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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with British Prime Minister Blair

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Prime Minister Blair

Notetakers: James Smith, George Chastain,
Bonnie Glick, Tom Crowell, Larry Wright,
Lawrence Butler

DATE, TIME January 27, 1998, 10:30 - 10:41 a.m. EST
AND PLACE: The Oval Office

The President: Hello

Prime Minister Blair: Hello

The President: Tony! How are you doing?

Prime Minister Blair: Bill! I'm doing fine, and I'm thinking about you.

The President: I'm doing alright, I'm slogging on. I think it'll be alright.

Prime Minister Blair: I just wanted to say that anything that you want me to do or say, I'm happy to do. You have my 100 percent support, and Cherie sends her love.

The President: When you're here, we can talk about it. One or two things might actually make a difference, and we will talk about it.

Prime Minister Blair: Well, anything you want, we'll do it.

The President: I wanted to talk to you a little bit about Iraq and Northern Ireland.

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(d)

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2

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(d)

Prime Minister Blair:

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

The President: I really appreciate your saying that.

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(d)

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3

Prime Minister Blair: I agree with that.

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

The President: I generally agree with that, but there's not a lot of time left, we waited a long time, until the end of the Muslim holy period. (S)

Prime Minister Blair:

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

The President:

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(d)

Prime Minister Blair:

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

The President: Ok. (U)

Prime Minister Blair: What is your sense about the timing of this? (S)

The President: It's going to take a couple of weeks to get together, but not much longer. I would imagine we will be ready to move with it not long after you're here. (S)

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4

Prime Minister Blair: So we should have a chance to talk about it when... (C).

The President: We are on an open line, so I will have Sandy get with your people. (C)

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Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]

The President: Where are we on Northern Ireland, Loyalist violence? (C)

Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]

The President: So we need to work to keep them from doing that, right? (C)

Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]

The President: I understand. (C)
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5

Prime Minister Blair:

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

The President: Well, I worked like hell on the Middle East last week, but I didn't get very far. (C)

Prime Minister Blair:

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

The President:

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(d)

Thank you so much for what you said. We'll talk a little about it when you arrive. (C)

Prime Minister Blair: Yes. Anyway, we're thinking of you, Bill.

The President: Take care man.

Prime Minister Blair: OK, bye.

-- End of Conversation --

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