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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with President Turgut Ozal of Turkey on August 5, 1990 (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Turgut Ozal, President
Notetaker: Condoleezza Rice, NSC Staff

DATE, TIME August 5, 1990 - 3:23 - 3:37pm EST
AND PLACE: White House Situation Room

The President: Mr. President, how are you? (U)

President Ozal: How are you? (U)

The President: Thank you, I am anxious to hear from you. (U)

President Ozal: I saw you on CNN. (U)

The President: What can you tell me about the possible Arab Summit? (C)

President Ozal: There has been no solution. I also met with the First Deputy Foreign Minister from Iraq today. (S)

Let me summarize. He told us that he is forming a government in Kuwait. They are going to pull out but leave some troops behind until they form a "peoples army" of about 25,000. I said they should pull out from Kuwait and talk with the Emir of Kuwait. (S)

But he told me that the Emir of Kuwait will never return to Kuwait -- they are going to annex Kuwait as the time goes on. They claim it was part of the province of Basrah. (S)

Then I talked to King Fahd. It was a long talk with King Fahd, and I believe he is in line with us. (S)

The President: I hope you're right -- he has been reluctant to take any action. (S)

President Ozal: I said you should go along with us for an oil embargo - he said, "yes, we will go together with you." (S)

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The President: But when. (C)

President Ozal: I think they are waiting to have sanctions come from the UN. I told Mulroney of Canada. (S)

The President: He called me. (U)

President Ozal: In talks with Prime Minister Mulroney, I said the thing is more serious than you think. They are crazy -- they talk about nuclear bombs, etc. (S)

I talked to my people. We should get as soon as possible these Chapter 7 sanctions. I suggested that to Mulroney -- then the oil embargo will start with the Saudis and us. (S)

The President: Closing the pipelines? (S)

President Ozal: Yes, even some kind of blockading. There are not only two pipelines. (S)

The President: We can help with interdiction at sea. (S)

President Ozal: We should do something on Akhba -- he will get some supplies through there. (S)

The President: We can provide coverage from sea. The problem is that Jordan has been so weak. (S)

President Ozal: A blockade will help -- we have to consider some military action, they are crazy people -- they have long range missiles and chemical weapons they may throw this at my country or some others. (S)

The President: We are doing some planning -- we are doing it with some real urgency -- I can't say on the telephone but we are doing some serious planning. Secretary General Woerner will be here and so will Thatcher. We are looking at all U.S. assets and how we can help any country that is threatened. I am not at liberty to discuss what we are doing publicly but understand that we are reviewing every single option. (S)

President Ozal: I suggested that we need to have a top meeting of NATO. (S)

The President: That might be a good idea -- we probably need to expand to Japan but we could start with NATO. Japan is doing very well. (S)

President Ozal: Yes, I heard them. (S)

The President: They are very good. (S)

President Ozal: One more problem. I know these people -- they are more dangerous than most understand. He is more dangerous than Qaddhafi. He must go. He killed 120 officials that refused to fight. (S)

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If the blockade is very effective, they may overthrow him. (S)

The President: We must have our guard up. (S)

President Ozal: We cannot stop at just seeing them pull out.
(S)

The President: We have a lot at stake here -- the future of peace of the whole world is at stake. I talked with Fahd. They are scared. (S)

President Ozal: Yes. They are right to be scared. If he gets Kuwait and nothing happens he will have resources -- UAE; Saudi Arabia -- he does not even have to attack. (S)

The President: What did the Iraqi Deputy Minister ask of you?
(S)

President Ozal: He said we should not close the oil pipeline. I said we would look at it but that we need to obey the UN. I did not say we wouldn't close it. (S)

The President: What did he say about the UN? (S)

President Ozal: He said they could live with it. The 1972 blockade was not successful. And he added, "we are 20 million, we will fight to the end -- your population is not 20 million." I said you already include Kuwait? (S)

The President: It is very important that we stay together. We are the largest importer of oil from Iraq. Turkey, is also a large importer. The Soviet Union is mostly a re-exporter. Third is Japan. We must stay together or the status quo will be there forever. (S)

We feel we cannot accept him there. I just had another press conference. They asked about you. I said we are on the same wavelength. They asked about the pipeline -- I said that we were on the same wavelength but did not pin it down. (S)

President Ozal: We may ask for some oil from Saudi Arabia. I asked the Iraqi, "what if Saudi Arabia and UAE increase oil production?" He said this would be considered against Iraqi interests and will hit them. (S)

The President: Kuwait is ready to compensate you for loss of revenues. If we stay against him together -- maybe he can't stay. Maybe his people will not tolerate the hardships. Thanks very much. (S)

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