

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe on November 19, 1991 (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President  
President Mugabe  
Interpreter: None  
Notetaker: Mark Johnson

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: November 19, 1991, 2:37 - 2:43pm EST  
The Oval Office

President Bush: Hello. How are you? (U)

President Mugabe: I'm well and you? (U)

President Bush: Well Mr. President, it's a beautiful day here, and its good to hear your voice. (U)

President Mugabe: It's night here, about 10:00. (U)

President Bush: Well, what's on your mind? (U)

President Mugabe: May I begin with congratulating you on your success in bringing the Middle East parties together in Madrid. I hope the next stage will show progress. (U)

President Bush: Thank you. We hope so too. We plan to stay engaged. Secretary Baker is here with me now, I'll tell him of your remarks. He worked hard on this as you know. (U)

President Mugabe: I'm sure. Mr. President I would like to emphasize my appeal made about our candidate for UN Secretary General position. If you could please do some work for us and support him, we'd be very grateful. We think he's the best candidate. (C)

President Bush: He's getting good support, not opposed by anyone. It's odd that, just as you phoned, we were talking about how this all evolved. I've got to be honest with you, he's not the only choice. But he's getting good reviews from our bureaucracy and the UN. You see, also, Jim Baker knows him, and has worked with him at the World Bank, so you don't need to sell us on his qualifications. As you know, there is also another strong African candidate, Boutrous Ghali, who is also well known to us. But there's no selling needed of your man's outstanding

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credentials. Let me say I'm not trying to dictate who should be selected because sometimes we get accused of muscling our people into these positions. I'll tell Jim Baker and Tom Pickering about your candidate. Nice talking to you. Enjoyed our visit earlier. (C)

President Mugabe: Thanks a lot for sending us such a good Ambassador. I'll be seeing him tomorrow. (U)

President Bush: Thank you for receiving him. (U)

-- End of Conversation --