

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

Friday - November 8, 1968  
12:45 p.m.

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

Participants: The President  
Ambassador Bogdan Crnobrnja  
Mr. N. Davis

Place: Office of the President, The White House

Ambassador Crnobrnja presented President Tito's letter to the President. He said he had an additional oral statement to make. That was to express the satisfaction of President Tito and the Yugoslav Government over recent developments in Vietnam and to express the hope that the talks in Paris would end in peace. President Tito fully appreciated the great role of the President in this matter.

The President said he would read President Tito's message with great interest. He had observed and noted Tito's firm, strong statements and was pleased to see them.

The President also said he understood Senator Mansfield was visiting Yugoslavia. He mentioned that he wanted to talk with Senator Mansfield before his departure and asked Mr. Davis to look into the possibility of setting up an appointment. The President told Ambassador Crnobrnja that he would appreciate it if President Tito were able to receive Senator Mansfield.

On Vietnam, the President observed that we have wanted substantive talks for a long time, and the problem has been the unwillingness of the other side to move forward.

Ambassador Crnobrnja said he would like to raise a small point -- whether to make President Tito's letter public. President Tito would, of course, respect the President's wishes in this regard. The President said he certainly had no objection to the Yugoslav government announcing that Ambassador Crnobrnja had called and delivered a letter from President Tito. So far as the contents of the letter are concerned, the President had not read the letter and couldn't really comment. The President promised to read the letter and let Ambassador Crnobrnja know later in the day whether he had any problem with it. The

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E.O. 13292, Sec. 3.4  
By cm/jc, NARA, Date 5-11-07

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-2-

Yugoslavs were advised later in the day that the President had no objection to President Tito's making his letter public.

As the President and Ambassador Crnobrnja were walking toward the door, the President advised the Ambassador of America's warm interest in Yugoslavia and our desire that the two countries be together.

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