

DOCUMENT WITHDRAWAL RECORD [NIXON PROJECT]

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DOCUMENT TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE OR CORRESPONDENTS	DATE	RESTRICTION
1 A	letter	Gorton to the President	n.d. [3/31/70]	B
1 B	letter	duplicate of document 1 A		
2 A	letter	Gorton to the President	n.d.	B
3	message	Gorton to the President MANDATORY REVIEW REQUEST NLN 05-38/1 DECLASSIFIED per ltr. 13 Sept. '07	2 pp 12/13/69	B
5	letter	Gorton to the President MANDATORY REVIEW REQUEST NLN 05-38/2 DECLASSIFIED per ltr. 13 Sept. 07	2 pp 7/22/69	B
6	message	Gorton to the President	6/24/69	B
7	message	Gorton to the President	7/22/69	B

FILE GROUP TITLE: NSC Presidential Correspondence 1969-1974
 BOX NUMBER: 748
 FOLDER TITLE: (4) Australia Prime Minister Gorton Corres. [June 1969 - April 1970]

RESTRICTION CODES

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>A. Release would violate a Federal statute or Agency Policy.</p> <p>B. National security classified information.</p> <p>C. Pending or approved claim that release would violate an individual's rights.</p> <p>D. Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy or a libel of a living person.</p> | <p>E. Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information.</p> <p>F. Release would disclose investigatory information compiled for law enforcement purposes.</p> <p>G. Withdrawn and return private and personal material.</p> <p>H. Withdrawn and returned non-historical material.</p> |
|--|---|

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- 2 Prime Minister Gorton's condolence message to President Nixon on the ship collision dated June 3, 1969.
- 3 Memos concerning and text of letter of appreciation for advance, notice of withdrawal of troops from Vietnam from Prime Minister Gorton to President Nixon of June 13.
- 4 Memos about and text of letter from Prime Minister Gorton to President Nixon on F - 111 problems dated July 22, 1969.
- 5 Letter from President Nixon to Prime Minister Gorton about wheat trade from July 22, 1969.
- 6 Letter from President Nixon to Prime Minister Gorton expressing regret about not being able to stop in Australia during trip. July 23, 1969.
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- 10 Memo on consultations with Australia and with other troop contributing countries on their withdrawals from Vietnam dated 17 Dec. 69.
- 11 Package dated 6 Dec 1969 concerning meat trade.
- 12 Letter dated 31 March 1970 to President Nixon from PM Gorton concerning Australian F111 Aircraft program.
Australian F111 package and letter from President Nixon to PM Gorton dated April 9, 1970.
Letter from President Nixon to Prime Minister on F-111 purchase.

8753

Australia

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SECRET

April 9, 1970

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

The continuing concern you express in your letter about the purchase of F-111 aircraft is quite understandable. You set forth the problems with great frankness.

The entire F-111 program has been under intensive review in recent months, and our tentative judgment is that the technical difficulties we have experienced are susceptible to resolution on a mutually agreeable basis. Nevertheless, we are quite prepared to explore alternatives.

I understand that our respective Defense Chiefs are already exploring in depth the specific problem areas. In these discussions Secretary Laird is of course prepared for an open and complete exchange of information with Minister Fraser.

You can be assured our intention is to see that the solution agreed upon will be as responsive as possible to the concerns you have expressed.

Warm personal regards,

Sincerely,

The Right Honorable
John Grey Gorton
Prime Minister of Australia
Canberra

MICROFILM	DATA
DO	
INIT	RS
DATE	4-13
ORIG)	NSC
TO)	PAF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	WHC
	SUBF

SECRET

*Corrected version (GREY)
sent s/s 1200 10 Apr 70*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SECRET

April 6, 1970

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

The continuing concern you express in your letter about the purchase of F-111 aircraft is quite understandable. You set forth the problems with great frankness.

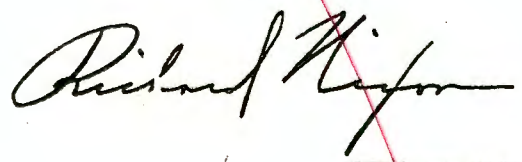
The entire F-111 program has been under intensive review in recent months, and our tentative judgment is that the technical difficulties we have experienced are susceptible to resolution on a mutually agreeable basis. Nevertheless, we are quite prepared to explore alternatives.

When our respective Defense chiefs explore in depth the specific problem areas, Secretary Laird will be prepared for an open and complete exchange of information and views with Minister Fraser.

You can be assured our intention is to see that the solution agreed upon will be as responsive as possible to the concerns you have expressed.

Warm personal regards,

Sincerely,



The Right Honorable
John Gray Gorton
Prime Minister of Australia
Canberra

MICROFILM	DATA
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ORIG) NSC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
TO) PAF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	WHC _____
	SUBF _____

SECRET

Ltr sent to S/S (for delivery by our Ambassador) w/cy of ltr & cy of Gorton ltr, 4/8-recpt# 1240.
 " " " " 4/9/70 - Rept #1243 tdm
 Cy sent to Laird 4/8/70, recpt# 1239. tdm
 " " " " 4/9/70 " #1244 tdm

All attached needs

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SECRET

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

The continuing concern you express in your letter about the purchase of F-111 aircraft is quite understandable. You set forth the problems with great frankness.

The entire F-111 program has been under intensive review in recent months, and our tentative judgment is that the technical difficulties we have experienced are susceptible to resolution on a mutually agreeable basis. Nevertheless, we are quite prepared to explore alternatives.

When our respective Defense chiefs explore in depth the specific problem areas, Secretary Laird will be prepared for an open and complete exchange of information and views with Minister Fraser.

You can be assured our intention is to see that the solution agreed upon will be as responsive as possible to the concerns you have expressed.

Warm personal regards,

Sincerely,

The Right Honorable
John Gray Gorton
Prime Minister of Australia
Canberra

SECRET

RN:HAK:RMBehr(NSC)/msm/
476770

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 7, 1970

MEMO FOR JOHN BROWN

FROM: Bob Houdek

Dr. Kissinger is approving the attached for the President and would like to have it forwarded to Miss Woods for signature.

Attachment

#-8953 - Australian F-111
Program (Ltr to P.M. Gorton)

Secretariat -

I have dated the Presidential letter

April 6 - per Dr. K's office.

nancy

MEMORANDUM

ACTION

THE WHITE HOUSE

April 7, 1970⁶

WASHINGTON

SECRET/SENSITIVE

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger ~~K~~

SUBJECT: Australian F-111 Program

Prime Minister Gorton has written (Tab B) to you expressing concern over the future of the F-111 program. He wishes to explore whatever alternative programs may exist.

Secretary Laird is meeting today (April 6th) with the Australian Minister for Defense, Mr. Malcolm Fraser to discuss the F-111 problem. He has sent you a memorandum (Tab C) outlining the position he will take. In brief, he will describe the program which the Air Force has to fix the technical difficulties with the F-111, outline alternative aircraft programs and their costs, and point out that, given Australia's requirement for a long-range strike aircraft, the F-111 is the only aircraft available at this time.

I believe that we should be very candid with the Australians, giving them the facts as we know them and let them then decide for themselves on the basis of their needs. Attached is a draft reply (Tab A) from you to Prime Minister Gorton which states that (1) the F-111 program has been under intensive review, (2) the tentative judgment is that the technical difficulties can be resolved, (3) details of the F-111 program and any feasible alternatives will be explored by Secretary Laird and Minister Fraser, and (4) that you desire a solution responsive to Australia's concerns.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the letter at Tab A.

SECRET/SENSITIVE

NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS PROJECT
DOCUMENT CONTROL RECORD

ITEM REMOVED FROM THIS FILE FOLDER

A RESTRICTED DOCUMENT OR CASE FILE HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM THIS FILE FOLDER. FOR A DESCRIPTION OF THE ITEM REMOVED AND THE REASON FOR ITS REMOVAL, CONSULT DOCUMENT ENTRY NUMBER 1A ON EITHER THE DOCUMENT WITHDRAWAL RECORD (GSA FORM 7279 OR NA FORM 1421) OR NARA WITHDRAWAL SHEET (GSA FORM 7122) LOCATED IN THE FRONT OF THIS FILE FOLDER.

A sanitized copy substituted for an original item which contains information restricted under the Privacy Act.

Pls deliver
to Secretariat
immediately

SECRETARIAT - ACTION

HOLDRIDGE TO PREPARE
URGENT MEMO TO PRES. SHOULD
BE IN HALL'S OFFICE BY C.O.B
TODAY 4/4/70

SECRET

SENSITIVE

NODIS

8958

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

3 APR 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Letter to the President from Prime Minister Gorton
on F-111C

Attached is a draft reply to Prime Minister Gorton's letter to you, relayed to the White House from the Australian Embassy.

My intended position on the Australian F-111 purchase may be briefly described as follows:

a. The F-111 program indeed has experienced considerable difficulties; however, a US Air Force "recovery" plan has been developed which should, within a reasonable period of time, resolve these difficulties. The F-111 will provide an important capability that we need which cannot be satisfied by any other plane now in existence or expected to be available for a number of years.

b. The Australians understandably are concerned over matters concerning F-111 performance and the delay in delivery of their aircraft (e.g., warranty coverage, storage charges). We will be as understanding and forthcoming as is reasonably possible to accommodate them.

c. We are prepared, if the Australians so desire, to discuss alternatives to the F-111 aircraft together with attendant cost considerations.

d. If, in the end, the Australians desire to cancel their F-111 participation and purchase a different US aircraft, we should accept their decision with good grace, with the objective of preserving the present excellent relations between the two countries, and with the financial arrangements to be on an equitable basis for both parties.

In taking this position, I am mindful of the implications that an Australian cancellation may have for our entire F-111 program. Nevertheless, I believe that the F-111 program can and should be made to succeed since there is no good alternative available to us at this time.



Attachment

SECRET

SENSITIVE

NODIS

1788

SECRET

SENSITIVE

NODIS

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

Thank you for your letter of _____ April 1970 regarding your continuing concern over the purchase of F-111 aircraft from the United States.

I appreciate the frankness with which you set forth the problems; your concerns are most understandable. The entire F-111 program has been under intensive review in recent months, and our tentative judgment is that the technical difficulties we have experienced are susceptible to resolution on a mutually agreeable basis. Nevertheless, we are quite prepared to explore alternatives.

