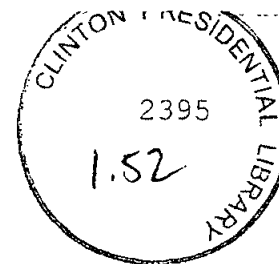


~~SECRET~~



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with British Prime Minister Blair
(U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Prime Minister Blair

Notetakers: Joel Schrader, Miles Murphy,
Jenny McGee and Lawrence Butler

DATE, TIME April 1, 1999, 7:03 - 7:12 a.m. EST
AND PLACE: The Residence

Prime Minister Blair: Yes, hi Bill. (U)

The President: Have you talked to Adams since I talked to you?
(U)

Prime Minister Blair: No. (U)

The President: [REDACTED] (C)
E.O. 13526, section 1.4(d)

Prime Minister Blair: Well done, Bill. (C)

The President: [REDACTED]

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(d)

Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]

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

The President: A week from Tuesday we'll have a celebration, but we'll probably need it by then. I never thought I'd ever be longing for the problems of Northern Ireland. (C)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Reason: 1.5(a,b,d)

Declassify On: 4/1/99

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DECLASSIFIED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE
INTERAGENCY SECURITY CLASSIFICATION APPEALS PANEL,
E.O. 13526, SECTION 5.3(b)(3)
ISCAP APPEAL NO. 2013-090, document no. 50
DECLASSIFICATION DATE: October 14, 2015

We had another bad night weather-wise. I should go out a little more. There was a good article in the New York Times. I don't know if you saw it but it talked about what a good job you've done making the case in Britain. Although we're at about 58 percent, but having these guys arrested and beat up may not be so good. (S)

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

Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]

The President: The press today has got this big article saying the CIA tried to tell us he would accelerate his attacks if we hit him. Hell, we knew that but that's an argument for having hit him 30 days earlier. I think we're gonna have to talk to our allies on where we are. [REDACTED]

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(d)

Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]

The President: Are you having to run all these targets by your Attorney General? (S)

Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]

The President: Holbrooke believes strongly we should be hitting the media, power grids, and oil stuff with little collateral damage. Shutting down the TV networks will have an impact. (S)

Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]

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

The President: The refineries. I approved all that stuff. There is some chance of collateral damage, but it seems to me really remote. (S)

Prime Minister Blair:

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

The President: We may need to examine if anything can be done in the daytime, too. (S)

Prime Minister Blair: E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

The President: Tell you what I'll do. I have a meeting on this in about two hours time, and will fly down to Norfolk to see the troops, which I certainly need to do now that three of our guys have been apprehended. We are torn between doing something to keep the alliance unified or do something that works. I will check back in and call you later today. You and I have to talk this thing through.

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(d)

Prime Minister Blair:

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

Prime Minister Blair:

The President: Well. (U)

Prime Minister Blair: I'm around anytime you want, Bill. (U)

The President: Thanks, Tony. (U)

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Prime Minister Blair: Alright. (U)

The President: Alright Tony, we'll talk. (U)

-- End of Conversation --

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