

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION BETWEEN W. AVERELL HARRIMAN
AND AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN, N STREET, 9 FEBRUARY 1978

Ambassador Dobrynin brought Dr. Chazoff with him to call this afternoon. Pamela and Dr. Rosenfeld were present at the talk. There was nothing particularly significant in my discussion with Dr. Chazoff except to my amazement when Dr. Rosenfeld said that Stalin had become "paranoid," Dr. Chazoff said, "Oh, that was Khrushchev's fabrication." I said that he had certainly become suspicious and had increased his cruelties, but I admitted that he was an essential leader during the war--both militarily as described by Marshal Zhukov and that he controlled the civilian economy and the morale of the country. Dr. Chazoff said he didn't think the war could have been won without him, and I agreed.

In my personal talk with Ambassador Dobrynin, I followed Marshall Shulman's request and emphasized the need to come to an understanding on Backfire because of the importance of the Pentagon's approval of the agreement which depended on it. He said he did not consider that the most important. He mentioned first the question of the range of the cruise missile -- whether it would be taken as a straight line or to include the curvature of its travel. Second, the right of the Soviets to replace their antiquated ICBM's. ^{SS 11's} Third, the transfers to third parties.

I reiterated what I had previously said that it was very important for Brezhnev and Carter to get together. They would

9 February 78 - WAH and Amb. Dobrynin (cont'd)

understand each other and come to an agreement. He said it was important that President Carter put more trust in Brezhnev. There were so many suspicions being aroused which had no foundation.