Our respective Defense chiefs will explore in depth the specific problem areas you mentioned. In this connection, Secretary Laird will be forthcoming with Minister Fraser, and I know that he anticipates an open and complete exchange of information and views.

You can be assured our intention is to see that the solution agreed upon will be as responsive as possible to the concerns you have expressed.

Sincerely yours,

SECRET

SENSITIVE

NODIS

Reminder for me (nancy)

Date the Presidential letter

April 6 per Winston.

MEMORANDUM

ACTION

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SECRET/SENSITIVE

April 6, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

FROM: Robert M. Behr *RM B*

SUBJECT: Australian F-111 Program

Prime Minister Gorton has written (Tab B) to the President expressing concern over the trouble-ridden F-111 program. Secretary Laird is meeting today (6 April) with Mr. Malcolm Fraser, the Australian Minister for Defense, to discuss the F-111 question. Mr. Laird has forwarded a memorandum (Tab C) to the President which comments on the program and attaches a recommended reply (Tab A) from the President to Prime Minister Gorton.

Mr. Laird states that the Air Force has a program "which should, within a reasonable period of time, resolve these difficulties". He intends to deal candidly with Mr. Fraser, providing straight-forward information on the F-111 "fix" and suggesting possible alternative aircraft should the Australians remain bearish on the F-111. He concludes that ". . . the F-111 program can and should be made to succeed since there is no good alternative available to us at this time". The draft reply from the President to Prime Minister Gorton generally reflects these views.

The tack which Secretary Laird has suggested is, under the circumstances, a prudent one. We should level with the Australians and let them make up their own minds after they have made a technical evaluation of the F-111 "get well" program.

I have drafted a memorandum (Tab I) from you to the President which outlines the problem described above and recommends that he sign the proposed reply to Mr. Gorton.

John Holdridge concurs. The draft letter from the President to Mr. Gorton has been cleared by Jim Keogh's office.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the memorandum at Tab I.

SECRET/SENSITIVE

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Nancy

Original of Gorton's letter must be inserted at
TAB B before the package goes to the Pres.

No one over here has seen it, so we assume
it is in the WH someplace (perhaps with Haig?).

Chet

Nancy

SECRET / SENSITIVE / NODIS

March 31, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR BILL WATTS

FROM: Al Haig
SUBJECT: Letter for Prime Minister Gorton

Attached is an advance version, which was dictated over the phone, of a letter from Prime Minister Gorton, expected to be delivered on Thursday. Please make John Holdridge and Larry Lynn aware of the letter and task Defense to provide a reply for the President's signature. This must be dealt with expeditiously as Australian Defense Minister Frasier is planning to confer with Secretary Laird next Monday and we will need to have our position clarified by that time.

Attachment

AMH:JTH:mlc (3-31-70)

SECRET / SENSITIVE / NODIS

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

VIA LDX

April 2, 1970

TOP SECRET ATTACHMENT

For: General Pursley
Department of Defense

From: William Watts

Attached is the signed copy of
the letter to the President from
Prime Minister Gorton, referred to
in my memo to you yesterday.

TOP SECRET

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

~~8857~~
8857

April 1, 1970

SECRET/SENSITIVE/NODIS

MEMORANDUM FOR

General Robert E. Pursley
Military Assistant to the Secretary
Department of Defense

SUBJECT: Attached Letter to the President
from Prime Minister Gorton

Attached is an advanced text of a letter to the President from Prime Minister Gorton, relayed to the White House from the Australian Embassy. The signed letter itself is expected to be delivered tomorrow.

Could you please have a draft reply prepared for the President's signature, to be forwarded by Friday. I understand that Australian Defense Minister Frasier is planning to confer with Secretary Laird on the issue raised by Prime Minister Gorton next Monday. Our position must be clarified prior to that time, which explains the extremely short due date on this item.

Wm. Watts

William Watts


SECRET/SENSITIVE/NODIS

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTONSECRET/SENSITIVE/NODIS

March 31, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR BILL WATTS

FROM: Al Haig 

SUBJECT: Letter for Prime Minister Gorton

Attached is an advance version, which was dictated over the phone, of a letter from Prime Minister Gorton expected to be delivered on Thursday. Please make John Holdridge and Larry Lynn aware of the letter and task Defense to provide a reply for the President's signature. This must be dealt with expeditiously as Australian Defense Minister Frasier is planning to confer with Secretary Laird next Monday and we will need to have our position clarified by that time.

Attachment

SECRET/SENSITIVE/NODIS

NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS PROJECT
DOCUMENT CONTROL RECORD

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→ Ed Roberts
Department of State TELEGRAM

6

Holdridge
Casper
Lynn
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W/19/10.
Castle 7.

SECRET 431

PAGE 01 STATE 052751

82
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DRAFTED BY: EA/ANZ:RWMOORE
APPROVED BY: EA - WINTHROP G. BROWN
DOD/ISA - CDR. KUHN
S/S - MR. BROWN
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION ONLY: S U J C S/PC PM EA S/S

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

SECRET STATE 052751

EXDIS

I. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING LETTER FROM PRESIDENT TO THE PRIME MINISTER: QUOTE: DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER: THE CONTINUING CONCERN YOU EXPRESS IN YOUR LETTER ABOUT THE PURCHASE OF F-111 AIRCRAFT IS QUITE UNDERSTANDABLE. YOU SET FORTH THE PROBLEMS WITH GREAT FRANKNESS.

THE ENTIRE F-111 PROGRAM HAS BEEN UNDER INTENSIVE REVIEW IN RECENT MONTHS. AND OUR TENTATIVE JUDGMENT IS THAT THE TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES WE HAVE EXPERIENCED ARE SUSCEPTIBLE TO RESOLUTION ON A MUTUALLY AGREEABLE BASIS. NEVERTHELESS, WE ARE QUITE PREPARED TO EXPLORE ALTERNATIVES.

I UNDER STAND THAT OUR RESPECTIVE DEFENSE CHIEFS ARE ALREADY EXPLORING IN DEPTH THE SPECIFIC PROBLEM AREAS. IN THESE DISCUSSIONS SECRETARY LAIRD IS OF COURSE PREPARED FOR AN OPEN AND COMPLETE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION WITH MINISTER FRASER.

YOU CAN BE ASSURED OUR INTENTION IS TO SEE THAT THE SOLUTION AGREED UPON WILL BE AS RESPONSIVE AS POSSIBLE TO THE CONCERNS YOU HAVE EXPRESSED.

NOT TO BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



Department of State

TELEGRAM

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 052751

WARM PERSONAL REGARDS, SINCERELY, RICHARD NIXON END QUOTE.

2. ORIGINAL BEING POUCHED.
ROGERS

EXD
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SECRET

NOT TO BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

4892

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 6, 1969

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

Your letter about the arrangements on meat imports from Australia and other countries into the United States was received with a full appreciation of the problems which they cause. I assure you that this Administration is thoroughly aware of the significance of Australia's meat trade with the United States and of the importance which your country attaches to its access to the U. S. market.

During the last several months we have undertaken a complete review of our meat import policy for the remainder of 1969. In this review the interests of Australia and the other suppliers of meat to our market were kept fully in mind. I recognize the difficulties that the restraint program has caused for the Australian meat industry and the Government of Australia, and regret that we were unable to grant an increase in Australia's allocation. We received similar requests for increased allocations from several other countries, also with compelling reasons. Under these circumstances, and given the quota provisions of the Meat Import Act, no revision of the current program was possible.

As you know, however, we were able to reallocate nearly 15 million pounds of the expected Canadian shortfall to Australia. I hope that this amount will be of benefit to your country.

You have my deep appreciation for the cooperative attitude demonstrated by your government and the Australian meat

industry. We will do all we can to further the spirit of goodwill and cooperation which exists between our two countries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard Nixon", written in dark ink.

The Right Honorable
John Gray Gorton
Prime Minister of Australia
Canberra

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

✓ 4892

ACTION
December 3, 1969

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger *HK*
SUBJECT: Reply to Gorton on Meat

At Tab A is a proposed reply to Prime Minister Gorton's letter to you on meat (Tab B) prepared by State and cleared by Agriculture. The letter has been reviewed and edited by Jim Keogh.

It would inform Gorton that, partly in response to his letter, you made a thorough review of U. S. meat import policy for the last part of 1969. However, numerous other countries also requested increased allocations and you could not therefore meet Gorton's full request. You did, however, give Australia an extra 15 million pounds as its share of the shortfall in imports from Canada.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the response to Prime Minister Gorton at Tab A.



4892 B
EMBASSY OF AUSTRALIA
WASHINGTON, D. C

16th September, 1969

Dear Mr President,

I have been asked by the Prime Minister, the Right Honourable J.G. Gorton M.P., to pass to you the enclosed letter which was received by cable today.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'W. Waller'.

(Keith Waller)

The President,
The White House,
WASHINGTON D.C.

NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS PROJECT
DOCUMENT CONTROL RECORD

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A sanitized copy substituted for an original item which contains information restricted under the Privacy Act.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

17993

November 22, 1969

LIMITED OFFICIAL USEMEMORANDUM FOR MR. HENRY A. KISSINGER
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Suggested Reply from the President to
Australian Prime Minister Gorton

Enclosed is a suggested reply from the President to Australian Prime Minister Gorton, who wrote on September 16 to request an increase in permitted meat imports in 1969. The reply states that we were unable to increase the level because of similar requests from other countries and because of the absolute limit on meat imports imposed by the Meat Import Act. In keeping with our agreement with Australia we were able, however, to reallocate to Australia a portion of the Canadian shortfall. A copy of Prime Minister Gorton's letter is also enclosed. The suggested reply from the President has been cleared with the Department of Agriculture.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Theodore L. Eliot Jr.".

Theodore L. Eliot, Jr.
Executive Secretary

Enclosures:

As stated.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Suggested Reply

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I appreciated your letter pointing out the problems that have arisen as a result of the arrangement on meat imports from Australia and other countries into the United States. I assure you that this Administration is fully aware of the significance of Australia's meat trade with the US and of the importance which Australia attaches to its access to the US market.

I should like you to know that during the last several months we have undertaken a thorough review of our meat import policy for the remainder of 1969. During this review the interests of Australia and the other suppliers of meat to our market were kept fully in mind. I recognize the difficulties that the restraint program has caused for the Australian meat industry and the Government of Australia, and I regret that we were

The Right Honorable
John Gray Gorton
Prime Minister of Australia
Canberra

unable to grant an increase in Australia's allocation. We received similar requests for increased allocations from several other countries, also with compelling reasons. Under these circumstances, and given the quota provisions of the Meat Import Act, no revision of the current program was possible.

