MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION, WAH AND AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN, N STREET DINNER, THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1979 (Dictated April 13, 1979)

Ambassador and Mrs. Dobrynin came to dinner at N Street last night. He was genial, as usual, and wanted to talk about everything, but he was a bit less forthcoming about discussing our affairs. He wanted Pam to encourage Braniff to come to Moscow. He was optimistic about SALT II and thought an agreement could be reached within a couple of weeks. He thought the summit meeting should take place either in Vienna or Geneva if Moscow was not acceptable to President Carter.

He said in confidence that they would definitely veto at the United Nations any request for the use of UN forces in connection with the Egypt/Israeli peace agreement.

He made a great argument on our unwillingness to do anything about the fact there is no way for them to distinguish between the Minuteman II and Minuteman III. I didn't argue the case but gave him the obvious answer. He said there was only one matter open, which related to new missile systems. He was quite firm that we had already made a deal on encryption compromise and was impatient at the idea that it should be opened up again because of the loss of our facilities in Iran. He said "you can know everything we are doing without the facilities in Iran—they were only a plus." He said they can't give in
to these diehards in the Senate. He appeared to know nothing about the other two points that Marshall had mentioned to me, so I didn't pursue the subject further.

He told me he lunched frequently with Brzezinski. He had in fact had him to lunch this same day. They talked mostly about subjects to discuss at the summit meeting, and on these matters their relations were entirely reasonable.

On trade, he was quite sarcastic about our bureaucracy blocking so many negotiations with American business in connection with the trade agreement. He understood there were discussions in Congress about opening up the subject again. I told him I was encouraged because the Soviets had increased their export licensing.

He said 35,000 were given exit visas and the number was going up to 40,000 this year. I pointed out, however, that they were not allowing the older applicants who had been denied visas for seven or eight years to go. He said that these people had broken the law, and they could not interfere with the law. He said these were only a handful--35 perhaps. He said that even though they make arrangements with Senator Kennedy to let a few out, it doesn't make any difference--every group of Jews has one or another individual or group about which they are concerned. They are told if they only let out 'so and so' that everyone would be happy. They do that, and then there is just another new list presented.
He described his country place on the Eastern Shore in Maryland. It is about 45 acres, with nearly a mile of waterfront. He says he uses the big house and the rest of the embassy personnel and their families use the rest of the facilities. He said it was quite a village and their daughter enjoyed it, as did he and Irina. They had built the village from prefab houses which had been shipped in from Moscow by the trade unions.
ADDITION TO MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION, WAH AND AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN, N STREET DINNER, 12 APRIL 1979

(Added) I mentioned to Dobrynin that I had received a long letter from Svetlana Allilueva Peters in which she complained about not being able to correspond or telephone to her children. Dobrynin said she had written to them—in fact had sent a letter to them through him in which she advised her son not to come to the United States because it would be difficult for him to get a job and the money from her book was running out and she couldn't afford to support him. Dobrynin said she could always call the children on the telephone without trouble from anyone.