

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with Canadian Prime Minister Chretien

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Prime Minister Chretien

Notetakers: Cindy Lawrence, Anthony
Campanella, James Smith, Lawrence Butler,
David Sandalow

DATE, TIME: October 22, 1997, 11:37-11:43 a.m. EDT
AND PLACE: The Oval Office

The President: Hello, Jean? (U)

Prime Minister Chretien: Hello, Bill, how are you? (U)

The President: I'm doing great. (U)

Prime Minister Chretien: You're moving today on your position
on climate change? (X)

The President: Yes, I'm going to talk today about the
instructions I gave our negotiators in Bonn and what we are
trying to get done. (X)

Prime Minister Chretien: For me, I don't think I will take a
definitive position at this time, but I will try to back you up.
I don't think I can go much further than you. (X)

The President: Basically, I will say we should embrace the goal
of going back to 1990 levels by 2010. It's hard to be precise
but, within that range, that is what we think we should be
doing. We have a way to define practically that between 2008 or
2012, and averaging those years, since we don't know what will
happen in each year. The second thing we want to do is propose
that developing nations participate, not on the same basis as
we, but in accepting their responsibility to grow in a different

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way, on a different energy basis, by setting up a way for developed nations to work in a partnership with them to build an energy structure that will have lower greenhouse gas emissions, with the credit divided equally. After all, it is a global problem. (C)

Prime Minister Chretien: Do you expect that to be credited to the one country helping, or globally? (C)

The President: Well, the benefits would be global, but the countries doing the project and where the project is being done would split the credits, so both would get some credit for it. (C)

Prime Minister Chretien: We have one problem, that I don't want to discuss at this moment, but in order to help the United States with our natural gas, we have to process it to send you clean gas, which is increasing my pollution in Canada, but decreasing yours in the United States. (C)

The President: If you send us gas, then you would get some credit and we would get credit. (C)

Prime Minister Chretien: Good. We will not take a firm position at this time. (C)

The President: You shouldn't. (C)

Prime Minister Chretien: There will be movement on both sides I expect, before Kyoto. (C)

The President: I hope you will say that this is a constructive proposal. If you can say that, that is all I can ask. What I want everyone to say is it is a constructive proposal, that it increases our optimism that we can reach an agreement which honestly allows us to deal with the problem. (C)

Prime Minister Chretien: Good, I will just say that, OK? (C)

The President: OK. (C)

Prime Minister Chretien: Another problem: you are meeting with Jiang Zemin in a few days to talk on personnel mines with them? Your problem is Korea? (C)

The President: Yeah, Korea and the definition of anti-tank land mines. (C)

Prime Minister Chretien: In the case of Korea, you should ask your guys to check the treaty. The situation in Korea is you have ten years, and if you can't do it in ten years, then my understanding is you can still respect the treaty, but take more than ten years. (C)

The President: If that's what I thought, there would be no problem, but that's not the way my guys read it. Our people were willing to gamble that we could solve the crisis in Korea in a certain number of years, I can't remember... (C)

Prime Minister Chretien: You were thinking eight to nine years the last time we talked about it. (C)

The President: I think it was 2006, plus the ten years tacked on. (C)

Prime Minister Chretien: I interpret the treaty in such a way that even if the Korea problem is not resolved in ten years, you can gain some time and not break the treaty. (C)

The President: Is there someone there we can call on that? (C)

Prime Minister Chretien: We will talk to Berger on that. (C)

The President: OK, thanks. (C)

Prime Minister Chretien: And keep me informed, OK? (C)

The President: OK, bye. (U)

Prime Minister Chretien: Bye. (U)

-- End of Conversation --