

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SECRET/NODIS/XGDS

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: Leonid I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU  
President Ford  
Viktor M. Sukhodrev, Counsellor, Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Interpreter)

DATE & TIME: Wednesday, July 30, 1975  
12:00 Noon (after plenary meeting)

PLACE: Outside American Ambassador's Residence  
Helsinki, Finland

[Soviet memcon of private conversation reconstructed from scraps of paper retrieved from Brezhnev's ashtray in Finlandia Hall, Helsinki, after CSCE plenary, by Jan Lodal, NSC staff. Translated and supplemented by Alexander Akalovsky, who also overheard part of the private conversation.]

After a discussion with G. Ford in the presence of others, a short conversation took place eye to eye.

L. I. Brezhnev: I wish to tell you confidentially and completely frankly that we in the Soviet leadership are supporters of your election as President to a new term as well. And we for our part will do everything we can to make that happen.

G. Ford: I thank you for that. I expect to be elected and I think that that meets the interests of the further development of Soviet-American relations, and of the cause of strengthening detente.

L. I. Brezhnev: Yes, on this matter we agree with you that this is precisely how it should be. Unfortunately, however, publicly you call us, the Soviet Union, adversaries, and in your conversations with us you say that we have common goals -- transformation of detente into an irreversible process.

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E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.5

NSC Memo, 11/24/98, State Dept. Guidelines

By KBH, NARA, Date 8/7/01

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G. Ford: I can assure you, in full frankness, that I am absolutely prepared to dedicate all my efforts precisely to ensuring that relations between our countries develop steadily, and that detente become irreversible.

[This private conversation took place following the President's and Brezhnev's exchanges with media representatives outside the American Ambassador's residence. As Brezhnev moved to his car, he was overheard asking Sukhodrev if his remarks to the President might have been caught by the correspondents. Sukhodrev assured him that, in interpreting, he had deliberately lowered his voice so that only the President could hear him.]





К записи беседы Л.И.Брежнева с Дж.Фордом

я 1975 года

После Фордом в присутствии других состоялась короткая

беседа с глазу на глаз.

Л.И.БРЕЖНЕВ. Хочу Вам доверительно и совершенно откровенно сказать, что мы в советском руководстве сторонники Вашего избрания и на новый срок. И мы будем со своим, чтобы так было.

Дж.ФРД. Благодарю Вас за это. Я рассчитываю быть избранным и думаю, что это отвечает интересам дальнейших советско-американских отношений, дела упрочения разрядки

Л.И.БРЕЖНЕВ. Да, в этом деле мы с Вами согласны, что так и должно быть. К сожалению, однако, при Вы называете нас, Советский Союз, противником. В разговорах с нами говорите, что у нас общие цели - превращение разрядки в мирный процесс.

ФРД. Могу заверить Вас вполне откровенно, что мы действительно готовы посвятить все свои усилия именно тому, чтобы отношения между нашими странами постоянно развивались, а разрядка стала бы необратимой.

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STATE DEPT, GUIDELINES

BY W, NARA, DATE 10/24/01



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