

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MURKIN FILE

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with Prime Minister
Mulroney of Canada (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs
Notetaker: Adrian Basora, NSC

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney

DATE, TIME May 11, 1989, 1:15 - 1:25 pm EST
AND PLACE: The Oval Office

The President said he would like to talk about Open Skies. The U.S. was in accord that it was a good idea. He wanted to thank Mulroney for his role in this and to inform him that he planned to propose the idea in a speech at Texas A&M the next day. He was renewing Eisenhower's proposal on a broader and more intrusive basis, and would include a call for members of both alliances to participate. (S)

Prime Minister Mulroney replied that this was excellent. (S)

The President said he gave great credit to Mulroney. (S)

Prime Minister Mulroney said he had only one interest in this matter -- to make sure that the President came out on top on the Alliance side. (S)

The President said he was making some headway on SNF. He was anxious to hear from his people when they came back after speaking with the Germans. The Dutch were close to them, and he thought the Canadians were comfortable with them as well. More work needed to be done with the UK. Given the posture of some, it was tempting to go public, but he was not approaching it that way. He was somewhat optimistic about having the kind of Summit that Mulroney had been calling for. (S)

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Prime Minister Mulroney said he would be reading the speech with great interest. (S)

The President said that they had talked about his problems -- but how were things with Mulroney? (S)

Prime Minister Mulroney said he had one transborder problem that day: people taking toxic wastes into Canada. "The Mob" had contracts to dispose of the wastes in the U.S. in a legal way, but in fact shipped the wastes to Canada, put them into gasoline to avoid tax, and then shipped them back to the U.S. where they were used as regular gasoline. (S)

The President asked if Mulroney was talking about the Mob. (S)

Prime Minister Mulroney said yes, but not to worry since he was solving this problem. (S)

The President said he had enjoyed the May 4th visit. They would stay in touch and he would go forward (on Open Skies) the next day. (S)