

Harriman Assures Brezhnev on Nixon

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Retired U.S. diplomat W. Averell Harriman met with Leonid Brezhnev yesterday and said he told the Soviet leader he could count on a stable American government over the next two years even if President Nixon is impeached.

Harriman, 82, who served as U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union during World War II, spent three hours and ten minutes with the Communist party general secretary in his Kremlin office.

Harriman said he told Brezhnev that, even if Mr. Nixon is impeached and Vice President Gerald R. Ford becomes president, Henry A. Kissinger will remain as secretary of state.

"I told him he could feel confident in a stable U.S. administration over the next two years, and could move ahead on all fronts in relations with the United States," Harriman told newsmen at Sheremetievo airport just before departing for Paris.

Harriman, who negotiated over the years with dictator Josef Stalin and former Premier Nikita Khrushchev, said Brezhnev stressed his commitment to detente with the United States. "There is no doubt in my mind that he is looking forward to more progress during the President's visit here this month, and I am too," Harriman said.

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