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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Call to Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Helmut Kohl, Chancellor
Notetaker: Robert Hutchings, NSC Staff
Interpreter: Gisela Marcuse

DATE, TIME: December 2, 1990, 4:45 - 4:50 p.m.
AND PLACE: Camp David

The President: Hello, Helmut! Congratulations on your big win! What were the final results? (U)

Chancellor Kohl: Excellent! The CDU/CSU got the best results they ever had in the history of the German parliament since the time of Bismarck. We finished with 44.1% and the FDP with 11%. Between the two, we have 55%. The SPD was far behind, and the Greens will not be in parliament any longer. I am very happy with the results. There is something else, which is not all that important but which is good for me: the list for Ludwigshafen, my home district, for the first time since 1898 has not elected a Social Democrat but elected me instead. (Ø)

The President: That is excellent. I know you have a hundred phone calls, but I just wanted to check in and give you my best wishes. (U)

Chancellor Kohl: Thank you very, very much, indeed. I do appreciate it. Another wonderful thing happened: we got Berlin back -- united Berlin. (U)

The President: That's wonderful. I loved the way CNN said that this result was a great tribute to you. They gave great praise to you, and the voters did the same. I'm heading for South America in about an hour. I'll be in touch about the Gulf and the GATT round, but for now I just wanted to congratulate you. (Ø)

Chancellor Kohl: Please give my best to Barbara. (U)

The President: One last thing: how is Hannelore's neck? (U)

Chancellor Kohl: She is right next to the phone. I will put her on. (U)

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Mrs. Kohl: It has been a great day! Helmut told you about winning his constituency. (U)

The President: How is your neck? (U)

Mrs. Kohl: It is better now. I can't turn to the left side, but that is not necessary because we are right-going people. Good luck with Iraq. It was a good idea to go ahead with talks. (U)

-- End of Conversation --

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