

APRIL 15, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President met this afternoon with Greek Foreign Minister Dimitrios Bitsios who is in Washington for consultations concerning US-Greek security interests. Greek Ambassador Alexandrakis, Director General of the Greek Foreign Ministry Tzounis, Secretary of State Kissinger, U. S. Ambassador to Greece Kubisch and Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Brent Scowcroft participated in today's meeting.

As you may recall, Foreign Minister Bitsios participated in the meetings between the President and Greek Prime Minister Caramanlis at the time of the NATO and Helsinki summits last year. Today's meeting provided a welcome occasion to discuss bilateral and international issues of interest to the United States and Greece. In this connection, there was a very useful and positive exchange of views on US-Greek security issues, the status of the US-Greek bases negotiations and developments relating to Cyprus.

The President and Foreign Minister noted the longstanding ties of friendship and alliance between the United States and Greece and agreed on the importance of building on and strengthening this relationship.

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