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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation Between the President and Philippine President Corazon Aquino

PARTICIPANTS: The President
The First Lady
Richard Childress, NSC Notetaker

Corazon Aquino, President of the Republic of the Philippines

DATE, TIME January 24, 1989, 6:07 - 6:10 p.m.;
AND PLACE: 6:14 - 6:17 p.m., Situation Room

The President initiated the call and after a pro forma exchange of greetings said that the purpose of his call was to thank President Aquino for her congratulatory message on his assumption of office. He noted that while planning this call it was learned that it was her birthday and so he wanted to wish her a Happy Birthday as well as thank her for the warm letter.

President Aquino said she appreciated the call very much, especially now, knowing how busy he was.

The President said he appreciated her sentiments in that regard very much and he expressed the hope their paths would cross soon.

(The call was interrupted at this point by mechanical difficulty.)

After the call was reestablished, the President said that he thought they had gotten cut off but that he had said what was on his mind, reiterating that he looked forward to working with her very much and that he hoped she would call him on any problems that seemed insurmountable.

President Aquino thanked him for that sentiment and said that she would like to express to Mrs. Bush through the President how impressed she was with the First Lady and the coverage she has received.

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The President said that President Aquino will love her as much as he does, wished her all the best and then put the First Lady on the phone.

After greetings, President Aquino said she had just told the President that she was most impressed by the coverage of the First Lady and she now knows why the President has been so successful.

Mrs. Bush expressed her thanks and said she looked forward to seeing President Aquino soon.

President Aquino said she understood they may be traveling this way for the funeral of Emperor Hirohito.

Mrs. Bush confirmed this and said she hoped that she could see her in Tokyo if she was going to be there as well.

President Aquino said she did not know the arrangements yet but she planned to be in Tokyo and hoped very much to meet with them in Japan.

Closing greetings were expressed between the First Lady and President Aquino and the conversation ended.

NOTE: Call began at 6:07 p.m.
Mechanically interrupted at 6:10 p.m.
Contact reestablished at 6:14 p.m.
Call ended at 6:17 p.m.

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