

# Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet (George Bush Library)

Document No. and Type	Subject/Title of Document	Date	Restriction	Class.
09. Memcon	Re: One-on-One Meeting with Prime Minister Kaifu of Japan (5 pp.)	4/4/91	(b)(1)	C

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**File Location:** Presidential Meetings - Memorandum of Conversations 03/11/91 - 04/24/91

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### RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

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- P-1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
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- P-5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
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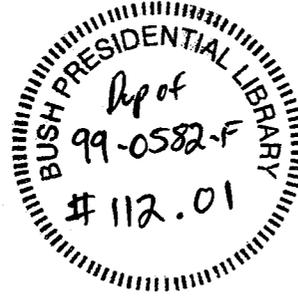
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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

2605



MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: One-on-One Meeting with Prime Minister Kaifu of Japan

PARTICIPANTS: The President  
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs  
Frances Seeds, Interpreter

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu  
Hisashi Owada, Deputy Foreign Minister  
Daisuke Matsunaga, Interpreter

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: April 4, 1991, 1:50 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. PST  
Newport Beach, California

The President: Toshiki, thank you for coming all this way. (U)

PM Kaifu: First, I would like to pay my respects for what you have done in the Persian Gulf, your leadership in restoring peace and my sympathy for those lost. (C)

The President: Thank you for being a strong coalition partner. Despite your constitutional limitations, you were a strong partner, and I tell everyone that. (C)

(b)(1)

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The President: I had not realized public opinion was so favorable. I am pleased. Let me mention a couple of issues to get out of the way. You know what they are. Once in a while contentious issues override our basic partnership. I heard one reporter asking will you discuss rice. I know how tough it is for any Japanese Prime Minister. I am in a fight with Congress to get fast track authority. If, after your elections, you could move, it would help enormously getting fast track and insuring success for the Uruguay Round. There are other issues, of course, chief among which the EC and agriculture. (C)

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1999-0582-F

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The President: Is this a rural versus urban issue for you? (C)

(b) (1)

(b) (1)

The President: We will know on fast track by the end of May.

(C)

(b) (1)

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The President: That probably is the best way, to discuss and work it out. I am prepared to leave it that way. But we need a press answer. How about this: The U.S. is grateful for the financial support Japan has given. As for those differences you have mentioned, our staffs will work together to resolve them. Is there a problem in that? (S)

(b)(1)

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The President: I understand. You and Brent work out what we should say to the press. On to other subjects... (S)

(b)(1)

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The President: I appreciate your coming over to meet me and I really want to go to Japan. I am committed, but my problem is one of time. I am just not sure I can do it before the summit.. I will come, but I can't promise it will be before London. I can't hold out too much hope for that. I also have been held up on my going to Moscow. That is delayed by CFE and START, but I want to do that, too. I am worried by events in the Soviet Union and Gorbachev's survival and viability. I say this to you only to point up my problems of timing. I will try. It is very important that I come, and I will. It is only a question of time. (S)

(b)(1)

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The President: Can I ask a broad question? I heard what you said earlier about public opinion toward the Middle East. As Prime Minister and my friend, do you sense a growing anti-U.S. feeling in Japan, or is it about the same? I worry about anti-Japanese feeling in the Congress and if you worry about the same thing. (S)

(b)(1)

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The President: That is good. (S)

(b)(1)

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The President: I don't want you to think the relationship is in bad shape. I will point out in my statement how much Japan buys from the U.S. The Vice President told me you expressed interest in helping the Kurdish refugees. (S)

(b)(1)

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The President: I appreciate that. I wanted to raise that issue as well. (S)

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The President: I appreciate your receiving them. These are important businessmen. (S)

(b)(1)

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The President: What is your view of the Kurdish issue? We don't plan to use force, but we are very concerned. (S)

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(b)(1)

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The President then reviewed briefly the state of discussion in the U.N. (S)

(b)(1)

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The President: We can't have normal relations with Saddam Hussein in power. I still hope the army or some within the government will put Saddam Hussein out, one way or another, opening the way for the Kurds and the South and for better relations with the outside world. We are twenty minutes behind for lunch. (S)

(b)(1)

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The President: That's fine. We would not take exception to that. (S)

(b)(1)

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The President: I do not know if I will be there, but we will make sure he is properly received. Maybe my son can take him to a ball game. (S)

(b)(1)

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----- End of One-on-One Conversation -----

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