

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with Anibal Cavaco Silva, Prime Minister of Portugal

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Anibal Cavaco Silva, Prime Minister
Interpreter:
Notetaker: Tony Wayne, NSC Staff

DATE, TIME: October 11, 1991, 11:10 - 11:14 a.m.
AND PLACE: The Oval Office

The President: Hello. How are you, my friend? (U)

Prime Minister Cavaco Silva: Fine, thank you and you? (U)

The President: Well, I feel like I'm not a very good friend because I should have called sooner to congratulate you on your stunning victory. (U)

Prime Minister Cavaco Silva: Thank you very much. That is very kind. I knew that you were following the situation in Portugal. (U)

The President: Yes, I was for two reasons. First, I was anxious to see how it would go on the issues and, second, on a personal basis because you are a friend. I was glad to see you prevailed and that you have this clear vote of confidence just before Portugal takes on the Presidency of the EC. I just wanted to call up and wish you well and say well done. ~~(U)~~

Prime Minister Cavaco Silva: It was a good victory. I think it is for the best for Portugal now as we need political stability. Since we are now going to have the Presidency of the Community, it was very, very important to have a majority. You understand I am very pleased. To get a majority is difficult. ~~(U)~~

The President: I think it was wonderful. Incidentally, on Angola, we saw Dos Santos and Savimbi and had good talks with both of them. We are grateful for your leadership and I hope that all continues to go well. ~~(U)~~

Prime Minister Cavaco Silva: Yes. It is important to keep the pressure on both sides, not only to implement the ceasefire but also to prepare for democracy. It is very important that democracy will be established in Angola. ~~(U)~~

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The President: Well, I'll let you go. I just wanted to congratulate you. Jim Baker, our Secretary of State, is here for a meeting and wants to send his best and congratulations. (U)

Prime Minister Cavaco Silva: I hope that with our new mandate, you will have the chance to visit Portugal. (U)

The President: I hope so, too. Let's try to do that. (U)

Prime Minister Cavaco Silva: Thank you very much. I hope that with the Portuguese Presidency, we can work together to solve the problems that remain to be solved. (U)

The President: There are plenty of problems. I look forward to working with you. (U)

Prime Minister Cavaco Silva: Thank you. I am pleased to hear from you. (U)

The President: OK. Good-bye. (U)

-- End of Conversation --

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