

SECRET

~~SECRET~~

6465

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with Prime Minister Brian Mulroney of  
Canada on August 10, 1990 (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President  
Brian Mulroney, Prime Minister  
Notetaker: Condoleezza Rice, NSC Staff

DATE, TIME August 10, 1990, 1:08 - 1:12pm EST  
AND PLACE: The Oval Office

(Conversation began prior to monitoring.)

Prime Minister Mulroney: I have advised Brent of this but  
wanted you to know. (U)

I am dispatching between 800-1000 personnel to the area. --  
two destroyers and supply vessels -- combat personnel and people  
to look after the ships. We have also arranged for a squadron  
of CF-18s to be available for Saudi Arabia with the necessary  
personnel -- 200 further personnel. (S)

Here is my problem -- Under the National Defense Act -- Canadian  
law -- an order must be tabled in the House of Commons within 10  
days of its execution. If it is not sitting, it must be  
recalled. (S)

If we dispatched the CF-18s - I'd have to recall the House of  
Commons in special session. I don't want to do that and give the  
Liberals and Socialists a chance to take shots at me. (S)

I plan to recall them for 24th of September anyway and I can  
dispatch the planes 10 days before that. With the ships it isn't  
a problem because of the time required to get them to the Gulf.  
(S)

The President: I understand not wanting to have a special  
session. Thank you very much for these very cooperative moves.  
Saddam Hussein gave a rampaging speech today calling for a Holy  
War. I hope the Arab summit stays firm. (S)

Prime Minister Mulroney: I think the symbolism of more and more  
countries joining will be a signal to the Arab Summit that the  
pressure is getting more intense. I will make a statement within  
an hour. (S)

The President: Thanks for your forthright action. King Fahd  
will appreciate it too. (U)

SECRET

Declassify on: OADR

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED  
PER E.O. 12958,  
AS AMENDED  
CJL 8/21/2009  
100-1199-E