As you know, however, in keeping with our agreement we were able to reallocate nearly 15 million pounds of the expected Canadian shortfall to Australia. I hope that this amount will be of benefit to Australia.

In closing I should like to express my appreciation for the cooperative attitude demonstrated by the Australian Government and the Australian meat industry. I assure you that we will do all we can to further the spirit of goodwill and cooperation which exists between our two countries.

Sincerely,

Richard Nixon

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

ACTION

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

November 26, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

FROM: C. Fred Bergsten

SUBJECT: Reply to Gorton on Meat

Prime Minister Gorton wrote the President on September 16 about U. S. meat imports from Australia.

You will recall that we went through a thorough study of the possible responses but the President finally decided against any major action. The proposed reply to Gorton (Tab A) would inform him of our serious consideration of the issue and the reasons why we did not honor his request to a greater extent. The letter has been reviewed and edited by Jim Keogh.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the memorandum at Tab I.

Clearance: JHHoldridge

Handwritten initials

Handwritten signature: Mackinney

Handwritten initials

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 25, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES KEOGH

FROM: C. Fred Bergsten

SUBJECT: Proposed Presidential Reply to Prime Minister Gorton of Australia on Meat

Attached is a proposed Presidential letter to Gorton, prepared by State and agreed by Agriculture. Dr. Kissinger will forward it to the President for signature after I receive your clearance. Telephonic approval would certainly be all right with us (Ext. 5026).

Attachment

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Suggested Reply

JK

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

~~I appreciated your letter pointing out the problems~~
~~that have arisen as a result of the arrangement on meat~~
imports from Australia and other countries into the
United States. ~~I assure you that this Administration~~
is ~~fully~~ ^{thoroughly} aware of the significance of Australia's meat
trade with the US and of the importance which ~~Australia~~
attaches to its access to the US market.

what they
conclude.

~~I should like you to know that~~ during the last
several months we have undertaken a ~~thorough~~ ^{complete} review of
our meat import policy for the remainder of 1969. ~~During~~
this review the interests of Australia and the other
suppliers of meat to our market were kept fully in mind.
I recognize the difficulties that the restraint program
has caused for the Australian meat industry and the
Government of Australia, and ~~I~~ regret that we were

The Right Honorable
John Gray Gorton
Prime Minister of Australia
Canberra

unable to grant an increase in Australia's allocation. We received similar requests for increased allocations from several other countries, also with compelling reasons. Under these circumstances, and given the quota provisions of the Meat Import Act, no revision of the current program was possible.

As you know, however, ~~in keeping with our agreement~~ we were able to reallocate nearly 15 million pounds of the expected Canadian shortfall to Australia. I hope that this amount will be of benefit to ^{your country &} Australia.

In closing I should like to ~~express my~~ ^{PL of me} appreciation ^{for you have my deep} for the cooperative attitude demonstrated by the ^{your} Australian Government and the Australian meat industry.

I assure you ~~that~~ we will do all we can to further the spirit of goodwill and cooperation which exists between our two countries.

Sincerely,

Richard Nixon

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SECRET/NODIS

INFORMATION

December 17, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger *H*

SUBJECT: Consultations with Australia and with Other Troop
Contributing Countries on their Withdrawals from Vietnam

Australian Prime Minister Gorton has sent you a message which expresses appreciation for your November 3 speech and applauds your decision to avoid a precipitate withdrawal of our forces in Vietnam (Tab A). He then goes on to raise the subject of consultations with us in order to reach a concerted plan for coordinating Australian troop withdrawals with our own, saying that at some stage in our withdrawals the Australians will need to follow suit, and that it would be best to draw up Australian plans "methodically in the knowledge of your long-term thinking." He notes that the briefings and consultations already provided by State and Defense to his representatives here have not provided the opportunity for meaningful discussions on this and related questions, and concludes by asking you to arrange for high level discussions at some unspecified time on the matter of how Australian troop withdrawals might occur.

The foregoing message was delivered to me personally on December 13 by Australian Ambassador Waller, who also brought a brief additional letter to you from Gorton (Tab B). This note states that in the light of your impending announcement of new U. S. withdrawals as part of a continuing process, he will be under increasing pressure to state Australia's position publicly. For this purpose he therefore believes that "we should have" the high level discussions proposed in his message; i. e., he in effect wants these discussions to be held now. He concludes by saying that his public statement cannot be long delayed.

I have told Waller that they might wish to send Hewitt, Secretary of the Prime Minister's Department, to Washington to conduct high level consultations in line with the Prime Minister's wishes. I also suggested that the Australians continue with the consultations now being provided by State and Defense.

At the time of his visit I asked Waller to deliver to State a copy of the Gorton message, but I have retained the additional letter as being of a private nature. State has not been informed of its contents.

SECRET/NODIS

The Vietnam Interdepartmental Group has been working up a plan for continuous consultations with the troop contributing countries so that their withdrawals, if need be, can be coordinated with our own. The draft is due on December 15 and will provide for the handling of Allied withdrawals on our own terms in line with your instructions at the time of President Marcos' precipitous unilateral withdrawal decision.



EMBASSY OF AUSTRALIA
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Message for President Nixon from
Prime Minister Gorton

During the last few days my colleagues and I have discussed the situation in Vietnam, the general objectives our two countries have been pursuing there, and your own intention progressively to withdraw United States troops, as the situation permits, and replace them with Vietnamese units.

Your statement of 3 November is appreciated by us and we also applaud your considered and responsible decision to continue to set your face against any abrupt or precipitate withdrawal of forces which would destroy all chance of any acceptable outcome in Vietnam.

However I am sure that you will understand the Australian public's expectation that as American withdrawals proceed there will come a point when Australian withdrawals should take place.

That stage has not at present been reached but we feel that we must, at once, do as your Government is doing - that is develop plans for the withdrawal of Australian troops to be phased into United States troop withdrawals.

It would in our view be best if those plans were the result of prior discussion and agreement between us for the decision we take should preferably be seen as part of a concerted United States/Australian plan with the maximum of co-operation and good will between us.

In our view the best method of achieving this would be to agree that when United States forces have been reduced to an agreed level Australian withdrawals would take place.

It would not be easy for us to explain that meaningful discussions to this end were not taking place or that the Vietnamization process was organized to apply solely to United States withdrawals.

To enable us to make our own suggestions as to the implementation of this proposal we would like to have a general idea of the proposed pace of your future withdrawals. But I stress that your thinking as to how many troops might be withdrawn at any particular time, and how far and fast the process might be carried may be subject to adjustment, and perhaps major adjustment, as you indicated in your speech of 3 November. We would like, too, to be

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, as amended, Sect 3.5

NLN 05-38/1 BY SEP 13 2007

By [signature] Date 3 Oct 07

/2.

[p. 1 of 3]

given more particulars of the "modernization" programme and the timetable for the ARVN which has been worked out by the United States with the South Vietnamese authorities.

I would be grateful if you could arrange for us to be fully briefed on this.

Turning to the components of our forces it would be consistent with what we understand to be your long-term planning if we were initially to put aside any question of withdrawing our Naval or Airforce units.

As to our Army Task Force our military advice is that all our ground units should, if possible, be withdrawn as one unit though it is possible this might be avoided if there were co-ordinated Australian/United States military planning.

In either event there would obviously be a need for detailed discussions between our representatives before decisions were finally taken.

You will remember that following my message to you of 20 July arrangements were made for briefings and consultations.

These have since taken place in Washington between our Ambassador and members of his staff and Mr Marshall Green and Mr William Sullivan at the State Department and Admiral Lemos at the Pentagon.

Those discussions have been helpful in clarifying some points as to the concept you had in mind in your speech of 3 November when you referred to a "plan" worked out in co-operation with the South Vietnamese for the complete withdrawal of all United States ground combat forces and for their replacement by South Vietnamese forces "on an orderly scheduled timetable".

But I am afraid they did not provide the opportunity for the kind of meaningful discussions directed to the particular matters which I have set out earlier in this message. At your press conference on 8 December you said that within the next two or three weeks you would be announcing further troop withdrawals and we have since received your message letting us know the probable total of such withdrawals and the probable time over which such withdrawals will extend.

This emphasises the need for the discussions of which I have spoken to enable us to make an informed judgement about the stage at which it may become appropriate to decide on Australian withdrawals.

/3.

[NND 05-35/1:2]

Earlier I made the point that our two countries should proceed to a concerted plan. If you agree with this it would be our intention that any announcement of a reduction in our forces would be related to the total withdrawal programme and would therefore look to simultaneous announcement of what was decided in Washington, Canberra and Saigon.

Our own thinking would necessarily be as tentative and flexible as yours, but I am sure you will agree that it would be to the advantage of both our countries for Australian plans to be jointly developed methodically in the knowledge of your long-term thinking, and on the basis of our withdrawals taking place at an agreed level of United States force reductions rather than be decided by us at short notice in response to specific announcements on your part.

I would therefore be grateful if you would arrange for our countries to engage in high level discussions on the matter of when and how Australian troop withdrawals might occur, and on the other matters I have raised with you in this message.

May I repeat, in conclusion, how much we appreciated your 3 November speech and assure you that as I enter another term of office I look forward to continued close co-operation and association between our two countries and you and me personally.

13th December, 1969.

[NLN 05-38/1:3]

Text of letter from Australian Prime Minister Gorton
to the President:

"In light of the withdrawals you have already made, and new announcements you will be making on December 15, and the expectation that the process will continue, I will be under increasing pressure to state publicly Australia's intentions. In order to do this we should have the discussions I have referred to. I do not mean that I would need to make such a statement immediately, but it cannot be long delayed."

1699

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 9, 1969

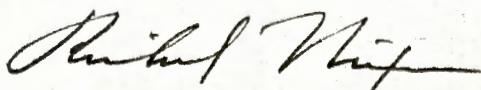
Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

It is a particular pleasure for me to accept your gracious invitation for an American warship to represent the United States in the celebration of the 200th anniversary of Captain James Cook's discovery of the East Coast of Australia.

We are delighted to have the opportunity to take part in commemorating the anniversary of that auspicious event. Arrangements will therefore be made for an American naval vessel to participate in the ceremonies on April 29, 1970.

