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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

NO DIS REVIEW

Classified as (S) or (C)  
DOWNGRADE TO ( ) S or ( ) C  
11/23/92  
19 88  
Cat. A - Information removed;  
Cat. B - Information removed;  
Cat. C - Caption and custody retained by S/S

DATE: July 12, 1978  
Time: 1010 to 1025 am  
Place: Botanic Building, Geneva

Reviewed by: Ellis A. Kelly Jr.

Date: 11/23/92  
Secretary Vance  
Ambassador Warnke  
Ambassador Toon  
William D. Krimer  
(Interpreter)  
Foreign Minister Gromyko  
Deputy Foreign Minister Semenov  
Ambassador Dobrynin  
V. M. Sukhodrev  
(Interpreter)

11/23/92  
19 88  
SUBJECT: Procedural Matters

PARTICIPANTS: U.S.

Secretary Vance  
Ambassador Warnke  
Ambassador Toon  
William D. Krimer  
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Foreign Minister Gromyko  
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Distribution: NSC, s/ms, PM

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Secretary Vance told Minister Gromyko that he thought it would be useful to spend five or ten minutes this morning to discuss how best to structure their current meetings. He would suggest that they concentrate this morning exclusively on SALT. If that was acceptable to Gromyko, the Secretary had a statement he wanted to make. He thought it very important that they try to achieve some progress on these matters and that, given good will on both sides, it should be possible. He wanted to assure Gromyko that as far as we were concerned, we would do everything we could to see to it that the negotiations were moved forward. This morning he thought he would focus on the question of new types of missiles, and would like to make a statement on that subject.

Minister Gromyko said that he would agree to this, with one reservation. The Secretary would recall that from the very outset, at the SALT II negotiations, the two of them had engaged in the negotiations with the clear understanding that agreement on one major issue was closely linked to reaching agreement on others. Therefore, he had some doubts in connection with the Secretary's suggestion that they discuss only the question of new types. Whether they liked it or not, this issue involved other issues as well, and they could not very well say they were not going to discuss the other issues. They simply could not close their eyes to their existence. Given such an understanding on both sides, he would agree that they proceed in the way the Secretary had suggested.

WDKrimer:ejq

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The Secretary indicated agreement, noting that during their last meeting in Moscow they had acknowledged that a number of the sublimits they had been talking about were related to reaching agreement on the question of new types. Here the case was clear; those issues were interrelated.

Gromyko said he understood. Since they were now talking about discussing substantive issues, it would be hard indeed to discuss the first issue the Secretary had named in substance without also touching on the other issues involved. After all, what should they do with the other issues? They could not very well simply refer to them in algebraic symbols--that would hardly be sufficient. Since they were engaged in drawing up an equation, one could not speak of one side of that equation only, without also taking into consideration the elements of the other side of that equation.

The Secretary said he was not suggesting that they discuss the new types issue in isolation. While it was one of the most important issues remaining to be resolved at the negotiations, it was obviously related to others. However, he would prefer to concentrate on that issue today.

Gromyko suggested that once they engaged in discussion of that issue, the actual course of the discussion would show how to proceed in relation to others. He would now suggest that they cut short their discussion of how to discuss issues.

The Secretary said that this afternoon he would also like to touch on CTB matters, while also further discussing SALT matters. However, he would prefer not to discuss CTB issues in plenary session, because a number of people on our Delegation were not involved in CTB issues, and there was no need to involve them. He would therefore prefer discussing such matters in a small private session.

Gromyko said he would have no objection to this way of proceeding, but he would suggest that today they focus on the main question before them, and devote the entire day to discussion of SALT matters. He would agree that CTB matters could be discussed in a limited group, such as the one meeting right now, or in any other composition they would agree upon. He would suggest that they defer discussion of CTB until tomorrow in order not to have their talks break up into a patchwork, as it were. He also noted that Mr. Warnke had enormous power concentrated in his hands, almost like Julius Ceasar, while none of the others present here, with the exception of the Secretary and himself, had such power. He would therefore want to invite someone on his side who was not a specialist in CTB matters, but also headed the Soviet CTB Delegation--Mr. Petrosyants

The Secretary agreed.

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