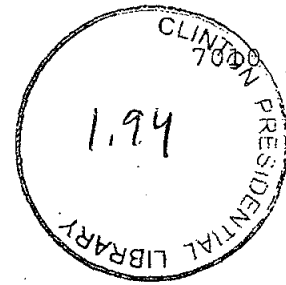


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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON



MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with British Prime Minister Blair
(U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Prime Minister Blair

Notetakers: Jenny McGee, Rob Hargis, Dianne
Ruschaupt, Jill Sandler and Dick Norland.

DATE, TIME November 10, 2000, 3:40 - 3:54 p.m. EDT
AND PLACE Army-Navy Country Club

The President: Hello? (U)

Prime Minister Blair: Hi, Bill. (U)

The President: Hi, Tony. How are you? (U)

Prime Minister Blair: Fine. How are you? Hillary just did
brilliantly. (U)

The President: She did great. And it looks to me like Al's got
the votes, but we don't know if they'll get counted. ~~(U)~~

Prime Minister Blair: Well, what's going to happen? ~~(U)~~

The President: I don't know. They still have to count
5,000 overseas ballots. It's a very confusing situation. There
was an illegal ballot in Florida, where they use a punch card
system. The Bush people are trying to bully him. Some votes
went to Buchanan and there are 19,000 ballots for him that were
disqualified, and they were African-Americans. Usually, you'd
just say "tough," but here you've got a situation where Gore won
the popular vote. He picked up five points in five days and
also pulled out a huge minority vote, I just hope he can pull it
out. Last night we had former Presidents Ford, Bush, Carter, and
Lyndon Johnson's widow, and we all made reassuring sounds to the
public. ~~(U)~~

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Classified by: Robert A. Bradtke

Reason: 1.5 (d)

Declassify On: 11/03/2010

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ISCAP APPEAL NO. 2013-090, document no. 92
DECLASSIFICATION DATE: October 14, 2015

Prime Minister Blair: Where is public opinion? (C)

The President: Most want it settled but they don't understand the issue. They do not understand how clearly these votes were for Gore. They cite Nixon not challenging in Illinois. The difference is that if Nixon had won Illinois, he still would not have won the electoral vote. It's really bogus. Hillary is doing great, happy as a clam. I am really proud of her. (C)

Prime Minister Blair: Well, Hillary did wonderful. Give her our love. She was just fantastic during the campaign. She was so strong and brave. I thought she was just great. (C)

The President: She was. (C)

Prime Minister Blair: Well, Cheri sends her love. Hillary was brilliant. (C)

The President: Yeah, she was the "Little Engine That Could." I wish you were with me, I'm playing golf. The three guys with me are on the green right now. (C)

Prime Minister Blair: The thing I wanted to say to you was on Northern Ireland. I think if you still want and are able to come over, I think you could play a part in putting this together. We had a bit of a breakdown, but it should not be terminal because both sides want this to happen now. There are certain things we have to do and certain things the republicans have to do.

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

Trimble is really getting it done in the government as the government is working well. (C)

The President: I saw what he said about no North-South cooperation before they reengage. But the problem now is that the IRA can't appear to be caving in to a unionist demand. (C)

Prime Minister Blair:

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

[REDACTED]

I think it would be great if you came over, and people would really welcome it. I had a word with Trimble, and I think he is keen about it as well. He is desperate to make this work and so is McGuinness. We need something new, something different to come in and sort it out a bit. (C)

The President: What's your thought? (C)

Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]

The President: When do you want me to come? (C)

Prime Minister Blair: Sometime in early December. (C)

The President: We are working on this agreement with North Korea to try to get them to end their missile program, and I leave this weekend for Vietnam. It sounds weird but it will be hard for me to take two more trips but I might be able to do them both. (C)

Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]

The President: Do you want us to leave some of those deportees here? (C)

Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]

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

In the end it would be up to you if you can do this, but I think it is possible to put together a deal, and you wouldn't just be visiting, but you would actually be helping to get the deal done. (c)

The President: Do you want me to do some work on this and see if I can come? (c)

Prime Minister Blair: Yes. We can meet the Irish in the next two or three days to try to get a common position with them, and we will brief your guys on it. I can send you a note with the elements of the deal on it. (c)

The President: That would be wonderful. You know I want to if I can. I really want to get this missile deal in Korea done, it will make us all a lot safer. I'll tell Hillary that you called. (c)

Prime Minister Blair: Thank you. (U)

The President: How is your baby doing? (U)

The Prime Minister: He's perfect, just great. (U)

The President: Wonderful. (U)

The Prime Minister: I'll get to work on this. All the best. (U)

The President: Bye-bye. (U)

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Prime Minister Blair: Bye. (U)

-- End of Conversation --

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