

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Gerald R. Ford  
Ambassador John Sherman Cooper, Ambassador  
to German Democratic Republic  
Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant  
to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME: Wednesday, November 6, 1974  
11:45 a.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office  
The White House

President: What was the final tally on Marlow [Cook]?

Cooper: About 73,000. I really thought he had a chance. He carried  
Lexington. Our district didn't do well.

In relationship to your campaign -- you hurt no one. And I'm not  
just buttering you up. In fact you helped. Before you came, the  
Republicans had given up.

President: My reaction is the same. Bob Dole said my stop in Wichita made  
the difference. Also in Utah. My own district is what hurts. We lost by  
1-2%.

Cooper: I knew when I was going to win and when I was going to lose.  
Marlow knew what he was up against. Kentucky is 2-to-1 regular  
Democrat. There is no feeling against you. It wasn't a referendum on  
your program. On taxes, you may have to raise them a little.

President: We apparently lost four in the Senate and 39-to-40 in the House.  
When you think what we were carrying -- Watergate, inflation, etcetera.

Cooper: They all like you. It is not discouraging.

President: We can now allege they have co-equal responsibility. They can  
be held accountable.

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~~TOP SECRET~~ - XGDS (3)  
CLASSIFIED BY: HENRY A. KISSINGER

DECLASSIFIED  
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NSC MEMO, 11/24/90, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES, State Dep. ex 3/10/04  
BY: [signature], NARA, DATE 5/16/04

When do you leave?

Cooper: Two weeks from Friday. I am your representative. They are tough people and it will be a tough time. There isn't much knowledge about the Communist Party and how it works and what its objectives are. The Soviets are there with 300,000 troops and maybe they don't like them. Then there is Berlin.

President: Be firm. We didn't send you to capitulate. We won't take anything from them. We are sending a good man and we won't take any guff.

After the war, I negotiated with the Soviet Union over displaced persons. We had orders to send them back to the Soviet Union. I was only a Lieutenant but I protested to Patton and they changed the order.

Cooper: I will stand firm, don't worry. I know I have your and Kissinger's confidence. I will look at the staff, and if I don't like them, I will make some changes.

President: Who is your Deputy?

Cooper: Grove. I don't know him, but he wanted to open the Embassy before I got there.

P/ John Sherman Cooper  
6 Nov 74

- P What was a final tally on Washburn
- C About 20,000. I really don't see how a chance  
he earned byington. Our district didn't do  
well. Train was.
- In relationship to your campaign - you must  
be on. I was looking up - in fact you helped.  
After your career, a report had given up.
- P My reaction is a shame. Bob Dole said  
my stop in Wichita made a big deal in  
state. My own district is what he  
lost by 1-2%.
- Q I know when does your union & when he  
knows when what he says against. Kentucky  
is 2-1 reg. class. There is no fishing  
against you. Not a referendum on your prop.  
On Texas, you may have to raise them a little.
- P We apparently lost 4 in Senate & 39-40 in House  
whom you think what we were carrying -  
W.G., inflation, etc.
- C They all like you. It was disappointing  
P we can now allege they have congressional  
rep. They can be held accountable  
when you have
- C 2 weeks from Fri. I am your rep. They  
are tough people & it will be a tough time.  
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+ they changed order.

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a stuff + if I don't like them I will make some  
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1 who your deputy

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