With warm personal regards,

Sincerely,



Honorable John G. Gorton
Prime Minister of Australia
Canberra, Australia

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

ACTION
October 2, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger *HK*

SUBJECT: Letter from Prime Minister Gorton

Australian Prime Minister Gorton has sent you a letter inviting you to send a US naval ship to Australia to take part in the 1970 Captain Cook Bi-Centenary Celebrations (Tab B). These will take place at Botany Bay on April 29, 1970 and commemorate the date on which Captain Cook made the first landing in Australia.

I consider that it would be a useful and well-appreciated gesture for you to accept Prime Minister Gorton's invitation to send a ship. In fact, given the nature and scale of the ceremonies, the absence of a US naval vessel would be noted and commented upon adversely.

State and Defense concur in the desirability of sending a ship. It will probably be in the destroyer class.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the letter to Prime Minister Gorton at Tab A, accepting the invitation to send a naval vessel to participate in the Cook Bi-Centenary Celebrations.

Attachments

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

ACTION

September 30, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

FROM: John H. Holdridge *JH*

SUBJECT: Letter to the President from Prime Minister Gorton of Australia

Australian Prime Minister Gorton has addressed a letter to the President containing an invitation to the US to send a naval ship to Australia to take part in the 1970 Captain Cook Bi-Centenary Celebrations. The date of the celebrations will be April 29, 1970, the anniversary of the day on which Captain Cook landed at Botany Bay.

I would see no problem in the President's accepting Prime Minister Gorton's invitation. We undoubtedly have naval vessels in the Pacific which could be sent to Australia for the period necessary to take part in the Captain Cook Bi-Centenary Celebrations. It would be a good occasion on which to show the flag, and in fact, our failure to send a ship would probably be noticed and cause adverse comment.

State and Defense concur in the desirability of sending a ship.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the memorandum for the President at Tab A.

Attachment



13487

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

September 23, 1969

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HENRY A. KISSINGER
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Warship Visit to Mark Cook
Bicentennial

In response to Mr. Watts' request of September 3, the Department of State, in cooperation with the Department of Defense, concludes that it is desirable and practicable to have a warship of the U.S. Navy participate in the Captain Cook Bicentenary Celebrations in Australia in April 1970.

We have been advised by the Department of Defense that the Navy is in the process of selecting and designating a warship to participate. Though other nations may have more than one ship participating, Defense advises that the limitation in numbers is essentially due to fiscal constraints, ship inactivations and operational commitments of a higher priority.

The Department of Defense will advise all concerned when the name of the ship becomes known.

Similar U.S. Navy participation is planned for the New Zealand Cook celebration scheduled for October 1969. USS HOEL (DDG 13) has been assigned.

Wingate Floyd

Theodore L. Eliot, Jr.
Executive Secretary

CONFIDENTIAL

GROUP 4

Downgraded at 3 year intervals;
declassified after 12 years.

Enclosure: Memorandum from Mr. Watts to
Mr. Eliot.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 3, 1969

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THEODORE ELIOT

FROM: William Watts

SUBJECT: Warship Visit to Mark Cook Bicentennial

Prime Minister Gorton has invited the President to send a warship or warships to Australia in connection with the Captain Cook Bicentenary Celebrations in 1970. He has suggested that if possible the ships be available to participate in an assembly of ships at Botany Bay on April 29, 1970, when the landing will be re-enacted. Later the same day, the ships are to proceed some ten miles to Sydney Harbor, where a water carnival will be staged.

The Prime Minister has expressed the hope that the ships will be opened for public visiting during their stay in Sydney.

He has indicated that, if participation in the April 29 festivities is not convenient, the program will allow for visits to any Australian port at any time during 1970.

Would the Department of State, in cooperation with the Department of Defense, please prepare recommendations as to the desirability and practicability of participation in the ceremony by ships of the U.S. Navy. Defense should be asked specifically what types and numbers of U.S. warships it believes should participate.

Answers should be received within ten days to permit us to forward the recommendations to the President.

CONFIDENTIAL

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 3, 1969

FOR THE RECORD

FROM: William Watts

SUBJECT: Warship Visit to
Mark Cook Bicentennial

The Australian Ambassador gave a sealed letter to somebody at State Department, who in turn transmitted it to us. State is aware of the general nature of the letter but not specifics.

MEMORANDUM

1699

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

ACTION

August 27, 1969

Sent 1-30-69

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

FROM: John H. Holdridge *JHH*

SUBJECT: Letter to the President from Prime Minister Gorton of Australia

Australian Prime Minister Gorton has addressed a letter to the President containing an invitation to the US to send a naval ship to Australia to take part in the 1970 Captain Cook Bi-Centenary Celebrations. The date of the celebrations will be April 29, 1970, the anniversary of the day on which Captain Cook landed at Botany Bay.

I would see no problem in the President's accepting Prime Minister Gorton's invitation. We undoubtedly have naval vessels in the Pacific which could be sent to Australia for the period necessary to take part in the Captain Cook Bi-Centenary Celebrations. It would be a good occasion on which to show the flag, and in fact, our failure to send a ship would probably be noticed and cause adverse comment.

*of State and Defense
concern in the desirability
of sending a ship.*

I have drafted a memorandum from you to the President (Tab A) recommending that he accept Prime Minister Gorton's invitation and also recommending that the Department of State be designated to draft a reply and coordinate the matter with the Department of Defense.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the memorandum for the President at Tab A.

Attachment

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger

SUBJECT: Letter from Prime Minister Gorton

Australian Prime Minister Gorton has sent you a letter inviting you to send a US naval ship to Australia to take part in the 1970 Captain Cook Bi-Centenary Celebrations (Tab B). These will take place at Botany Bay on April 29, 1970 and commemorates the date on which Captain Cook made the first landing in Australia.

I consider that it would be a useful and well-appreciated gesture for you to accept Prime Minister Gorton's invitation to send a ship. In fact, given the nature and scale of the ceremonies, the absence of a US naval vessel would be noted and commented upon adversely.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you accept Prime Minister Gorton's invitation.

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

That you authorize me to instruct the Department of State to draft a reply from you to Prime Minister Gorton and to coordinate this matter with the Department of Defense.

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

Attachment

State and Defense concern in the desirability of sending a ship. It will probably be in the destroyer class.
That you sign the letter to Prime Minister Gorton at Tab A accepting the invitation to send a naval vessel to participate in the Cook Bi-Centenary celebrations.

1699



S/S-12990

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

August 26, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HENRY A. KISSINGER
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Transmitting Sealed Letter for President from
Prime Minister Gorton, of Australia

There is enclosed a sealed letter from the Australian Prime Minister which the Department was asked by the Australian Ambassador, Sir Keith Waller, to forward to the President. According to the Ambassador, it contains an invitation to the U. S. to send a naval ship to Australia to take part in the 1970 Captain Cook Bi-Centenary Celebrations.

h. Pawley
For
Theodore L. Elliot, Jr.
Executive Secretary

Enclosures:

1. Reply to Ambassador Waller.
2. Letter from Prime Minister to the President.

RECEIVED
NSC
AUG 26 8 12 PM '69

August 25, 1969

His Excellency
Sir Keith Waller
Ambassador of Australia

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

In accordance with your request of August 19, the Prime Minister's letter, inviting the United States to send a naval ship to Australia to take part in the 1970 Captain Cook Bi-Centenary Celebration, has been transmitted to the White House for the President.

Sincerely yours,

Robert W. Moore
Country Director
Australia, New Zealand and
Pacific Islands Affairs



PRIME MINISTER,
CANBERRA.

31 JUL 1969

Dear Mr. President,

In 1970 Australia will celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the discovery of the East coast of Australia by Captain James Cook in 1770.

One of the principal features of the celebrations will be a visit to our ports by sailing ships from those nations which still have such ships in service in their Defence Forces and Merchant Navies. We also hope that some countries which are unable to send sailing ships will participate by sending a naval ship to represent their nation.

I am advised that several countries have already indicated their interest in participating in this manner and I most earnestly hope that the United States will also wish to do so.

One of the principal dates in the bi-centenary programme, now being planned, will be the 29th April 1970 - the anniversary of the day on which Captain Cook landed at Botany Bay, on our East coast near Sydney and where the re-enactment of his landing will take place.

If voyage schedules permit, there will be an assembly of ships in Botany Bay on 29 April next year. Following this it is intended that the ships will proceed to Sydney Harbour some ten miles away where a large-scale water carnival will be staged in the evening. It is hoped that visiting ships will be opened for public inspection during their stay of some days in Sydney.

I realise that this date may not be convenient for all ships and therefore our programme will allow for visits to any Australian port at any time during 1970.

Ships visiting any of our ports will be most welcome and can be assured of a warm and hospitable reception by the citizens.

Historical File

2.

May I extend to you my most cordial invitation to send one, or more, of your naval vessels to Australia during 1970, on the occasion of the bi-centenary of the discovery of the east coast, preferably for the celebrations in Sydney on 29 April. Such a visit would be interpreted by all Australians as a gesture of goodwill, and would, I am sure, be a rewarding experience for all those who are able to share it with us.

Yours sincerely,



(J. G. GORTON)

The President,
The White House,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Log #1699

The President,
The White House,
WASHINGTON. D.C.

**PRIME MINISTER
CANBERRA**



Department of State

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 062

PAGE 01 STATE 189586

Ed

82
ORIGIN EA 15

INFO OCT 01, CPR 02, PM 05, NSC 10, P 03, RSC 01, SS 20, USIA 12, PRS 01,
/070 R

66647
DRAFTED BY: EA/ANZ: RWMOORE
APPROVED BY: S/S: JAY HAWLEY
EA/P: MR. HEIMANN
EA: AMB. BROWN
S/CPR: MR. MOSBACHER
WHITE HOUSE: MR. GRANT (APPROVED TEXT W/CHANGE AND ADDED FINAL SENTENCE)

----- 104442

P 082145Z NOV 69
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 189586

SUBJ: CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO PRIME MINISTER

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT TO PRIME MINISTER AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY. QUOTE. DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER: PLEASE ACCEPT MY WARM CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR REELECTION. I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING CLOSELY WITH YOU AND YOUR GOVERNMENT AS IN THE PAST. AMERICANS COUNT THE AUSTRALIAN PEOPLE AMONG THEIR VERY CLOSEST FRIENDS, AND SHARE WITH THEM A STRONG SENSE OF COMMON PURPOSE. I AM SURE THESE BONDS WILL BE STRENGTHENED STILL FURTHER AS WE FACE, TOGETHER, THE EXACTING CHALLENGES AND GREAT OPPORTUNITIES AHEAD OF US IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC.

