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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with Margaret Thatcher of Great Britain on December 24, 1990 (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President  
The First Lady  
Margaret Thatcher

DATE, TIME, AND PLACE: December 24, 1990, 1:48 - 1:53pm  
Camp David

The President: Margaret, how are you? I wanted to call to wish you and Denis a Merry Christmas. (U)

Mrs. Thatcher: Thank you, George. Merry Christmas to you too. (U)

The President: I understand you have a new home in London. What is it like? (U)

Mrs. Thatcher: No, I am still in my old place on the outskirts of London. I have yet to find a new home in London. (U)

The President: It has been a very traumatic year for all of us. You know, my meeting with Prime Minister Major went very well; we had a very good talk. How was the visit played up in Britain? (Ø)

Mrs. Thatcher: It went well here. (Ø)

The President: I think John may have felt a little uneasy coming here at this time. (Ø)

Mrs. Thatcher: I assure you all is well. John had been, after all, my Chancellor of the Exchequer and was not out of touch from the beginning. (Ø)

The President: Well, again, I want to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I also wanted to say that I and the American people would like you to come to the White House this spring to accept the highest presidential award, the Medal of Freedom. (Ø)

Mrs. Thatcher: Of course I will accept. I am greatly honored and overwhelmed by this. (Ø)

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The President: Lech Walesa is probably the only other non-American who has received the award. The details of the visit for the presentation can be worked out later, but I very much look forward to seeing you at the White House in the spring. Be sure to bring Dennis and any other friends that you want to attend the ceremony. Now I just want to put Barbara on the phone. (Ø)

The First Lady: Merry Christmas, Margaret. I send my best wishes to you and Dennis. You know you are welcome to come stay with us anytime you come to the U.S. (U)

Mrs. Thatcher: Merry Christmas to you, Barbara. Thank you very much. I look forward to seeing both you and George next year. (U)

- End of Conversation -

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