

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with President Turgut Ozal of Turkey

PARTICIPANTS: The President
President Turgut Ozal
Nicholas Burns, NSC Staff (notetaker)

DATE, TIME November 30, 1990; 12:48 - 12:57 p.m.
AND PLACE: The Oval Office

The President: Mr. President. (U)

President Ozal: Hello, how are you? (U)

The President: I am fine. I'm calling you, and I have just called King Fahd and President Mubarak, about some of the ideas I announced this morning. This idea, my idea, is to send Secretary Baker to Iraq and to invite Tariq Aziz here to tell this man Saddam Hussein that we will fulfill our obligations following the UN resolutions. I don't know if he'll see Baker. We had no previous contact with Saddam Hussein, direct or indirect before making the announcement. If we take this last step for peace, I think we will encourage more support for force if we have to use it. (S)

I wanted you to know personally that there were no previous consultations or discussions with Iraq. We are deadly serious, and will not make any concessions. I think he needs to get this message. The Baker trip will be the last, best chance for peace. I don't know if Aziz will come here. But I did want to explore these options. (S)

President Ozal: Let me tell you what I told you in Paris. Saddam Hussein doesn't hear bad news. You have decided to give him the right message. (S)

The President: You told me Saddam Hussein never gets a frank view of events from his people. That is why I thought my initiative with Tariq Aziz may be worthwhile. (S)

Did you see my press conference? (U)

President Ozal: I was only able to hear part of it, but we have taped it and I will watch it in full later this evening. (U)

The President: I would appreciate it if you would watch it and listen carefully to the opening. Please give me a call if you have any thoughts. I'll be at Camp David over the weekend. (Ø)

There is no change in the U.S. position or in George Bush's determination to do what we have to do without conditions or concessions. Jim Baker will have a very tough mission--he will have to look Saddam Hussein in the eye and give him a straight message. (Ø)

President Ozal: During the last ten to fifteen days, some private people from Iraq and Jordan came to tell me that Saddam Hussein will pull out and accept conditions. They wanted my advice. I did not give them any sign. I said no, he must obey the UN decisions. (Ø)

The President: Exactly. (U)

President Ozal: Their Ambassador who left Turkey, he talked to me and tried to say Saddam Hussein has respect for me and may listen to me. But I did not give him any points. I wanted to wait for the UN resolution. (Ø)

The President: The UN resolution was a good, important step. (Ø)

President Ozal: Yes, it will give us a change to solve the problem. (Ø)

The President: When you see the press conference, you will see that I said we must take a step toward peace, but that he must understand that we will use tremendous force against him unless he gets out. That is the message we will give to Tariq Aziz. (Ø)

I want to urge our friends to make no concessions. He must get out, comply with the resolutions, restore the legitimate government. And then we can talk with the Arab world. (Ø)

I am glad you feel he will get out. (Ø)

President Ozal: I can talk with him and say that you have to withdraw, accept the UN resolutions. There will be no discussion of anything else. (Ø)

The President: Good. Do you have any feeling about the sanctions? (Ø)

President Ozal: The sanctions are working. In the coming one and a half months they will be much more effective. They are causing not only a problem with food, but with spare parts too. (Ø)

They are in a desperate condition. But I think he will keep himself until the last moment. (Ø)

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The President: It is good talking to you. I enjoyed our recent visit. Please give me your ideas over this weekend if you have any you would like to share. (U)

President Ozal: I'll see the press conference. Thank you. (U)

The President: Good-bye. (U)

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