

## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

## MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with President Corazon Aquino of the Philippines (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President  
Corazon Aquino, President  
NSC Notetaker: Peter Watson

DATE, TIME January 17, 1991 5:56 p.m. - 6:01 p.m. EST  
AND PLACE: The Oval Office

The President: Hello? (U)

President Aquino: Hello, Mr. President? How are you? I have been watching you on TV. (U)

The President: Well, fine thank you. How are you? (U)

President Aquino: I just wanted to convey to you the support of the Philippine people. (U)

The President: We are involved in a very serious coalition effort half way across the world. I am very pleased with the effort of our partners. How are things with you? (U)

President Aquino: As you know, we have made a small contribution of a medical unit to the effort. (U)

The President: Well, aren't you sweet, it was very nice of you to call. I know how difficult it is to contemplate the use of force, but we felt that with the direct refusal in Iraq to work towards peace, we had no choice. I am very grateful for your call and support. (U)

President Aquino: I certainly hope for the best. I think you did the right thing by exhausting all peaceful efforts. (U)

The President: Thank you, you know you worry about it, it was very nice of you to call. How are things at home? (U)

President Aquino: Things are stable now. We hope this crisis will be resolved as quickly as possible so that we can get down to the business at hand. (U)

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The President: Certainly this Gulf crisis has had an effect on speculative efforts on oil prices. I'm sure it has had a negative impact on your own economy. (Ø)

President Aquino: Yes, it has. And, we have 600,000 Philippine people in the Middle East working in oil. I realize you are busy, I just wanted to convey to you that the Philippine government supports you. How is Mrs. Bush? (Ø)

The President: She is doing fine, you know she had a sledding accident. (U)

President Aquino: I read about that. I hope she feels better soon. (U)

The President: Thank you, I will tell her you asked about her. I will see her in about five minutes. She will be pleased that you asked about her. Goodbye. (U)

President Aquino: Goodbye. (U)