I ALSO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS MY WARM APPRECIATION FOR THE KIND WORDS THAT YOU HAD TO SAY CONCERNING MY NOVEMBER 3 SPEECH ON VIETNAM. SINCERELY,
RICHARD NIXON. UNQUOTE.

2. WHITE HOUSE DOES NOT PLAN TO PUBLISH, BUT HAS NO

CONFIDENTIAL

57



Department of State

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 189586

OBJECTION IF GORTON WISHES TO DO SO.

3. DECLASSIFIED UPON RECEIPT.
SISCO

CONFIDENTIAL

4409



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

Gorton cov.

s/s 17363

November 7, 1969

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HENRY A. KISSINGER
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Australian Election: Congratulatory
Message to Prime Minister Gorton

The prolonged counting of ballots in the October 25 Australian general election has now been completed, and it is confirmed that Prime Minister Gorton and the Liberal-Country Party coalition government he heads gained a narrow victory over the Australian Labor Party. His majority of 36 seats was reduced to seven. As a result of the government's unimpressive showing, Gorton's leadership of his Liberal Party was openly challenged, but in the party caucus of November 7 he successfully fought off his opponents. He was reelected as party leader and will, therefore, continue as Prime Minister. The Department recommends that the President send congratulations to Gorton by telegram, with a follow up, signed letter. A proposed congratulatory message is enclosed.

*OR'E
LAPANT
11/10/69*

Theodore L. Eliot Jr.
Theodore L. Eliot, Jr.
Executive Secretary

Enclosure:

Suggested congratulatory
message.

M/R
*Message sent
to Florida & Nov
& cleared from
Thrust Notify
s/s of
other action channel.*

*Notified Ambassador, s/s
1820 11/10/69 RB*

CONFIDENTIAL
Group 3

Downgraded at 12-year intervals;
not automatically declassified

SUGGESTED MESSAGE

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

Please accept my warm congratulations on your reelection. I look forward to working closely with you and your government as in the past. Americans count the Australian people among their very closest friends, and share with them a strong sense of common purpose. I am sure these bonds will be strengthened still further as we face, together, the exacting challenges and exhilarating opportunities ahead of us in Asia and the Pacific.

Sincerely,

Richard Nixon

The Right Honorable

John G. Gorton,

Prime Minister of Australia,

Canberra.



CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

Department of State

TELEGRAM

INDICATE:

COLLECT

CHARGE TO

DISTRIBUTION

ACTION: Amembassy CANBERRA PRIORITY

7

STATE

SUBJECT: Congratulatory Message to Prime Minister

1. Please deliver following message from President to Prime Minister at earliest opportunity. QUOTE. Dear Mr. Prime Minister: Please accept my warm congratulations on your reelection. I look forward to working closely with you and your government as in the past. Americans count the Australian people among their very closest friends, and share with them a strong sense of common purpose. I am sure these bonds will be strengthened still further as we face, together, the exacting challenges and exhilarating opportunities ahead of us in Asia and the Pacific. Sincerely, Richard Nixon UNQUOTE.

2. White House does not plan to publish, but has no objection if Gorton wishes to do so.

3. Declassified upon receipt. END

1

DRAFTED BY: EA/ANZ:RWMoore:rlw	DRAFTING DATE 11/7/69	TEL. EXT. 20870	APPROVED BY: S/S - Theodore L. Eliot
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CLEARANCES:

EA/P - Mr. Heimann	S/CPR - Mr. Mosbacher
EA - Amb. Brown	White House -

CONFIDENTIAL

Gorton Cor

CONFIDENTIAL
BY WIRE

November 7, 1969

FOR TONY LAKE

FROM: AL HAIG

Attached is proposed congratulatory message from President to Gorton which has been blended to include words of appreciation for Gorton's comments on President's Vietnam speech. If you will merely give me telephonic clearance it will go but keep in mind that President asked specifically for such a message about a week ago so he should be told personally that it is going.

Attachment

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

November 7, 1969

TO TONY LAKE FOR KISSINGER

FROM: John Holdridge *JH*

Suggest following congratulatory message from President to
Prime Minister Gorton:

E QUOTE: Dear Mr. Prime Minister: Please accept my warm
congratulations on your reelection. I look forward to working
closely with you and your government as in the past. Americans
count the Australian people among their very closest friends, and
share with them a strong sense of common purpose. I am sure
these bonds will be strengthened still further as we face, together,
the exacting challenges and exhilarating opportunities ahead of us
in Asia and the Pacific.

I also take this opportunity to express my warm appreciation
for the kind words that you had to say concerning my November 3
speech on Vietnam. Sincerely, Richard Nixon UNQUOTE *J*

CONFIDENTIAL

URGENT

Msg. No.

214

2. TO: WH

M-318
7-7-483. Transmitted by: *RLB*
Date & Time: 06/1364. Received by: WH SR
Date & Time: 11415. Description Eliot/Kissinger and Telegram re Message to PM Gorton6. Classification & Controls: EXMEX CONFIDENTIAL7. No. of Pgs. 2 8. Precedence IMM 9. Validated by RLBrown10. Deliver to: Mr. Kissinger
The White HouseFor: Clearance xxxxxx

Information

Per Request



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

November 7, 1969

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HENRY A. KISSINGER
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Australian Election: Congratulatory
Message to Prime Minister Gorton

The prolonged counting of ballots in the October 25 Australian general election has now been completed, and it is confirmed that Prime Minister Gorton and the Liberal-Country Party coalition government he heads gained a narrow victory over the Australian Labor Party. His majority of 36 seats was reduced to seven. As a result of the government's unimpressive showing, Gorton's leadership of his Liberal Party was openly challenged, but in the party caucus of November 7 he successfully fought off his opponents. He was reelected as party leader and will, therefore, continue as Prime Minister. The Department recommends that the President send congratulations to Gorton by telegram, with a follow up, signed letter. A proposed congratulatory message is enclosed.

Theodore L. Eliot, Jr.
Theodore L. Eliot, Jr.
Executive Secretary

Enclosure:

Suggested congratulatory
message.

CONFIDENTIAL

Group 3

Downgraded at 12-year intervals;
not automatically declassified



CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

Department of State

TELEGRAM

- INDICATE:
- COLLECT
 - CHANGE TO

DISTRIBUTION

ACTION: Amembassy CANBERRA PRIORITY

STATE

SUBJECT: Congratulatory Message to Prime Minister

1. Please deliver following message from President to Prime Minister at earliest opportunity. QUOTE. Dear Mr. Prime Minister: Please accept my warm congratulations on your reelection. I look forward to working closely with you and your government as in the past. Americans count the Australian people among their very closest friends, and share with them a strong sense of common purpose. I am sure these bonds will be strengthened still further as we face, together, the exacting challenges and exhilarating opportunities ahead of us in Asia and the Pacific. Sincerely, Richard Nixon UNQUOTE.

2. White House does not plan to publish, but has no objection if Gorton wishes to do so.

3. Declassified upon receipt. END

DRAFTED BY: EA/ANZ:RWM	DRAFTING DATE: Moore:rlw 11/7/69	TEL. EXT. 20870	APPROVED BY: S/S - Theodore L. Eliot
---------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------	---

CLEARANCES:

EA/P - Mr. Halmann	S/CPR - Mr. Mosbacher
EA - Amb. Brown	White House -

CONFIDENTIAL

w 10

6



SECRET

Classification

Department of State

1 2 3 4 0 3

TELEGRAM

INDICATE:
 COLLECT
 CHARGE TO

25 JUL 69 17 127

DISTRIBUTION

ACTION: Amembassy CANBERRA IMMEDIATE *act*

7

STATE

NODIS 123403

Please pass following message to Prime Minister

KK from the President:

QUOTE I fully understand your desire for close consultations on further ~~xxx~~ troop withdrawals, and have asked Secretary Rogers to discuss this with you during his visit. He will be prepared to inform you of our current thinking on the subject. UNQUOTE

RICHARDSO

DRAFTED BY: Text recd from the White House 7/25/69:jmj	DRAFTING DATE: 7/25/69	TEL. EXT.: 6033	APPROVED BY: <i>John P. Walsh</i> S/S - Mr. XXXXX Walsh
CLEARANCES			

SECRET

FOR YOUR USE IF
YOU WISH TO DISCUSS
WITH SECRETARY
ROGERS.

SECRET/NODIS

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger ^{HK}

TO: Col. Haig

HAK TO _____

OK

HK

Please ask State to send following telegram classified
Secret/Nodis.

Action Embassy Canberra: Please pass following message
to Prime Minister from the President:


"I fully understand your desire for close consultations on
further troop withdrawals, and have asked Secretary Rogers to
discuss this with you during his visit. He will be prepared to
inform you of our current thinking on the subject."

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SECRET

July 22, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR TONY LAKE

FROM: Al Haig 

SUBJECT: U. S. Troop Withdrawals

Tony:

It is important that you remind HAK to send a reply to Prime Minister Gorton in the course of the trip on the subject of troop withdrawals. I have told Holdridge to contact the Australian Embassy in Washington to the effect that Gorton will be hearing from HAK during the trip.

on trip

Attachment

SECRET

3

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

ACTION

SECRET

July 22, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

FROM: John H. Holdridge *JH*

SUBJECT: U.S. Troop Withdrawals

Prime Minister Gorton of Australia has sent a message to the President requesting the President's advance thinking on future U.S. troop withdrawals from Vietnam.

Although Prime Minister Gorton would appreciate a reply from the President prior to the President's departure tonight, I doubt that time will permit, and suggest as an alternative that the President send a message to Prime Minister Gorton at some point along the line of march. I have drafted a memorandum from you to the President (Tab A) to this effect.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you initial the attached memorandum to the President.

Att.

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APR
thru
CR

SECRET

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

ACTIONSECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger

SUBJECT: Request from Prime Minister Gorton on
Future U.S. Troop Withdrawals

Prime Minister Gorton of Australia has sent a message to you asking for your thoughts on further U.S. troop reductions in Vietnam (Tab A). He notes that while Australia did not move to make reductions at the time you announced the withdrawal of 25,000 U.S. troops from Vietnam, further U.S. reductions might require Australia to consider withdrawals of its own.

I consider that a reply to Prime Minister Gorton would be in order in view of the political pressures which he faces on this subject. Although Prime Minister Gorton has requested your thinking on troop withdrawals prior to your departure on your Asian trip, I believe the time is simply not sufficient.

