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 By *D* NARA Date *4/10/88*

WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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1974-1-14, US, Nixon, African ~~States~~, About

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:

President Nixon
 Amb. Anthony D. Marshall
 Major General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy
 Assistant to the President for
 National Security Affairs

DATE & TIME:

Wednesday - January 16, 1974
 12:00 noon

PLACE:

The Oval Office
 The White House

President: You are going off to Kenya. I hope you don't get run out.

Marshall: I want to thank you. Word came to us how much you did to get me the post. I thank you.

President: Most of these African countries are disaster areas. They have had a period of stability with a strong leader. He is good and strong. They will start gobbling up each other. But we are building for the future -- they must think we are building for the present. Do you agree?

Marshall: I certainly do. Kenya is one of five or so which have the best chance. We should build on them.

President: They are all such nice people -- like children. I feel for them. We have some like that in areas in this country. They don't realize how advanced we are. That part of the world is important for the future. We must let them know Kenya is top priority -- without giving the impression to others that that is the case.

I'm glad you want to go back. Most want to stay away.

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Marshall: Madagascar wasn't really Africa. They are Polynesians, and drifting more to China. I'm really going to Africa for the first time. Madagascar is trying to move too fast -- to beat the others. Kenya has a much better chance. I want to work with them.

President: The British built well -- the civil service, institutions, etc. More than other powers did.

Marshall: The British gave them a system; the French gave them a culture.

President: Here are some cuff links. That is all you get except for a nice house (I hope) because the pay is low.

Marshall: That fulfills my dream, which we talked about in 1960.

President: In New York. Well, we made it. Good luck.

Marshall: Thank you very much, Mr. President.

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