

NOTES ON W. A. H. CONVERSATION WITH SECRETARY VANCE
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1978, STATE DEPARTMENT

I had a very pleasant lunch with Cy. We discussed the SALT problems and my visit tomorrow with the President.

He is going to vigorously pursue an agreement.

I told him I was going to see Brezhnev privately during my trip to Moscow in December. He suggested that I tell him our differences should be kept in perspective. It is not a one-way street and that he (Brezhnev) should understand that when he criticizes us.

We are really troubled by the buildup of men and arms in Europe. There is a difference of 180,000 in calculating their forces. This may be partly due to the differences in classification, but there must be something else wrong. I said "Why don't we go after them on the terrific increase in tanks as well as heavy artillery." They can't complain about differences in that figure. In any event, I felt we should pursue the reduction of arms in NATO/Warsaw area vigorously. It has only been done half-heartedly in the past.