

***** T O P S E C R E T *****S COM

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TO WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM
ATT.: DR. HENRY KISSINGER
SECRETARY OF STATE
DIRECTOR, CIA
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T O P S E C R E T NOFORN DISSEM NO DISSEM ABROAD

DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN ANDREI A. GROMYKO, USSR, AND GUS HALL,
GENERAL SECRETARY, COMMUNIST PARTY, USA (CPUSA) APRIL, 1974.

DURING APRIL, 1974, A SOURCE, WHO HAS FURNISHED
RELIABLE INFORMATION IN THE PAST, ADVISED AS FOLLOWS:

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ON APRIL 10, 1974, GUS HALL, GENERAL SECRETARY,
COMMUNIST PARTY, USA (CPUSA), ATTENDED A LUNCHEON CONFERENCE
AT THE SOVIET MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK CITY,
WITH ANDREI A. GROMYKO, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE USSR.
AMONG THE MATTERS DISCUSSED WERE THE FOLLOWING:

ACCORDING TO GROMYKO, THE SOVIETS CANNOT UNDERSTAND
WHY U.S. PRESIDENT NIXON IS SO DISLIKED BY LEADING
CIRCLES IN THE U.S. IN VIEW OF THE HEAVY FINANCING THAT
WAS AVAILABLE FOR THE PRESIDENT'S LAST ELECTION CAMPAIGN
AND IN VIEW OF HIS OVERWHELMING VICTORY THE SOVIETS CANNOT
UNDERSTAND WHY SO MANY LEADERS OF FINANCE, LABOR, AND
GOVERNMENT ARE NOW LINED UP AGAINST HIM. GUS HALL ATTRIBUTED
THIS CHANGE IN ATTITUDE TO THE FACT THAT PRESIDENT NIXON
VIOLATED THE MOST ELEMENTARY RULES THAT GOVERN A TWO-PARTY
SYSTEM. HE ARROGATED TOO MUCH POWER TO HIMSELF AND
SURROUNDED HIMSELF WITH PEOPLE WHO WERE NOT ACTIVE IN THE
POLITICAL LIFE OF THE COUNTRY. HE ALIENATED CERTAIN
SECTIONS OF THE RULING CLASS AND THE LABOR MOVEMENT BY HIS
ECONOMIC POLICIES AND ENGENDERED THE DISGUST OF OTHERS
BY ALLOWING HIMSELF TO BE DRAWN INTO THE NEFARIOUS DEEDS

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THAT ARE KNOWN AS WATERGATE. AFTER THESE EXPLANATIONS,
HALL BELIEVES THAT THE SOVIETS NOW UNDERSTAND WHY WATERGATE
PLAYS SUCH A PROMINENT ROLE IN THE POLICIES OF THE U.S.

NEVERTHELESS, IT IS HALL'S IMPRESSION THAT THE
SOVIET UNION IS STILL PREPARED TO GO FORWARD TOWARD SOVIET-

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U.S. DETENTE, BUT DOES NOT INTEND TO BE "TAKEN FOR A RIDE". THE SOVIETS INTEND TO SHOW THE SO-CALLED "RIGHT-WING HARDLINERS", SUCH AS SENATOR HENRY JACKSON, THAT THEY CANNOT DICTATE SOVIET POLICY. ALTHOUGH THEY THINK THAT THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION IS NOW BACKING DOWN ON SOME AGREEMENTS MADE WITH THE SOVIET UNION, SUCH AS ON THE QUESTION OF DISARMAMENT, SOVIET LEADERS STILL HAVE CONFIDENCE IN PRESIDENT NIXON AND IN U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER.

HALL SAID THAT THE SOVIETS ARE GOING TO PURSUE A HARDER LINE, BUT AT THE SAME TIME WILL PURSUE DETENTE. THEY SEEM TO BE LEARNING THAT THEY CANNOT ACCOMPLISH THEIR OBJECTIVES WITHOUT THE AGREEMENT OF CONGRESS, AND THEY WILL NOT GIVE UP THEIR FIGHT TO BE TREATED AS EQUALS IN TRADE RELATIONS. THEY STILL FAVOR THE GENERAL POLICY OF DETENTE AND STILL EXPECT TO GO THROUGH WITH THE "SUMMIT" MEETING IN JUNE, 1974.

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ON THE QUESTION OF THE MIDDLE EAST, GROMYKO WAS VERY BLUNT. HE SAID SOVIET LEADERS FEEL THAT THEY WERE BETRAYED BY THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION, WHICH BEGAN TO PLAY ITS OWN POLITICS IN THIS SITUATION AND REACHED AGREEMENTS BEHIND THEIR BACKS, REFERRING TO AGREEMENTS REACHED WITH EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT ANWAR AL-SADAT. THE SOVIETS WILL STILL TRY TO COOPERATE IN SOLVING THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION, BUT IF THIS IS TO BE A COOPERATIVE EFFORT, THEN THE SOVIET UNION MUST BE INVOLVED IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS AND IN ANY SETTLEMENT OF THAT CRISIS. IN THE END, GROMYKO SAID, ISRAEL WILL SEE THAT IT WILL HAVE TO COME TO THE SOVIET UNION TO ACHIEVE A RESOLUTION OF THE CURRENT SITUATION.

FINALLY, AGREEMENT WAS REACHED THAT A DELEGATION FROM THE CPUSA WILL VISIT THE SOVIET UNION FOR DISCUSSIONS ON MAY 6, 1974, WITH LEONID I. BREZHNEV, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CP OF THE SOVIET UNION, TO PREPARE BREZHNEV FOR THE VISIT OF PRESIDENT NIXON TO THE USSR, WHICH IS NOW SCHEDULED FOR JUNE, 1974. THE MEMBERS OF THIS DELEGATION WILL BE GUS HALL; HENRY WINSTON, NATIONAL CHAIRMAN, CPUSA; HELEN WINTER, CHAIRMAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

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COMMISSION, CPUSA; AND JAMES JACKSON, NATIONAL EDUCATION DIRECTOR, CPUSA. HALL, WINSTON, AND JACKSON WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY THEIR WIVES, THOUGH NOT AS MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION.

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