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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with Ruud Lubbers,
Prime Minister of the Netherlands (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Ruud Lubbers, Prime Minister
Notetaker: Condoleezza Rice

DATE, TIME September 9, 1989, 1:27 - 1:30 pm
AND PLACE: Oval Office

The President: I want to congratulate the Christian Democratic Party on its showing in the election. I realize that the government has not yet been formed but I am personally proud of you. (U)

Prime Minister Lubbers: I too am pleased because the party has consolidated its position. This has been a referendum on me -- whether the Prime Minister should be a Social Democrat or a Christian Democrat. I now believe that I can continue with my policies. I do not see big problems though it will take some time to form a government. (U)

The President: I look forward to working with you. Are you home? (U)

Prime Minister Lubbers: I am enjoying a Saturday evening in the garden under beautiful weather. (U)

The President: Mrs. Bush and I enjoyed a nice summer vacation in Maine and are currently at Camp David. I only called to wish you well. (U)

Prime Minister Lubbers: I wish you success in all the problems facing you and I am willing to help whenever needed. (U)

The President: I feel that things are moving forward. I am pleased that the "Open Skies" proposal is now prepared but I am sorry that the Alliance has been unable to table the remainder of the CFE package. I look forward to talking to you about the amazing changes in Poland. (U)

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Prime Minister Lubbers: I agree that changes in Poland are moving in a very good direction but there are difficulties still facing the Poles. I have discussed the situation with Prime Minister Carlsson of Sweden and we agree that the economic situation in Poland is worrisome. It is possible to mobilize some resources from the West but ultimately the Poles must help themselves. (Ø)

The President: I agree but I don't want to keep you further.
(U)

Prime Minister Lubbers: Give my regards to Mrs. Bush. (U)

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