

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: President's Call to President Sheikh Zayyid of the United Arab Emirates (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
President Sheikh Zayyid
Sandra Charles, NSC
Interpreter: Shukran Kamal

DATE, TIME February 14, 1991; 2:36 - 2:53 p.m.;
AND PLACE: The Oval Office

The President: Hello? Your Highness, can you hear me okay? (U)

Sheikh Zayyid: Welcome, Mr. President. (U)

The President: I am calling simply to congratulate you on the wonderful success of your pilots against targets in Kuwait. (Ø)

Sheikh Zayyid: God willing, this is their duty. (U)

The President: I also want to thank you for the financial support for our military operations and that of our allies. We are grateful for that and for what you and Jim Baker talked about. (Ø)

On the military front, it is my conviction things are going very well, and when I finish these one or two points, I would like to get your judgement on that. I am totally confident that when a ground offensive is required, our forces will do well, and I don't think it will take long. (Ø)

I want you to know of my determination not to compromise, agree to a ceasefire or a pause, unless he does what he should've done long ago and gets out of Kuwait. (Ø)

On the bombing of the bunker in Baghdad, as you know we are not targetting civilians. It looks like he is using his own citizens as human shields, something he said he would do with our POWs. Jordan and Iraq particularly are trying to get us bad press on this. This is stimulating hatred against us in the Arab world. Somehow we must return the focus to Iraq's aggression against Kuwait, and Iraqi atrocities being committed against Kuwaiti citizens, and his shooting missiles into Saudi Arabia that are aimed at killing people on purpose. (Ø)

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But I really called just to stay in touch, and to say I have not lost one iota of commitment or determination. We will do everything required to fulfill the UN resolutions and to get this man out of Kuwait and do it soon. (S)

Sheikh Zayyid: I would like to thank you, Mr. President, and to affirm we feel proud of our friendship with you and proud of the position you have taken, and we have taken with you. It is a just position. It should reassure the whole world, not just the Gulf, that there is justice in the world. Your position is just. God gave you the power and the awareness to affect this justice now and in the future. Your victories are all our victories. We are not concerned about what his mercenaries are saying about what is happening and what we are doing. They are paid by an unjust and unfair man. If this had not been your position, Saddam would have done a lot of evil and injustice in our midst. (S)

The President: Thank you, Your Highness, for looking at it that way. I wish you well. I just wanted to touch base. It was good talking to you. I am convinced the coalition will hold together, and prevail against this evil. (S)

Sheikh Zayyid: Mr. President, we are proud of our friendship with you, and also proud of the position you have taken by our side. The whole world is proud. Everyone who believes in the principles of truth and justice is proud. You are a superpower who is upholding the principles of justice and truth. We are certain of that. You are a superpower who respects justice, unlike Saddam Hussein and his lackeys who don't respect the principles of justice and truth, and who use innocent people as human shields. They have no principles. They adhere to no such rules. They have no religion even though they pretend to adhere to religion and Islam. But I find their behavior totally unacceptable. Islam calls on people to respect others. Saddam Hussein has no respect and shows no respect for those who are unarmed and innocent. For us on our side, the whole world knows who stands for truth and justice. We are proud of our friendship. I am confident it will last forever. We will never forget what you have done for us, that you stood by our side. For this reason, everything that is ours is yours. We are at your disposal. (S)

The President: One of these days we will finish the job. Thank you for your kind words of support. (S)

Sheikh Zayyid: Inshallah, we will be victorious. God grants victories and knows who is on the side of justice. (S)

The President: Thank you, sir. Good luck and goodbye. (U)

-- End of Conversation --