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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Presidential Phone Call to the Amir of Kuwait

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Amir Sheikh Jaber
C. David Welch, NSC
Shukran Kamal, Interpreter

DATE, TIME November 30, 1990; 1:00 - 1:10 p.m.
AND PLACE: Oval Office

The President initiated the call. (U)

The President: Did you see the press conference? (U)

The Amir: I did not see it but I heard it on the news. (U)

The President: I hope you will get the tape and see it, because I talked a good deal about your country. (U)

The Amir: I will try to obtain one and see it. (U)

The President: The big proposal was for Jim Baker to see Saddam Hussein. What I wanted to assure you is that this is not a trip to negotiate, to discuss any concessions. This is a trip after the U.N. (Security Council) resolution (678) to tell Saddam Hussein that I'm determined to implement fully the U.N. resolutions including the use of force if necessary and do that if he refuses to withdraw from Kuwait. It is important for our partners to know that there will be no concessions, no side negotiations of any kind. I don't know if Saddam Hussein will accept to see Baker or not. (Ø)

The Amir: Thank you. I have full confidence in your decision. I have complete faith that you stand by the cause of Kuwait just as I would. I know that you will offer no concessions -- especially you, Mr. President. This move is designed to give the world the clear picture that you tried to get peace but Saddam Hussein doesn't want it. (Ø)

The President: I wanted you to know that there was no pre-contact with Saddam Hussein and there will be no concessions. (Ø)

The Amir: I hope Saddam Hussein will be reasonable and willing to end the matter peacefully and doesn't involve the world in a war we don't want. (Ø)

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The President: Thank you. I appreciate your hospitality in our recent visit. (U)

The Amir: Thank you. We will continue the contacts between our two peoples. (U)

The President: I think the Kuwaiti presentation at the United Nations captured the heart of Americans who watched it. (U)

The Amir: That was what we wanted. Americans need to know what is happening in my country. (U)

- End of Conversation -

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