

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with Prime Minister Bhutto of Pakistan (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Prime Minister Bhutto
Notetaker: Sandra Charles

DATE, TIME November 1, 1989; 9:54-9:57 a.m.
AND PLACE: The Oval Office

The President called Prime Minister Bhutto to congratulate her on weathering a "no confidence" vote against her government. (U)

The Prime Minister: Hello, Mr. President. (U)

The President: It's good to talk to you. I want to congratulate you on the outcome of the vote in the National Assembly. (U)

The Prime Minister: That is very kind of you, Mr. President. (U)

The President: You must be pleased. (U)

The Prime Minister: It was a difficult situation. I am glad we got through it. Now I must look to the future and steps to avert this from happening again. (U)

The President: As one looking from afar, it appears the constitutional process worked. It is clearly a victory for democracy in Pakistan. I know it may be hard to look at it that way when you are fighting for your survival. (U)

The Prime Minister: You always have the right answer. (U)

The President: I hope that you will work with the President and others to develop the priorities for strengthening the democratic side and economic development. I am going through some of the same things here, working with the government and the opposition in Congress. The more cooperation there is, the better; but I don't need to give you advice. (U)

The Prime Minister: I will keep that in mind. (U)

The President: Well, I just wanted to say good going. Wasn't it by a fairly comfortable margin or was it a squeaker? (U)

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The Prime Minister: It was close, but good enough. I am happy you called. But a lot has to be done for the future. (Ø)

The President: I thought I should give you a holler to check in. I consider myself your friend. I wanted you to know I applaud you in this. And on another thing we both are cooperating on, I applaud the steps you have already taken to improve your relations with India. And if we can help, fine. We have a pleasant relationship with the Indian Prime Minister as you know. (Ø)

The Prime Minister: Thank you so much. Please give my regards to Mrs. Bush. (U)

The President: I will. (U)

-- End of Conversation --

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