

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Call to Prime Minister Poul Schlueter of Denmark

Participants: The President
Prime Minister Poul Schlueter
Nicholas Burns, NSC staff (notetaker)

Date, Time July 3, 1990, 10:52 a.m.-10:57 a.m.
and Place Kennebunkport

The President: Hello Poul. How are you? (U)

Prime Minister Schlueter: Hello, George. I've just been golfing but I'm afraid it wasn't the best day for me. (U)

The President: I've been having a few bad days on the links myself. I'm here in Maine at my house and wanted to touch base with you before the London Summit. (S)

First, I think it will be an important Summit and a real turning point for the alliance. Now is the time for us to show that NATO will play its part in shaping the new Europe. It's a chance for NATO to adapt. Without NATO, it is hard to visualize a role for the U.S. to provide stability in Europe. We view NATO with a redefined posture, and with Germany in it. That is essential. (S)

Prime Minister Schlueter: I totally agree. I read your letter. The basic philosophy is completely in accord with what I would like it to be. (S)

The President: It is important that our publics see NATO as adapting to new realities. I don't think our declaration will be viewed as a bombshell, but it will show the changes people are looking for, that NATO is willing to adapt. We will need strong allied support to achieve a strong declaration. I hope we can keep adjustments to a minimum to avoid a watered-down document. (S)

Prime Minister Schlueter: This declaration must be different from the ordinary. We have seen drama in Europe and NATO must respond to it. NATO must stay and play a different role. It must change in a more political direction. (S)

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The President: I am delighted, but not surprised, that we're on the same wavelength. (S)

Prime Minister Schlueter: We, the leaders, must take care we don't get too much involved in the detail on the wording of the declaration. We should leave that to the ministers. (S)

The President: I, too, am concerned about this. I'll make sure Secretary Baker know of this. I wanted to touch base. I leave from here tomorrow. When will you be leaving. (S)

Prime Minister Schlueter: I'll be at the Rebuild Festival on the 4th of July. I'll give a speech as will the American actor, Richard Chamberlain. You remember him from Shogun and other films. We'll fly directly from there to London and to see you. (S)

The President: How is the Queen, her Majesty? (U)

Prime Minister Schlueter: She is fine. She is a fantastic personality. She's really great. (U)

The President: She's supportive of you, I hope. (S)

Prime Minister Schlueter: You can be sure. (S)

The President: Great. I look forward to seeing you. (U)

Prime Minister Schlueter: Good-bye. (U)

The President: Good-bye. (U)

- End of Conversation -

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