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MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN PRESIDENT BUSH
AND BRITISH PRIME MINISTER MAJOR ON THE SECURE PHONE
CAMP DAVID

12:27 - 12:44 P.M. - SUNDAY, JANUARY 27, 1991

Prime Minister Major: I am feeling rather chipper. I had a conversation with my general in the Gulf who is very content with the way things are going.

The President: We feel the same. The press is beginning to say we miscalculated. Public opinion is okay. Yours?

Prime Minister Major: Fantastic. There are protests but they are pathetic. One worry is the oil slick. But if we can show it is Saddam Hussein and not us, that should solidify opinions.

The President: Yes, the evidence is conclusive. This man is mad. Saudi comments, "how can one Arab do this to another" are useful.

Prime Minister Major: I think we just make sure that our publics know that Saddam Hussein is responsible for the spill.

The President: Let me make a couple of points. Doing well on the Scuds. We have dropped some bridges and doing well on Royal Guards but it is hard to calculate damage on them. On the spill, we have hit the manifolds and hope that will help. On aircraft going to Iran, there are over 40 now. Iran says they will impound them.

Prime Minister Major: We wondered whether they were defecting or husbanding his forces. Our Charge in Iran was told they would impound, but he only mentioned the first seven. He also said pilots asked to be sent back. That is not consistent with their fleeing.

The President: I still think things are going well.

Prime Minister Major: May I just mention the Israelis. You have worked a miracle so far but I fear if they are hit with a chemical attack they will respond.

The President: They have shown restraint but it hasn't been easy. There are no deals, though they have floated some big bills. We are worried about the supply of patriots so we are stepping up our air attacks on Scuds. They came in with a number of demands, some of which we granted. I fear they are trying to tell us how to run the war. You have heard their plan, which we can't accept. We mentioned Jericho but that didn't seem to be attractive to them. Thank heavens for the Patriots.

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Prime Minister Major: We especially appreciate the kind words about the RAF. It is playing very well for us.

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