

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

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

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Prime Minister Brian Mulroney
Notetaker: Adrian Basora, NSC staff

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: June 8, 1990, 6:35 - 6:45 p.m.
Situation Room

The President initiated the telephone conversation, which occurred shortly after the news that Prime Minister Mulroney had successfully completed his negotiations to keep alive the Meech Lake Accord. (Ø)

The President: Brian, you must be feeling a lot better. (U)

Prime Minister Mulroney: We got it done. It took seven days and nights but I got the First Ministers of Newfoundland and Labrador to go along. I will be going back to the Cabin for further negotiations, but I feel a hell of a lot better. (Ø)

The President: I sighed with relief after I learned the result of your all-night session. (U)

Prime Minister Mulroney: I hope you got our message. Barbara's speech last night was a work of art. She was terrific. Her message was eloquently done; she's a real orator. (U)

The President: Well we don't want to overdo the praise, but I agree that she was good. Another thing I wanted to mention was that I will be seeing President Salinas for supper tonight. I will be telling him that we are prepared to go forward on the discussions towards a US-Mexican Free Trade Agreement, although I do not think the pace that he wants to set is realistic. In principle, however, I am for it and a number of Senators agree. We will have problems with labor and with others, however. (Ø)

Prime Minister Mulroney: I had encouraged Salinas to go ahead with his plans for a Free Trade Agreement, but I told him that he should be realistic and understand the problems that he is going to have in selling it. (Ø)

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The President: Brian, once again, well done! It is wonderful what you have been able to do. (U)

Prime Minister Mulroney: I have never had a more difficult or wrenching time. I will be happy when it's over. (U)

The President: Good luck, and it was nice talking to you. (U)

-- End of Conversation --