman arrived at 7:47 a.m. with a large security contingent at the Ambassador's residence. When the door opened, you could see Ford and Kissinger talking in the courtyard. Prime Minister Demirel arrived a few minutes before 8 am. President Ford was wearing a blue suit, blue shirt and red tie. Prime Minister Demirel was wearing a double breasted black suit.

When the President greeted Demirel in a jovial mood, he mentioned "the gorgeous weather here" and added something about the "good dinner" the night before. The President seemed pleased that he pronounced the name of Turkey's Minister of Foreign Affairs when he addressed him.

The line-up around the breakfast table inside the residence:

For the United States: The President, Secretary Kissinger, General Scowcroft, and Arthur Hartman

For Turkey: Prime Minister Demirel; Ihsan Sabri Caglayangil, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Sukru Elekdag, Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ekrem Guvendin, Deputy Director of Cyprus Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Kissinger told the Foreign Minister that they were going to Romania on Saturday. Ford turned to Demirel and said: "I spoke to President Ceausescu yesterday. He was overjoyed that we got one good thing out of Congress. They approved "most favored nation treatment for Romania."

Ford asked Demirel if he was staying at his Embassy. "No, in a hotel," Demirel replied.

Kissinger said he was in a hotel too. "I'm on the same floor as Makarios. I can't get to my room because of the security," he said with a laugh. "You can't get away from the problem" of Cyprus. Demirel commented to Kissinger that "we hope you can sleep".

Ford asked Demirel, "Have you tried a sauna here yet?" Demirel replied "no" and Ford said, "We have one in the embassy. It's very refreshing."

At this point the pool was ushered out of the dining room.

Before the breakfast ended, Nessen came out and mentioned the following:

1. The President and Cheney discussed this morning the House defeat of the oil decontrol proposal and he said Zarb issued a statement in Washington .
2. Nessen said we may not get a text of the Ford speech here at all. He said we all may have to "listen to it."
3. He also said he did not think the President will hold a press conference here at all.
4. Nessen explained about the President's discussion with Ceausescu. He said the two leaders chatted yesterday in Finlandia Hall.

MORE

5. Nessen said the President had been receiving some telegrams here about his participation in the conference. The one he could recall was from the Macedonian Independence Movement, which said it was happy that the Helsinki Agreement will make it possible to renegotiate the borders of Macedonia.

The breakfast ran a little long and the two leaders emerged at about 9:15 am, paused briefly for pictures, and then walked over to reporters. Demirel spoke first: "We have reviewed our relations with the United States. As far as Turkey is concerned the relations are very valuable to us. We will do our best not to spoil these relations."

Then the President spoke up: "Let me re-emphasize I will continue my efforts to remove any roadblocks" in US-Turkish relations "because we believe good relations are most important for the United States, Turkey, and the free world".

Demirel was asked if United States monitoring from Turkey would be allowed to continue. He said Turkey had stopped radar and radio monitoring. When asked if it would be allowed to restart he said, "we will see." Upon what does it depend? Demirel replied, "I cannot tell you right now."

The Turkish delegation left immediately. Ford's motorcade moved out a few minutes later, arriving at the Hall just a few minutes after 9:30 a. m.

John Mashek
Henry Bradsher

#