THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SECRET/NODIS/XGDS

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:

President Ford

Amb. James W. Hargrove, Ambassador to

Australia

Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the

President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME:

Friday, February 6, 1976

10:15 - 10:25 a.m.

PLACE:

The Oval Office

<u>President:</u> I am delighted to have you going to Australia. When are you leaving?

<u>Hargrove</u>: I am going to Houston tonight, and to Australia a week from today.

[There followed a discussion of glasses.]

President: You are going to a government we approve of more than when Whitlam was there. Fraser has already taken some steps in our favor, and his economic plan is compatible with ours. You can tell him we support him with enthusiasm. I don't think I ever met him, did I?

Scowcroft: [The story about Fraser visit plans].

Hargrove: He wants to come but we both think this year is not the one. Incidentally, I hope you win.

<u>President:</u> [Discussed the upcoming primaries.]

Hargrove: Red Blount is a friend of mine. I helped with that [postal service] bill, which is still the right way to go. We've got to break that union.

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EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
EXEMPTION CATEGORY 5 (b) (1, 3)

AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON Imp. to det.

E.O. 12968, SEC. 3.5 IMPAGE, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINE: 5/th Devices 3/1/04 President: It is a tough job. We just can't pay \$1 billion out of the general fund.

<u>Hargrove</u>: They can pay for it if they would quit giving away magazines, etc.

President: Give Fraser my best. I don't know what our travel plans are, but the Vice President is going there. I'm glad you took the job.

Plank Horgiove Friday, 65 st- 16 10:15 - 10:25 am P Dehiphrid & how you gring a Controlic along haring He Howstern to got & and week for total P (Diowning of glasses)

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