TELCON
David Rockefeller/Secy Kissinger
April 19, 1975 - 6:12 p.m.

K: Hello.

R: Henry. Hello.

K: David, how are you?

R: Thank you so much for calling. I'm off to Europe tomorrow for almost a couple of weeks and there were several things I just wanted to touch base with you on before I left. How are you surviving?

K: Well, it's not the most glorious period of our history.

R: No, it's not. I just feel so sorry for you I must say. I thought the President did an extremely good job the other night.

K: I think so too.

R: I really thought it was excellent. Well, if I may just touch a few. First of all Iraq -- remember my conversation with Sadam Hassan(? ). Subsequently, when I talked with him then I told him that we were making a study of the possibilities of our contributing more to a number of the Arab countries and had a commission in making these studies and asked if it would be all right for him if we sent one to Iraq and he said fine so I sent him a cable about two weeks ago telling him that if he would like to have the Mission come and saying I hoped it might be possible for him to receive them. I got a cable from the governor of the Central Bank who is one of the other people I particularly wanted to see referring to my cable to Sadam Hassan and saying we were most welcome and that everything would be taken care of. I just think this is an encouraging further follow-up of the trip which was a very positive one. Anyway. And of course since I was there the thing which he said was the principle obstacle to our having close relations namely the situation on the border with Iran has largely been taken care of. So that my own feeling is that this is a very good time and an indication they probably would like to do more.

K: Are you going there?

R: No, I'm not. But two of our quite senior people are. And if there is anything we...
K: Well, I would certainly... If they can get to a high enough person.

R: They may even see him.

K: Well, if they see him but only him they can say that they know for a fact we would be prepared to have political contacts with them.

R: All right. I will tell them. Fine. I will do so. Only to him though. Excellent. Next, we've been talking as you know with the North Koreans for some time. And they came again. The Ambassador was away the last time that I called on them. He was in Korea at the time and he subsequently came in to see me at the bank to express great interest in what I told him. And they are very prepared to come to our help and meet with anybody that you might like. I don't know whether you think now is the moment to proceed.

K: Quite frankly, now is not the moment to show any weakness.

R: Right. So we just...

K: I'd like to leave it open until we've got our balance back. Say a month.

R: Right. We can talk about that when I get back. I must say they were most interested and eager. The next is I wondered about the results of the oil conference. Was it very disappointing to you that they didn't go through.

K: No, I expected some sort of debacle. Either then or later.

R: So you weren't too upset.

K: No, and we can get this restarted. It takes a formula that relates raw materials to oil which couldn't be beyond the wit of man.

R: You can't go and deal with everything.

K: No, if we have to deal with everything then it becomes senseless.

R: I fully agree. Of course Sidney (?) was the danger but I didn't realize they'd push it as far as they did.

K: We're willing to discuss it in general terms... You know we're willing to discuss raw materials in relation to oil but not in the abstract.
R: Exactly. I think your position is absolutely right. How did Chuck(?) do, do you think?

K: I think he did well, what do you think?

R: I only know from the papers but it sounded to me as though he has...

K: Enders as your Deputy is a punishment that is not given to many.

R: I would think...

K: Enders is a fine and able guy but I'm sure he is wildly operating on his own.

R: That's what worries me. I think he has been.

K: I'm going to get him under control.

R: I would think that might be good. I am as you know quite the fan of Bilderbird(?) and I gather that... Who is it your saying now is...

K: Definitely Hartman, the man in charge of Europe.

R: He's awfully good.

K: Outstanding.

R: I'm glad you've got him. And I'm going after that to Ankara to spend a day or two and the government has said they would like to meet with me. Is there any particular angle you want me to take with them?

K: If you can explain our Congressional difficulties to them. I mean in that we're doing our absolute utmost.

R: Right.

K: If you could tactfully suggest that since the Greeks seem willing to concede their principle points, whether they couldn't move to a settlement in Cyprus.

R: Right. Because it certainly makes a difference.

K: Of course.
R: Right, well I will do that and report to you when I get back. Any encouragement on the Middle East? Any new developments.

K: No, we want to... I mean we're in very close touch with the Egyptians. There hasn't been any... And I'm seeing Allon on Monday. I don't think the Israelis have yet focused on the fact that we're really serious.

R: I cannot understand.

K: We really mean business.

R: Incidentally, it looks as though the Egyptians... considerably and it looks as though our boy Scottfred (?) is probably going to be here. To help on that side. It's not so easy on the Israeli side. The next one. Any developments on the trade bills so far as the Jackson amendment is concerned.

K: No, this would be a bad psychological moment with everything collapsing in Vietnam to push it.

R: I think that's probably right. On that score though, in my interest. I had a visit yesterday from Minsekauff (?) who was the son of the former... very

K: I know him. He's able.

R: And he's at the UN as you know. He told me that he has been asked to come to see me by the highest circles in the Soviets. And that he then proceeded to read some notes that were quite detailed. And spent about half an hour giving me a review of their policy and the principle front was that he wanted me to know and I'm sure you and Nelson and others, that the recent meeting of the Central Committee had only reinforced such general Secretary Brezhnev in his foreign policy that detente was not just a tactical maneuver to them but is a very serious thing. That they were not going to take advantage of opportunities around the world where developments were taking place that might give them an opportunity to press against us but that they did feel that next year was a very crucial one now because of our election. Also because of the Congress of the Communist Party. You know the 5-year Congress. And in order for Brezhnev to be able to continue this positive policy of the very important progress to be made on the SALT debate or meeting and also on European Security Council and on trade.
Continuation of David Rockefeller/Secy Kissinger Conversation
6:12 p.m., April 19, 1975

R: . . . and so on and so forth. It seemed rather amazing to me that they would come to me on this. I said to him I thought that this was all very encouraging and very important and I hoped and assumed that Amb. Dobrynin would be coming to you with a similar message because it seemed to me that . . .

K: Yeah, it's quite consistent with what Dobrynin is telling me.

R: You say it is consistent?

K: Yeah. And therefore it's interesting that they are also coming to you.

R: Yeah. I really can't quite make out why.

K: Well, they want to build opinion.

R: I guess that's it. But it was really a very elaborate and carefully planned statement.

K: Well, David, will you call me when you get back?

R: I certainly will and hope things go better.

K: And I look forward to seeing you after your return.

R: Wonderful. I hope your trip to South America is successful. That is definitely on, isn't it?

K: Well, it's definitely on unless things deteriorate in South Vietnam and I may have to cancel it again.

R: Gee, I hope you can do it.

K: Yeah.

R: Well, good luck and I'll call as soon as I get back.

K: Right.

R: Fine, Henry.

K: Bye, David. Thank you for calling.

R: Thank you. Bye.