

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Call to Helmut Kohl, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Helmut Kohl, Chancellor
Notetaker: Stephen E. Benko, NSC Staff

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: August 30, 1990, 2:45 p.m. - 2:55 p.m.
White House Situation Room

The President: Helmut, how are you? Well, I'm calling to give you an update on the Gulf. I believe we're in pretty good shape. The world is demonstrating its resolve, both in the Gulf and at the UN, to resist aggression. Now we have to wait to see whether sanctions can persuade Saddam to leave Kuwait. (S)

And the UN sanctions are widespread and effective, but this invasion and embargo are imposing real costs on many countries: you know, costs of enforcement and costs of reduced economic activity, higher oil prices, etc. And we're spending huge sums daily, the U.S. is and other nations around the world are, to roll back Saddam. (S)

We've just enacted a new program of consultation in terms of coordinating assistance. I know Germany is helping out militarily within the terms of the constitutional constraints you explained to me. (S)

Some countries have been hit very hard -- Turkey, Egypt, and Jordan, and the countries of Eastern Europe and Morocco, the Philippines, Pakistan, and India. They've all been hit very hard. We have been working to develop some ideas on the needs of specific countries and how these might be met. (S)

I'm calling to ask you to see Jim Baker next week to discuss these ideas with you. I'm also asking Andreotti and Jacques Delors to meet with him. (S)

Chancellor Kohl: Yes, George, I'm glad to do it. When will he come? (S)

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The President: I'll have to get you exact dates. I'm calling Margaret Thatcher and Francois Mitterrand to see Nick Brady. So it's not just a Germany trip, but worldwide. (S)

Helmut, I'm sensitive to the burdens you face with unification. I ask that you listen to Jim with an open mind; I'm very grateful to you for seeing him. (S)

Chancellor Kohl: George, we don't even need to talk about it at length. First of all, I am very pleased to see Jim Baker when he comes. I will not only listen with an open mind, I will start thinking about what we can do. It is just a matter of costs. This is a problem we all have now. I only ask him to agree on dates with me so we can work things out. (S)

The President: I'll get him to get them to you right away through our Embassy. Nick Brady will be visiting the Japanese. So this is a worldwide coordinating and consultation effort right now. (S)

Thanks very much, Helmut. Good night. (U)

Chancellor Kohl: Thank you, George. Good night. (U)

-- End of Conversation --

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