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Moscow

President Nixon rose from his chair yesterday evening at a glittering state dinner he hosted for Communist party General Secretary Leonid I. Brezhnev and said he wanted to reveal a secret.

"The general secretary and I both studied piano as young boys," Mr. Nixon said. "Just think what would have happened had we both become piano players! Music's loss was detente's gain."

The audience of 100 Soviet and American guests, mostly men, burst into laughter.

Mr. Nixon was in an ebullient mood throughout the evening as he and Brezhnev joked together and put their arms around each other.

The dinner was held at Spaso House, the residence of American Ambassador Walter J. Stoessel Jr.

United Press