I recommend that as an alternative you send a message to Prime Minister Gorton at some point during your trip. If you so approve, I will inform the Australian Embassy here.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you authorize me to inform the Australian Embassy in Washington that you will send a reply to Prime Minister Gorton during the course of your trip.

Approve

Disapprove

SECRET



22nd July, 1969.

Dear Mr. President,

I have been instructed to convey to you the following message from the Prime Minister of Australia:

"Before you leave on your overseas journey I should like to raise with you a question which must be in both of our minds because of its domestic implications no less than because of its international importance. I refer to the scale and timetable of withdrawals of allied forces from Vietnam.

When I returned to Australia from Washington I said in Parliament on 15th May that Australia would not make reductions in its own forces in Vietnam when the United States made its initial reductions. I reiterated that publicly when you announced the withdrawal of 25,000 men.

Again on 6th July when in a television interview I was queried again about Australia scaling down or phasing out her military commitments in parallel with any American reductions, I indicated that this was not in our mind at present but I added that it would have to be considered 'if there was a great and continuing American withdrawal'.

I have noted that the Secretary of State, Mr. Rogers, said on 9th July to my colleague the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. McEwen, that United States troop withdrawals were under study and that the next decision on reductions would be taken in August after consultation with Australia and other troop contributing countries. If these studies should lead to a programme of continuing withdrawal, akin to what Thieu described on 8th July as a 'process leading to a situation in which most part of the defence of Vietnam will be borne by the Vietnamese forces', then our Australian forces will

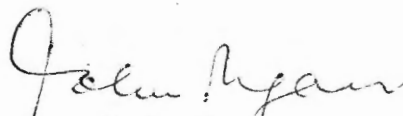
The Honourable Richard M. Nixon,
President of the United States of America,
The White House,
WASHINGTON. D.C.

[p. 1 of 2]

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12958, as amended, Sect 3.5
N 20 05-38/2
By  Date  2007
SEP 13 2007

need to be built into the programme of withdrawal at some stage and I think the best means of tackling this would be for our advisers to join with yours in the current studies. If before your departure you were able to give me some idea confidentially how your mind is running on these things, I would find it most useful in my own handling of issues here."

Yours sincerely,



J.E. Ryan
Charge d'Affaires

[NW 05-88/2:2]

Gorton

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

10 11 12
July 23, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR JOHN WALSH
STATE SECRETARIAT

FROM: Al Haig 

For your record, the original of these letters were delivered to Secretary Rogers on Air Force One last evening.

Attachments

THE WHITE HOUSE


WASHINGTON

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I regret not being able to include Australia in my trip to Asia. However, the occasion of the ANZUS Council meeting will provide Secretary Rogers with a chance to talk with you and members of your Government on both the wider issues of concern to our alliance and on some bilateral questions as well. I know these talks will be useful and productive, and I look forward to receiving Secretary Rogers' account upon his return.

My wife joins in sending our best wishes to you and Mrs. Gorton. We remember with great pleasure your visit to Washington last May.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Richard Nixon".

The Right Honorable
John G. Gorton
Prime Minister of Australia
Canberra



Department of State

TELEGRAM

Carole

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 196

PAGE 01 STATE 123219

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ORIGIN E 15

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COM 08, FRB 02, INR 07, NSAE 00, TRSY 11, XMB 06, AGR 20, PI 04, USIA 12,
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DRAFTED BY: E/ORF/OPF/FPD:MCALINGAERT
APPROVED BY: E/ORF:JKATZ
TEXT RECEIVED FROM WHITE HOUSE
EA/ANZ:MR. BROWER
S/S:MR. SHEPARD
USDA/FAS:MR. IOANES
USDA/EMS:MR. PULVERMACHER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 123219

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT TO PRIME MINISTER GORTON

REF: STATE 104047

1. LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT IN REPLY TO AIDE MEMOIRE OF
PRIME MINISTER GORTON ON INTERNATIONAL GRAINS ARRANGEMENT
HAS BEEN POUCHED. TEXT AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
JULY 22, 1969

DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER:

QUOTE I APPRECIATE YOU HAVING DRAWN TO MY ATTENTION DEVELOP-
MENTS IN THE WORLD WHEAT TRADE AND SPECIFICALLY THOSE RELATING

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 123219

TO THE OPERATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL GRAINS ARRANGEMENT.
I FULLY RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF WHEAT TO AUSTRALIA'S
TRADE AND CONSEQUENTLY OF THE EFFECTIVE OPERATION OF THE
ARRANGEMENT.

QUOTE I SHOULD LIKE TO STRESS THAT MY ADMINISTRATION DESIRES,
AS YOU DO, TO MAINTAIN THE ARRANGEMENT AND TO OPERATE
WITHIN ITS FRAMEWORK. THE UNITED STATES PLAYED AN
IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE TWO CONVENTIONS,
THE WHEAT TRADE CONVENTION AND THE FOOD AID CONVENTION,
WHICH COMPRISE THE ARRANGEMENT. THERE SHOULD, THEREFORE,
BE NO DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN US THAT WE SHOULD STRIVE TO WORK
THROUGH THE ARRANGEMENT TO PROMOTE ORDERLY TRADE IN WHEAT
AT EQUITABLE PRICES.

QUOTE ACCORDINGLY, I AM PLEASED THAT WE WERE ABLE TO
SUPPORT YOUR INITIATIVE AND TO ACT AS HOST FOR THE RECENT
MEETING OF WHEAT EXPORTING COUNTRIES AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL
IN WASHINGTON. SIMILARLY, I AM PLEASED THAT AGREEMENT WAS
REACHED ON ARRANGEMENTS WHICH WILL STRENGTHEN OUR COOPERA-
TION ON WHEAT PRICING WHILE ENABLING US TO SELL OUR WHEAT
COMPETITIVELY.

QUOTE IT IS MY HOPE THAT OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS WILL CON-
TINUE THEIR CLOSE CONSULTATIONS AND COOPERATION ON MATTERS
RELATING TO WHEAT.

SINCERELY,

RICHARD NIXON

THE RIGHT HONORABLE
JOHN G. GORTON, M.P.
PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA
CANBERRA, A.C.T.
AUSTRALIA
UNQUOTE

2. WHITE HOUSE DOES NOT PLAN PUBLISH BUT HAS NO OBJECTION
SHOULD GORTON WISH TO DO SO. IF GORTON DOES PLAN TO PUB-
LISH, WOULD APPRECIATE TWENTY-FOUR HOURS NOTICE SO
WHITE HOUSE MAY ARRANGE FOR JOINT RELEASE IF DESIRED.

RICHARDSON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

2285

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 22, 1969

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

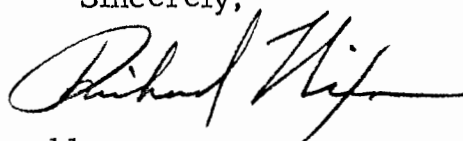
I appreciate your having drawn to my attention developments in the world wheat trade and specifically those relating to the operation of the International Grains Arrangement. I fully recognize the importance of wheat to Australia's trade and consequently of the effective operation of the Arrangement.

I should like to stress that my Administration desires, as you do, to maintain the Arrangement and to operate within its framework. The United States played an important role in the negotiations for the two conventions, the Wheat Trade Convention and the Food Aid Convention, which comprise the Arrangement. There should, therefore, be no disagreement between us that we should strive to work through the Arrangement to promote orderly trade in wheat at equitable prices.

Accordingly, I am pleased that we were able to support your initiative and to act as host for the recent meeting of wheat exporting countries at Ministerial level in Washington. Similarly, I am pleased that agreement was reached on arrangements which will strengthen our cooperation on wheat pricing while enabling us to sell our wheat competitively.

It is my hope that our two Governments will continue their close consultations and cooperation on matters relating to wheat.

Sincerely,



The Right Honorable
John G. Gorton, M.P.
Prime Minister of Australia
Canberra, A. C. T.

MEMORANDUM

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN *A*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

ACTION
July 7, 1969

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger *HK*

SUBJECT: Your Response to Prime Minister Gorton on Wheat

Attached at Tabs B and C are alternatives prepared by State and Agriculture (their memo at Tab A) for your response to Prime Minister Gorton's Aide Memoire to you on wheat (Tab D). The agencies express a mild preference for the longer alternative (Tab B).

Both would convey to Gorton your decision to defer any unilateral U. S. violation of the price minima of the International Grains Agreement until a Ministerial meeting is held. We have already informed the Australians of the decision and the Ministerial is scheduled for July 10 - 11 here in Washington.

The longer version (Tab B) outlines the basic U. S. wheat interest in some detail and explains why we feel that changes from the present situation are necessary. It would thus help pave the way for the hard line which we will probably wish to take at the Ministerial meeting. (I am sending you a separate memorandum with the proposed U. S. position for the Ministerial.) If the response were made public, as it may be by the Australians or could be by us if you wish, it would also assure our agriculture community that we are stoutly defending their interests.

The shorter version (Tab C) merely notes that we should strive "through the Agreement to promote an orderly trade in wheat at equitable prices". It is less argumentative and less likely to circumscribe your options for the Ministerial. It is also more consistent with the fact that the Australians already know of your decision and are well aware of our overall wheat policy.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. That you approve the longer suggested reply at Tab B, as proposed by State and Agriculture.

Approve *[Signature]*

→ Disapprove, prefer shorter reply (Tab C) *[Checkmark]*

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2. That you agree to the State proposal that the White House not publish the reply but not object to its release by Gorton.

Approve _____

Tell Australians not to release it _____

Make it public ourselves _____

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

ACTION

July 7, 1969

*Forwarded to
Pres July 7.
[Signature]*

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

FROM: C. Fred Bergsten *CFB*

SUBJECT: President's Response to Prime Minister Gorton
on Wheat

The memorandum for the President at Tab I recommends that he sign one of the responses to Prime Minister Gorton's Aide Memoire on wheat proposed by State and Agriculture.

They propose two possible responses and the memorandum for the President outlines the arguments in favor of each. The agencies express a mild preference for the longer version in the memorandum to you from John Walsh at Tab A. Al Haig informs me that you too prefer the longer.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the attached memorandum to the President, suggesting that he sign the longer version (Tab B) and that we authorize the Australians to publish our response if they want to do so.

