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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany

PARTICIPANTS: The President  
Chancellor Helmut Kohl  
Notetaker: Nick Burns

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: September 27, 1991, 12:23 -12:36 pm EDT  
Situation Room

The President: Helmut, how's my friend? (U)

Chancellor Kohl: Fine, George. How are you? (U)

The President: Good, it's going good. I wanted to call you about the letter I sent to you and the announcement I will make today.

Chancellor Kohl: I read the letter. Congratulations. It is a major step forward. Thank you on behalf of all Germans. I think this will be good for us all. Now we should all make it clear to Gorbachev and Yeltsin that they have to react. (C)

The President: I just talked to Gorbachev to whom I had also sent a letter. He is very, very positive. (C)

Chancellor Kohl: Excellent. (C)

The President: I wanted to tell you that, obviously, we will need to consult on this deeply with Germany. I wonder now if you have any questions because by the time I give my speech tonight at 8:00 p.m. here, it will be 1:00-2:00 a.m. in the morning. (C)

Chancellor Kohl: No, no. We will of course strongly and warmly welcome this. It will have a big impact here. (C)

The President: I do want to be clear about one thing. I feel we must preserve the air launched cruise missile capability, about modernization. We can talk further and consult but I am delighted at your initial response. (C)

Chancellor Kohl: Indeed. This is a positive response. (C)

The President: Good luck. We still have problems with our friend in Iraq. He never learns his lessons. (C)

Chancellor Kohl: Yes. Good luck, George. (C)

-- End of Conversation --

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