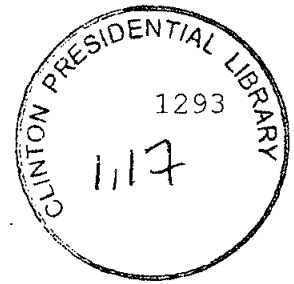


~~SECRET~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON



MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with British Prime Minister Blair
(U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Prime Minister Blair

Notetakers: Peter Huggins, Bonnie Glick,
Tom Crowell, Lawrence Butler, Gwenyth
Todd and Joe Marty

DATE, TIME February 22, 1998, 1:15 - 1:26 p.m. EST
AND PLACE: The Residence

The President: Hello? (U)

Prime Minister Blair: Hello Bill. How are you? (U)

The President: Fine, thank you. Have you talked to Kofi? (U)

Prime Minister Blair: I talked to him last night, but not today. He said he was going to call me.

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

The President: Well, I'll tell you what I heard. We picked up a little intelligence this morning.

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(d)

Now I don't know all the facts, we just have to wait. The main thing I wanted to say is that it is really

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Reason: 1.5(b), d)

Declassify On: 2/28/88

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E.O. 13526, SECTION 5.3(b)(3)

ISCAP APPEAL NO. 2013-090, document no. 17
DECLASSIFICATION DATE: October 14, 2015

important to stay in close contact and stay determined on this.
(S)

Prime Minister Blair:

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

The President: All I got is secondhand rumor. All Madeleine has is a cryptic call saying all the elements are in place. Who knows what that means? (C)

Prime Minister Blair: Who does Butler work under anyway? (C)

The President: He works for the Security Council. UNSCOM is the Security Council.

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(d)

Prime Minister Blair: I totally agree with that. (C)

The President: This is twice he's done this. If it happens again, it's our fault, not his. (C)

Prime Minister Blair:

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

The President: Here's the thing. We need to make sure, in fairness to him and to us, we need to make sure we are speaking in the same terminology. CNN had some damn fool of a reporter saying these sites are smaller than I had led the American public to believe. If you're talking about the palaces, that's one thing. If you are talking about the grounds, that is quite another. If we ask Kofi to revisit where someone is living, some house with a lab in the basement that's one thing. But some of those sites have a hundred warehouse-sized buildings.

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(d)

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(d)

Prime Minister Blair:

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

The President: We have got to have another resolution so we don't have to go through this again. (C)

Prime Minister Blair:

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

The President: Well, if Kofi calls you before me, call me. And if he calls me, I will contact you. I am just going to be hanging around here today. (C)

Prime Minister Blair: I have to travel for 45 minutes today, but other than that I am in Chequers or Downing Street. You're at Camp David? (C)

The President: No, I stayed at the White House this weekend because I think this thing is going to break. OK, we're totally agreed on this situation, then, how do you feel on this Northern Ireland thing? (C)

~~SECRET~~

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

Prime Minister Blair:

The President: Adams is not coming here, which is good news.

~~(C)~~

Prime Minister Blair:

The President: I'll do that. ~~(C)~~

Prime Minister Blair:

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

The President: I want to work with you. I don't want to undercut you. I'm pleased. You're doing well so far, we will just stay in touch. This Iraqi thing might break in the next six hours. ~~(C)~~

Prime Minister Blair: Bill, obviously it's earlier for you, but whatever time... (C)

The President: Alright. (U)

Prime Minister Blair: Goodbye. (U)

The President: Thank you. Goodbye friend. (U)

-- End of Conversation --

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