MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with Brian Mulroney, Prime Minister of Canada on December 24, 1990

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Prime Minister Mulroney
George Malick, WHSR (notetaker)

DATE, TIME PLACE: December 24, 1990, 1:07-1:12 p.m.
Camp David

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

The Prime Minister: Merry Christmas, George. (U)

The President: Where are you right now? (U)

The Prime Minister: I'm at Herrington Lake. (U)

The President: I'm at Camp David -- it's cold here; the temperature's dropped 25 degrees in the past hour. (U)

The Prime Minister: I'll be playing hockey in a few minutes. (U)

The President: Well, I called to check in and wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. (U)

The Prime Minister: The same to you. (U)

The President: Barbara's here and enjoying herself. Cheney and Powell left a while ago; they were up here to brief me. (F)

The Prime Minister: And your view? (F)

The President: There seems to be no inclination to move away from their annexation of Kuwait as Province 19. We hope he will understand our resolve. Most leaders seem to agree that there is no change. (F)

The Prime Minister: I had a chance meeting with the Iraqi Ambassador here at a reception that we held. The Iraqi Ambassador came up to me and said he wished me peace. I took him aside for 5-6 minutes and told him directly that "your President..."
is calling your chance for peace. If he thinks otherwise, he is in for trouble. Canada is not a superpower. We have no ambitions. The proof of our resolve is our support of the UN. I hope that you carry this message directly to your President." We were surprised when he was called back to Baghdad for consultations. (J)

The President: Did he have any comment? (U)

The Prime Minister: All he said was that he believed there would be a peaceful settlement. I responded that a peaceful way to resolve the matter is to withdraw from Kuwait; then we could consider further talks. (J)

The President: Well, we'll stay in touch. (U)

The Prime Minister: Thanks for hanging in there with us during this past year. (U)

The President: Good luck at home. (U)

The Prime Minister: Thanks for being such a good friend and my best to you and your family. (U)

The President: You too. (U)

-- End of Conversation --