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THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary
(New York, New York)

PRESS BRIEFING
BY
LARRY SPEAKES

The Jade Room
Waldorf Astoria Hotel

September 23, 1984

7:40 P.M. EDT

MR. SPEAKES: May I have your attention, please. I spoke to the pool upstairs following the Dobrynin meeting in the receiving line, and then a five-minute conversation there during the mix and mingle. There's not much I can add to the pool report, but I will tell you what's going to be in the pool report.

The meeting -- the two conversations were very friendly, very animated. In both conversations the President and the Foreign Minister discussed the first meeting they'd had, and this clarifies the point we'd made a mistake on earlier in the week. They did meet when the President was Governor of California and Brezhnev visited President Nixon in San Clemente. They did meet on a social occasion then.

What year was that, Mick?

Q '73.

Q '73.

MR. SPEAKES: Other than that, the President told the Foreign Minister that he was looking forward to their meeting in Washington on Friday and he -- Gromyko told him that he was looking forward to his speech tomorrow and would see -- would be in the Assembly Chamber for the speech.

Other than that, I can't add much to it.

Q Would you characterize it all as social pleasantries?

MR. SPEAKES: Yes.

Q Even during the Nixon mingle, Larry?

MR. SPEAKES: Yes.

Q Warm and friendly?

MR. SPEAKES: Yes. I think very warm, very animated. A lot of smiles, a lot of nodding of the head, and a fair amount of laughter.

Q How long?

MR. SPEAKES: How long? I'd say, a minute or so in the receiving line and five minutes of pool time and the brief conversation following.

The President also greeted Foreign Minister Wu of the People's Republic of China, Foreign Minister Shamir of Israel.

MORE

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Was there a fourth meeting on the floor?

MR. WEINBERG: I didn't see one if there was.

MR. SPEAKES: I didn't see it if there was. So at least those three meetings took place on the floor.

Q -- his first name, do you know? Wu what?

MR. SPEAKES: Whose? Wu? I don't know Wu's first name. I can get it for you here in a second.

Anything else?

Q What did they do for five minutes?

MR. SPEAKES: They talked, but it was --

Q About what?

MR. SPEAKES: Things like -- that Shultz was the Budget Director for the State of California when the President was the Governor of California and --

Q Weinberger was, not Shultz. Weinberger was the Budget Director.

Q Shultz was Secretary of --

MR. SPEAKES: Shultz said he was. Maybe he was talking about Weinberger.

Q He was Budget Director during the previous administration.

MR. SPEAKES: That's what he was talking about. Under Nixon. All right.

Got it, Dick? You ask, you get it.

Q Was he sitting down in the corner when the President spoke?

Q Yes.

Q Yes, he was, Helen.

MR. SPEAKES: Was he seated? All right.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END

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7:44 P.M. EDT