

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt (U)

PARTICIPANT: The President
President Hosni Mubarak
Notetaker: C. David Welch, NSC

DATE, TIME: October 27, 1990; 2:24 - 2:31 p.m. EST
AND PLACE: The Oval Office

President Mubarak initiated the call.

The President: Hosni, how are you? (U)

President Mubarak: Very well, George. I met with Primakov. (U)

The President: How did it go? (U)

President Mubarak: I will tell you all of it. I impressed on him our conclusion that the only way to avoid military action is for Iraq to accept to withdraw totally and unconditionally. The aggression should never be rewarded. I told him that the Soviet Union must avoid the impression of a wedge between it and the United States. There is no direct linkage, I said, between the Gulf and other Middle Eastern issues; otherwise, both would not be solved. Regarding the Palestinian problem, all he can say is that he will consult with the United States. (Ø)

The President: That is very encouraging. (U)

President Mubarak: I was very straight with him. You are an expert; you know these guys, I said. If you support them, then you will have a problem with all the Arabs. Primakov said Assad had proposed an Arab League summit, which would call for Iraq to withdraw. I said that we had done this before, so a summit is of no use. But if he accepts total withdrawal, then we will have a summit to ask for it as a facesaver. I told him to tell Saddam Hussein that the United States is hard as a wall and for military action. He agreed. He was to go to Baghdad at seven this morning, but Tariq Aziz called to say that as they were supporting the United States at the U.N., he shouldn't come. I also sent a message to Mitterrand today. He is seeing Gorbachev today. (Ø)

The President: The EC met today. Their statement was important. (S)

President Mubarak: He (Primakov) will hear the same thing from King Fahd. (S)

The President: I'm very grateful to you. All the coalition partners will be grateful. Jim Baker will talk to you about where we are and where we go. There are lots of ideas, in direct accord with what you say. Your talk with Primakov was very helpful. (S)

President Mubarak: I was very clear with him. He understood well. (S)

The President: He seems like a nice man, who thinks he knows the area well. What he heard, coming from you, was important. (S)

President Mubarak: He is going to Saudi Arabia tomorrow. I will inform King Fahd of what I said. (S)

The President: He made a good statement. (U)

President Mubarak: Yes, he did. (U)

The President: Well, I'm off to do some more campaigning. See you soon. (U)

-- End of Conversation --