Clearance: L Grant

*President preferred shorter reply
reply drafted Pres 7/26
to state for dispatch
Gorton signed by [Signature]*

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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

INFORMATION

HAK

June 24, 1969

6/26
HAK
has seen

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

FROM: Richard ~~Q.~~ Sneider

SUBJECT: Aide Memoire from Prime Minister Gorton

The Australian Charge, John Ryan, came in this morning to deliver the attached Aide Memoire from Gorton to the President. It deals with some problems on the international grains arrangement, about which I am not familiar. I accepted the Aide Memoire and told them that we would have State and Agriculture, the agencies concerned, look into it.

I am turning over the package to Fred Bergsten since it is much more up his alley than mine.

Attachment

(same as Tab D)

Bergsten will report ASAP on what the story is; he will do an information memorandum to the President from HAK. State + Agriculture will have memo + response by 6/25 AM.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

10131

June 30, 1969

LIMITED OFFICIAL USEMEMORANDUM FOR MR. HENRY A. KISSINGER
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Suggested Reply from the President to Prime Minister Gorton's Message on U.S. Wheat Pricing Policy and the IGA

A message from Australian Prime Minister Gorton to the President was delivered to the White House on June 24 by the Australian Charge, in which Gorton expressed concern the US would take "precipitate action" on wheat prices that would jeopardize the operation of the International Grains Arrangement (IGA).

Your staff has informed us the President has decided that Secretary Hardin should not make any change in our wheat export prices at the present time and that we should make every effort to arrive together with the other exporting countries at a mutually satisfactory solution to our wheat trade problems. Accordingly, we have invited Argentina, Australia, Canada, and the EC Commission to send representatives to a Cabinet-level meeting in Washington on July 9 and 10.

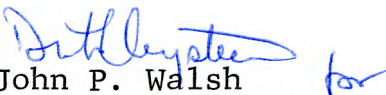
There is enclosed as alternative A a suggested substantive reply to Gorton's message. This has been cleared by Messrs. Ioanes and Pulvermacher in the Department of Agriculture. Should the President wish to send a briefer response, an alternative suggestion is enclosed as alternative B.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

- 2 -

We recommend that the White House not publish the President's reply but not object to release by Gorton.


John P. Walsh
Acting Executive Secretary

Enclosures:

1. Suggested reply A.
2. Suggested reply B.
3. Message from Prime Minister
Gorton dated June 24.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SUGGESTED REPLY A

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I appreciate your drawing to my attention developments in the world wheat trade and specifically those relating to the operation of the International Grains Arrangement. I fully recognize the importance of wheat to Australia's trade and consequently of the effective operation of the Arrangement.

I should like to stress that my Administration desires, as you do, to maintain the Arrangement and to operate within its framework. The United States played an important role in the negotiations for the two conventions, the Wheat Trade Convention and the Food Aid Convention, which comprise the Arrangement. There should, therefore, be no disagreement between us that we should strive to work through the Arrangement to promote an orderly trade in wheat at equitable prices.

Although we had hoped that the Arrangement would prove to be a useful instrument in working toward this goal, we have been faced with a number of problems ever since the Arrangement came into existence one year ago. In large part these problems have arisen from the fact that world wheat export availabilities are considerably larger than import demand, with the result that there has been a basic disequilibrium

The Right Honorable
John G. Gorton, M.P.,
Prime Minister of Australia,
Canberra, A.C.T.

in wheat and, consequently, considerable downward pressure on the world price level. Despite the provisions for minimum prices in the Arrangement and our attempts to maintain these, we have seen the volume of our sales and our share of sales among those of all exporting countries decline. Our greatest preoccupation at the moment is that, unlike some other exporting countries, we have made virtually no forward sales for the rest of this year.

Under these circumstances we attempted to work through the applicable provisions of the Arrangement, that is, Article 8 of the Wheat Trade Convention, by seeking the concurrence of the other exporting countries to a suspension of the price provisions of the Convention so as to permit actual competitive price relationships to prevail. In fact, as you have noted, we arranged for a meeting of wheat exporting countries in London on June 23. This matter was discussed, but we were not able to obtain the concurrence for our proposal from the other exporting countries.

Since no decision on pricing was reached at the London meeting, our situation remains unchanged: that is, we are still faced with an urgent need for action to restore our competitive position so that we might resume a normal volume of sales. In addition, my Secretary of Agriculture must

announce shortly the national wheat acreage allotment for the coming crop year. In view of the supply/demand situation, it will be necessary for him to announce a reduction in the allotment to the lowest level in history. As you will be able to appreciate, this step, although economically necessary, is a politically difficult one. Our wheat farmers, who are subject to production controls, will be called upon to bear the brunt of readjusting supply to demand, while producers in other countries are not required to take similar action. I consider it essential that the acreage announcement be accompanied by some action on our part on pricing policy so that we can assure our farmers that their wheat will once again be competitive.

Nevertheless, in response to your feeling that it might yet be possible to work out a mutually acceptable solution to our problems, I have asked Secretary Hardin to withhold action on prices for the moment in order that we may arrange a meeting of wheat exporting countries at Cabinet level. It will be necessary, however, for the meeting to be held at the earliest practical date and for the participants to be in a position to agree to immediate remedial action. We would be happy to act as host in Washington for such a meeting, and we have suggested to the principal exporters that it be held on July 9 ~~and 10~~, and 11.

I should like to stress it is imperative that the present price relationships be changed in order that our wheat may once more become competitive. Therefore, if we are unable to obtain a satisfactory solution at the meeting of exporting countries, we will have to take action along the lines already contemplated.

Sincerely,

Richard Nixon

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SUGGESTED REPLY B

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I appreciate your drawing to my attention developments in the world wheat trade and specifically those relating to the operation of the International Grains Arrangement. I fully recognize the importance of wheat to Australia's trade and consequently of the effective operation of the Arrangement.

I should like to stress that my Administration desires, as you do, to maintain the Arrangement and to operate within its framework. The United States played an important role in the negotiations for the two conventions, the Wheat Trade Convention and the Food Aid Convention, which comprise the Arrangement. There should, therefore, be no disagreement between us that we should strive to work through the Arrangement to promote an orderly trade in wheat at equitable prices.

In the light of your comments and the views which have been expressed to us by other exporting

The Right Honorable
John G. Gorton, M.P.,
Prime Minister of Australia,
Canberra, A.C.T.

countries, we have decided to accept your proposal that a Cabinet-level meeting be convened and to defer any action on wheat pricing until an attempt has been made by the exporting countries to arrive at a mutually-agreeable solution to the problems of the wheat trade. We will be pleased to act as host for the meeting, which we have suggested be held on July 9 ~~and 10~~, and 11.

Sincerely,

Richard Nixon

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: COLLECT
 CHARGE TO

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Origin ACTION: Amembassy CANBERRA

Info: SUBJ: Message from the President to Prime Minister Gorton

REF: STATE ~~XXXX~~⁰⁴⁷ 104047

1. Embassy is requested to deliver following message from the President to Prime Minister Gorton in response to latter's message (reftel) of June 24 concerning US wheat pricing policy and the International Grains Arrangement.

BEGIN TEXT

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I appreciate your drawing to my attention developments in the world wheat trade and specifically those relating to the operation of the International Grains Arrangement. I fully recognize the importance of wheat to Australia's trade and consequently of the effective operation of the Arrangement.

I should like to stress that my Administration desires, as you do, to maintain the Arrangement and to operate within its framework. The United States played an important role in the negotiations for the two conventions, the Wheat Trade Convention and the Food Aid Convention, which comprise the Arrangement. There should, therefore, be no disagreement between us that we should strive to work through the Arrangement to promote an orderly trade in wheat at equitable prices.

Although we had hoped that the Arrangement would prove to be a useful instrument in working toward this goal, we have been faced with a number of

Drafted by:	Tel. Ext.	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:
E:ORF:OPF:FPD:MCalingaert:wz 6/28/69		E - Joseph A. Greenwald
Clearances:	E/ORF - Mr. Katz EA/ANZ - Mr. Brower White House -	
S/S -	USDA/FAS - Mr. Ioanes USDA/EMS - Mr. Pulvermacher	

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Classification

problems ever since the Arrangement came into existence one year ago. In large part these problems have arisen from the fact that world wheat export availabilities are considerably larger than import demand, with the result that there has been a basic disequilibrium in wheat and, consequently, considerable downward pressure on the world price level. Despite the provisions for minimum prices in the Arrangement and our attempts to maintain these, we have seen the volume of our sales and our share of sales among those of all exporting countries decline. Our greatest preoccupation at the moment is that, unlike some other exporting countries, we have made virtually no forward sales for the rest of this year.

Under these circumstances we attempted to work through the applicable provisions of the Arrangement, that is Article 8 of the Wheat Trade Convention, by seeking the concurrence of the other exporting countries to a suspension of the price provisions of the Convention so as to permit actual competitive price relationships to prevail. In fact, as you have noted, we arranged for a meeting of wheat exporting countries in London on June 23. This matter was discussed, but we were not able to obtain the concurrence for our proposal from the other exporting countries.

Since no decision on pricing was reached at the London meeting, our situation remains unchanged: that is, we are still faced with an urgent need for action to restore our competitive position so that we might resume a normal volume of sales. In addition, my Secretary of Agriculture must announce shortly the national wheat acreage allotment for the coming crop year. In view of the

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supply/demand situation, it will be necessary for him to announce a reduction in the allotment to the lowest level in history. As you will be able to appreciate, this step, although economically necessary, is a politically difficult one. Our wheat farmers, who are subject to production controls, will be called upon to bear the brunt of readjusting supply to demand, while producers in other countries are not required to take similar action. I consider it essential that the acreage announcement be accompanied by some action on our part on pricing policy so that we can assure our farmers that their wheat will once again be competitive.

Nevertheless, in response to your feeling that it might yet be possible to work out a mutually acceptable solution to our problems, I have asked Secretary Hardin to withhold action on prices for the moment in order that we may arrange a meeting of wheat exporting countries at Cabinet level. It will be necessary, however, for the meeting to be held at the earliest practical date and for the participants to be in a position to agree to immediate remedial action. We would be happy to act as host in Washington for such a meeting, and we have suggested to the principal exporters that it be held on July 9 and 10.

I should like to stress it is imperative that the present price relationships be changed in order that our wheat may once more become competitive. Therefore, if we are unable to obtain a satisfactory solution at the meeting of exporting countries, we will have to take action along the lines already contemplated.

Sincerely,

Richard Nixon

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Classification

The Right Honorable
John G. Gorton, M.P.,
Prime Minister of Australia,
Canberra, A.C.T.

