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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

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Add-on

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with Toshiki Kaifu, Prime Minister of Japan (S)

PARTICIPANTS: The President  
Toshiki Kaifu, Prime Minister of Japan  
Notetaker: Karl D. Jackson  
Interpreter: Frances Seeds

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: April 2, 1990, 7:05 - 7:20am EST  
The Oval Office

Prime Minister Kaifu telephoned the President concerning the U.S.-Japan trade discussions. (S)

The President: Toshiki, how are you? I am glad to hear from you. (U)

PM Kaifu: I am fine and you, George? (In English) (U)

Our meetings at Palm Springs were extremely useful. Upon my return to Japan I sought to respond to you George and your expression of your concern. I have done my utmost to resolve the trade problems. With respect to individual trade problems, I have gotten the cooperation of the party leaders and the bureaucracy on supercomputers, telecommunication, satellites, and we are moving in the right direction on forest products. On telecommunications, I have made decisions necessary to put this behind us. (S)

PM Kaifu: And on the question of SII, I have invested my utmost effort and have taken my own political decisions in consultation with the LDP leaders. With the new proposals on SII, I will be required to persuade the Japanese people. There will be resistance here in Japan but this is Japan's SII proposal. It would be politically impossible to come up with anything beyond the Japanese proposal you will be seeing shortly. (S)

I have dispatched former Ambassador Matsunaga and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Owada to the United States. They will be carrying a personal letter addressed to you from me. They should also meet separately with Scowcroft and Baker to explain the Japanese proposal. (S)

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George, please appreciate the effort on my part this time around. Please make public a positive assessment on your part. (S)

The President: Well first of all, I greatly appreciate all the effort you and your colleagues have been making to follow up the Palm Springs meeting. (S)

On these categories the progress is good. I'm glad you feel forest products are moving in the right direction. (S)

I am hopeful that the SII team can achieve a good interim report. We will look very carefully at what you have fashioned. (S)

If we are totally successful on SII and Super 301, the credit will belong to you. (S)

I have great respect for the way you have handled this issue. (S)

Also, of course, I will be delighted to receive your emissaries, Ambassadors Matsunaga and Owada, who are both very well respected men. We will see them as soon as they get here on Wednesday. I will try to give as much public support from our end as possible. We want you to be successful on this matter. You have demonstrated wonderful cooperation with us. I will look forward to receiving your emissaries and I appreciate the spirit of this phone call. (S)

PM Kaifu: Well, George, before concluding, please convey my appreciation to the so-called five musketeers of SII: Mr. McCormack and the others. Without their cooperation the SII exercise would not have been a success. I will appreciate your understanding that this is our maximum possible effort on SII. (S)

The President: I am very impressed with your efforts. We would never have come this far without your personal involvement and we will look very carefully at the message being brought by your emissaries, Matsunaga and Owada. (S)

The President and the Prime Minister concluded their conversation. (S)

-- End of Conversation --

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