

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

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Document No. and Type	Subject/Title of Document	Date	Restriction	Class.
10a. Memcon	Re: Memorandum of Conversation (3 pp.)	9/1/89	(b)(1)	C

Collection:

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 By SCS (NLGB) on 7/19/11

File Location: Presidential Meetings - Memorandum of Conversations 7/14/89 - 10/2/89

Date Closed: 1/23/2009	OA/ID Number: 91107-005
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AR Case #:	MR Case #: 2009-0628-MR (509)
AR Disposition:	MR Disposition: Released in Part
AR Disposition Date:	MR Disposition Date: 2/7/2011

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P-1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P-2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P-5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

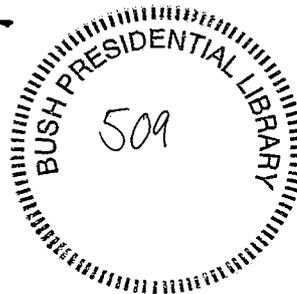
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Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- (b)(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- (b)(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- (b)(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- (b)(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- (b)(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- (b)(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- (b)(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- (b)(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON



7378

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Meeting with Toshiki Kaifu, Prime Minister of Japan (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
John H. Sununu, Chief of Staff
Karl D. Jackson, Senior Director for Asian Affairs
Fumiko Gregg (Interpreter)

Toshiki Kaifu, Prime Minister
Tatsuo Arima (Interpreter)

DATE, TIME September 1, 1989, 11:00 - 11:38am EDT
AND PLACE: The Oval Office

The President welcomed the Prime Minister to Washington and inquired about when Prime Minister Kaifu had last been in the White House. (U)

Prime Minister Kaifu replied that he had been a guest at the White House under President Kennedy and under President Ford. (U)

The President inquired whether Prime Minister Kaifu was the youngest member ever elected to the Diet. (U)

Prime Minister Kaifu replied that he had been elected at the age of 29 but that in a later election someone even younger had been elected to the Diet. (U)

The President congratulated the Prime Minister on the excellent publicity in this country that has surrounded Kaifu's elevation to the Office of Prime Minister. He went on to say that previous Presidents and Prime Ministers have found it very useful and appropriate to establish a personal relationship. If the Prime Minister felt comfortable with this arrangement, he should call the President George and he would call the Prime Minister Toshiki. The Prime Minister accepted this idea as an honor and a privilege. (U)

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The President said that he wanted this visit to be seen as successful from the standpoint of the Prime Minister. The President indicated that there was a good relationship between Japan and the U.S. and that he wanted it to continue. In particular, he wanted to be able to solve the problems that exist on both sides of the relationship. If there is a politically difficult problem for the Prime Minister or if he had a politically difficult problem with Congress, the President said that he hoped they would be able to talk to one another without it getting into the newspapers. As an example of quiet communication, the President raised burden sharing. He said he knew this was very sensitive in Japan and that it was also a tough problem with the U.S. Congress, which would be asking what the President was doing to get the Japanese to do more. On this our Foreign Ministers have agreed to keep working to solve it without large scale publicity. The President said, "I would like to hear your side of this issue and want to be able to discuss my side frankly with you, but not in the newspapers, because I don't want to place you in a difficult political position at home."

(Ø)

Prime Minister Kaifu thanked the President and said he was very encouraged by what the President had just said. The Prime Minister stated that the reason he had come to Washington almost immediately after assuming office was to prove how important he feels the U.S.-Japan relationship is. He described it as the cornerstone of Japan's foreign policy and vowed to continue the strong policies of his predecessors regarding the U.S.-Japan alliance. (Ø)

The President next discussed domestic politics. He said the last thing he wanted to do was to interfere in any way in Japan's domestic politics but that he was "extremely interested in your being extraordinarily successful." He said that he would be coming to the Prime Minister from time to time for help on serious problems but that the main thing to do was to continue the U.S.-Japan relationship at the same unprecedented level of good will. (Ø)

Prime Minister Kaifu described his difficult domestic political situation with the Japanese Socialist Party and its real views concerning neutrality and the military. He saw these issues as very serious and expected to do battle on them in the upcoming election. Regardless of the difficulties that Japan may be facing, the President should feel free to approach him if there are any strains because the U.S.-Japan relationship is basic to Japan's entire foreign policy. (Ø)

The President alluded to materials he had read about the JSP's views on foreign policy matters and said that he would be concerned about the U.S.-Japan strategic position if the Socialist leader's views came to dominate Japan. In addition, the President described Mrs. Doi's views on trade as protectionist, the same problem that he was fighting to contain in the American political system. The President stated, "I want to build on what we have and I see you as the leader of Japan and want to work with you. I am enthusiastic about doing so." (Ø)

Prime Minister Kaifu said that Japanese politics differed from the two party system of the United States in which the major parties are not so far apart. (b)(1)

(b)(1) (Ø)

Prime Minister Kaifu stated that he would place more emphasis on making Japan a consumer society as well as a more equitable society. Before moving to the larger group he also wanted to convey two messages from the Emperor. The Emperor expressed his gratitude for President Bush's attendance at the funeral for the Emperor Showa. In addition, the Emperor wished to extend an invitation to the President to visit Japan as a state guest. (U)

The President asked the Prime Minister to convey his respects to the Emperor and stated how honored he was to attend the funeral of the Emperor Showa. Regarding the invitation to visit Japan, the President said, "I accept in principle. I want to go. It's a deal." (U)