END TEXT.

2. White House does not plan publish but has no objection should Gorton wish to do so. If Gorton does ~~XXX~~ plan to publish, would appreciate twenty-four hours notice so White House may arrange for joint releast if desired.

END.

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: COLLECT
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Origin
Info

ACTION: Amembassy CANBERRA

047

REF: State ~~XXXXXX~~ 104047

SUBJ: Message from the President to Prime Minister Gorton

1. Embassy is requested to deliver following message from the President to Prime Minister Gorton in response to latter's message ^(reftel) of June 24 concerning US wheat pricing policy and International Grains Arrangement. BEGIN TEXT.

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I appreciate your drawing to my attention developments in the world wheat trade and specifically those relating to the operation of the International Grains Arrangement. I fully recognize the importance of wheat to Australia's trade and consequently of the effective operation of the Arrangement.

I should like to stress that my Administration desires, as you do, to maintain the Arrangement and to operate within its framework. The United States played an important role in the negotiations for the two conventions, the Wheat Trade Convention and the Food Aid Convention, which comprise the Arrangement. There should, therefore, be no disagreement between us that we should strive to work ~~through~~ ^{through} the Arrangement to promote an orderly trade in wheat at equitable prices.

In the light of your comments and the views which have been expressed to us by other exporting countries, we have decided to accept your proposal

Drafted by: E/ORF/OPF/FBD:MCalingaert:mc

Tel. Ext. 5891

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

E - Mr. Greenwald

Clearances:

E/ORF - Mr. Katz ✓ White House -
EA/ANZ - Mr. Brower ✓ S/S -

USDA/FAS - Mr. Ioanes
USDA/EMS - Mr. Pulvermacher

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Classification

that a Cabinet-level meeting be ~~XXXXXXXX~~ convened and to defer any action on wheat pricing until an ~~XXXX~~ attempt has been made by the exporting countries to arrive at a mutually-agreeable solution to the problems of the wheat trade. We will be pleased to act as host for the meeting, which we have suggested be held on July 9 and 10.

Sincerely,

Richard Nixon

The Right Honorable
John G. Gorton, M. P.
Prime Minister of Australia
Canberra, A.C.T. END TEXT.

2. White House does not plan publish but has no objection should Gorton wish to do so . If Gorton does plan to publish, would ~~XXXX~~ appreciate twenty-four hours notice so White House may arrange for joint release if desired.

END




AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

24th June, 1969.

Dear Mr. President,

I have been instructed to pass to you at the earliest opportunity the attached Aide Memoire from the Prime Minister of Australia.

Yours sincerely,


(J. E. Ryan)
Charge d'Affaires a.i.

The President,
The White House,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS PROJECT
DOCUMENT CONTROL RECORD

ITEM REMOVED FROM THIS FILE FOLDER

A RESTRICTED DOCUMENT OR CASE FILE HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM THIS FILE FOLDER. FOR A DESCRIPTION OF THE ITEM REMOVED AND THE REASON FOR ITS REMOVAL, CONSULT DOCUMENT ENTRY NUMBER 6 ON EITHER THE DOCUMENT WITHDRAWAL RECORD (GSA FORM 7279 OR NA FORM 1421) OR NARA WITHDRAWAL SHEET (GSA FORM 7122) LOCATED IN THE FRONT OF THIS FILE FOLDER.

A sanitized copy substituted for an original item which contains information restricted under the Privacy Act.

SECRET

July 22, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Prime Minister Gorton's Request on F-111s

The President has received a communication from Prime Minister Gorton of Australia on the subject of the F-111. Gorton wants to send a high level group of Defense and Air officials to talk over the problems of the F-111 with appropriate officials of the Department of Defense, in order to prepare for a Parliamentary session which opens on August 12.

Would you please make all of the necessary arrangements for this group through the Australian Embassy here.

/s/
Henry A. Kissinger

SECRET

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

ACTIONSECRET

July 22, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

FROM: John H. Holdridge *JHP*

SUBJECT: Prime Minister Gorton's Request on F-111s

Mr. J.E. Ryan, Charge d'Affaires at the Australian Embassy, called on me this morning to forward a message to the President from Australian Prime Minister Gorton on the subject of the Australian F-111s. Prime Minister Gorton expresses serious concern over the technical failures of the aircraft, ^{and} in addition to desiring a report from Australian scientific officers already in the U.S. concerning the problem, would also like to send senior civilian and service officers from the Australian Departments of Defense and Air to talk with appropriate U.S. officials about the problems connected with the aircraft. The answers which they receive to their questions would be used by Gorton at a Parliamentary session after August 12. Prime Minister Gorton requests the President to facilitate frank discussions in depth between the senior Australians and our own people so that an early report can be provided.

I believe that we have no option but to respond affirmatively to the Australian request, in view of the political sensitivities which this issue has raised for Prime Minister Gorton in Australia. Since the discussions would be with Department of Defense officials, I suggest that the President inform Secretary of Defense Laird of the Australian request and ask him to make the necessary arrangements in the spirit requested by Prime Minister Gorton.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you initial the attached memorandum to the President at Tab A.

Att.

SECRET

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

ACTION

SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger

SUBJECT: Request from Prime Minister Gorton on F-111's

Australian Prime Minister Gorton has sent you a last-minute request to help in facilitating discussions between a high-level Australian mission and appropriate Defense Department officials concerning the technical shortcomings of the F-111. You are familiar with the problems that the Australian purchase of this aircraft have created for Prime Minister Gorton in view of the technical difficulties, and I believe we should be as forthcoming as possible on this matter. Prime Minister Gorton hopes to have all of the information needed to face Parliament, which reopens August 12, by the early part of next month.

I have drafted a letter from you to Secretary of Defense Laird requesting that Secretary Laird make the necessary arrangements, through the Australian Embassy, to respond to Prime Minister Gorton's request.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the attached letter to Secretary Laird.



SECRET

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dear Mel:

I am sure you are aware of the political problems which Prime Minister Gorton of Australia has encountered over the F-111. He wants to send a high-level group of Defense and Air officials to talk over the problems of the F-111 with appropriate officials of the Department of Defense to prepare for a Parliamentary session which opens on August 12. Would you please make all the necessary arrangements for this group through the Australian Embassy here.

Sincerely,

The Honorable
Melvin R. Laird
Secretary of Defense

NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS PROJECT
DOCUMENT CONTROL RECORD

ITEM REMOVED FROM THIS FILE FOLDER

A RESTRICTED DOCUMENT OR CASE FILE HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM THIS FILE FOLDER. FOR A DESCRIPTION OF THE ITEM REMOVED AND THE REASON FOR ITS REMOVAL, CONSULT DOCUMENT ENTRY NUMBER 7 ON EITHER THE DOCUMENT WITHDRAWAL RECORD (GSA FORM 7279 OR NA FORM 1421) OR NARA WITHDRAWAL SHEET (GSA FORM 7122) LOCATED IN THE FRONT OF THIS FILE FOLDER.

A sanitized copy substituted for an original item which contains information restricted under the Privacy Act.



13th June, 1969

My dear Mr President,

Your message telling me that you planned to announce during your meeting at Midway withdrawals of some United States military units, was available to me on Sunday evening last and I was very grateful to you for this advance notification. It was most helpful to me in preparing my own statement, made after your announcement on Midway.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

(J.G. Gorton)

The President,
The White House,
Washington D.C.

1986



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

9402

June 19, 1969

SECRET/NODIS

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HENRY A. KISSINGER
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Letter to the President from
Australian Prime Minister Gorton

In response to Jeanne Davis' request of
June 16, the Department recommends no reply to
the Prime Minister's letter thanking the President
for advance notice of his announcement to with-
draw troops from Viet-Nam.

John P. Walsh
John P. Walsh
Acting Executive Secretary

Enclosure:

Prime Minister Gorton's
letter to the President.

*Called S/S Mr Haloun
6/21/69 - NRN
B. Alexander*

SECRET/NODIS

1986

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

June 16, 1969

SECRET/NODIS

MEMORANDUM FOR JOHN WALSH, S/S

FROM: Jeanne W. Davis

For your recommendation with regard to
a reply.

Attachment

Ltr to Dr. Kissinger from Amb. Waller
w/enclosed msg to President fm PM Gorton

SECRET/NODIS

1986



AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

13th June, 1969

Dear Dr Kissinger,

I should be grateful if you would pass to the President the enclosed message received by cable today from the Prime Minister, the Right Honorable J.G. Gorton, M.P.

Yours sincerely,

(Keith Waller)
Ambassador

The Honorable
Henry A. Kissinger,
Assistant to the President,
National Security Affairs,
The White House,
Washington D.C.

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

BY SAFE HAND

The Honorable
Henry A. Kissinger,
Assistant to the President,
National Security Affairs,
The White House,
Washington D.C.

BY SAFE HAND

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

The President,
The White House,
Washington D.C.



HAK

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

3rd June, 1969.

Dear Dr Kissinger,

Early this morning the Embassy was requested to convey the following message to The President from the Prime Minister of Australia, Mr John Gorton:

My dear Mr President,

I want to tell you of the shock and distress I personally, and I believe all Australians, feel at the news of the collision between H.M.A.S. Melbourne and the destroyer, the U.S.S. Frank E. Evans. We extend to you and the families of those American sailors who have been lost our deepest sympathy.

John Gorton.

The text of this message has been released to the press in Australia and will be released in Washington when this letter has been delivered.

I wish to add my own expression of sincere sympathy at this tragic event.

Yours sincerely,

Keith Waller

(Keith Waller)
Ambassador.

Dr Henry A. Kissinger,
Assistant for National Security Affairs,
Executive Office of the President,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON

FLORIDA

AS WE TAKE OUR LEAVE, MY WIFE AND I SEND FAREWELL
GREETINGS TO YOURSELF AND MRS. NIXON.

THANK YOU FOR THE WARM AND GENEROUS HOSPITALITY
YOU HAVE EXTENDED TO MY WIFE AND MYSELF AND ALL OUR
PARTY. I FEEL THE DISCUSSIONS I HAD WITH YOU, AND THOSE YOU
WERE KIND ENOUGH TO ARRANGE WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES, WERE
OF GREAT VALUE TO ME AND TO AUSTRALIA AND I MUCH LOOK
FORWARD TO DIRECT COMMUNICATION WITH YOU IN THE FUTURE.

THANK YOU AGAIN.

JOHN GORTON.

A