

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION - WAH/AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN
December 8, 1976, at N Street.

As arranged, Ambassador Dobrynin called on me to report any developments. He said he had heard nothing from Moscow except that the reaction on the Vance appointment was good. They had not had a high level negotiation with Vance, but those they had had were satisfactory.

I had mentioned to him the subject of testing the new President and he had passed this on to Moscow. He believes that General Secretary Brezhnev's message to Carter through Secretary of the Treasury Simon resulted from this.

Dobrynin told me that he and Mrs. Dobrynin had a very pleasant dinner with Congressman and Mrs. Vanik. Vanik had explained to him that he felt he had made a mistake in his support of the Jackson/Vanik Amendment. Vanik indicated he would not run again for the Congress and that in the last two years he had remaining of his term he would try to do everything he could to undo the mistake he had made. He said the initiative of any new legislation should come of course from the President. The President should know what the temper of the Congress was. He was therefore undertaking to sound out some of his colleagues as he thought the President was in

sympathy with the repeal of the amendment. Vanik suggested that there might be a two-year repeal, but Dobrynin said the Soviets would not be willing to be kept on probation. Vanik said that he understood that and would think the subject over.

The Stevenson Amendment was also discussed and it was agreed that that was equally a block. Dobrynin commented that it was interesting to note that the Export-Import Bank had been established in the 30's with the objective of financing Soviet trade.

I asked him why we were having so much trouble with Jewish emigration these days, and he said there were two categories that were being held up. One was the security cases--scientists who had secret information, and this was in the hands of the KGB. The other group includes the arrogant troublemakers. These requests for emigration were in the hands of the local OVIL. He had no knowledge about where this trouble starts; but stated it was often locally, when unreasonable demands were made by applicants who then came to Moscow and caused trouble with the international press. Dobrynin said he thought the emigration problems could be more easily dealt with if the trade question was settled.

Referring again to the Stevenson Amendment, he said most of the projects being discussed by the businessmen were ones requiring credit, which was the case with other industrial countries.

I raised the subject of safeguards in connection with the sale of heavy water they had just made to India. He said he had not heard anything about it until he read it in the newspaper today. He said this was the type of subject to be discussed when we are negotiating these matters after the President is in office.