

**August 17, 1973**

**Memorandum of Conversation, 'Visit of French  
Defense Minister Galley; Strategic Programs'**

**Citation:**

"Memorandum of Conversation, 'Visit of French Defense Minister Galley; Strategic Programs'", August 17, 1973, Wilson Center Digital Archive, Ford Presidential Library, National Security Adviser, Memoranda of Conversation, box 2, August 17, 1973 Kissinger, Schlesinger, John S. Foster (DOD). Obtained and contributed by William Burr and included in NPIHP Research Update #2.

<https://wilson-center.drivingcreative.com/document/113226>

**Summary:**

Kissinger wants to help the French without giving them too much. Foster thinks that the French have the worst missile program in the world, while the Chinese have the best. He thinks the best thing we can do is to look at their designs and offer suggestions, especially in regards to forming their objectives and planning how to meet them. Foster notes that any help we give to the French is perceived as a full commitment, so Kissinger warns that we must remain "cold-blooded."

**Original Language:**

English

**Contents:**

Original Scan