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MEMOR

By JB NARA Date 1-11

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

Date: 12:30 p.m., Friday, January 29, 1971

Place: The Map Room, The White House

Participants: Ambassador Corneliu Bogdan
Mr. Henry A. Kissinger
Mr. David R. Halperin (Notetaker)

After an exchange of greetings, Ambassador Bogdan pointed out that he was returning to Bucharest for a Conference on Foreign Trade, but he thought he would be asked if he had anything to communicate with regard to his private talks with Mr. Kissinger. He expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to meet with Mr. Kissinger prior to his departure.

Mr. Kissinger began by saying that we had found the communication from the Chinese very interesting and helpful; Mr. Kissinger then asked if he was correct in thinking that China will negotiate with us only if we agree in principle on Taiwan ahead of time. Ambassador Bogdan was noncommittal in responding to this. Mr. Kissinger then said that we are willing to talk about a whole range of Sino-American problems including the problem of Taiwan. We have always said that the degree of our military presence in Asia is related to the degree of tension in that area -- and we would reduce our military presence as the tensions diminish.

Mr. Kissinger stressed that we would approach negotiations with the Chinese with a constructive spirit and with the intent to make progress -- or, as the North Vietnamese would say, with good will and a serious attitude. Mr. Kissinger said that we understand their position but are nonetheless prepared to talk.

Ambassador Bogdan asked what the prospects were for the resumption of talks in Warsaw. Mr. Kissinger said that we have told the President (of Rumania) that we don't insist on Warsaw as the setting for the talks -- in fact Warsaw is a very public place.

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