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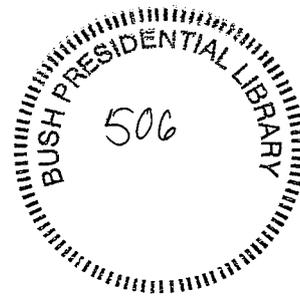
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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Meeting with Foreign Minister Roland Dumas of France (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
James A. Baker III, Secretary of State
Samuel K. Skinner, Chief of Staff
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
Walter J. P. Curley, U.S. Ambassador to France
Thomas M.T. Niles, Assistant Secretary of State for European & Canadian Affairs
Tony Wayne, Director, Western European Affairs, NSC Staff, Notetaker

Roland Dumas, French Foreign Minister
Jacques Andreani, French Ambassador to U.S.
Alain Dejammet, MFA Political Director
Philippe Delmas, Advisor on U.S. Affairs

DATE, TIME May 11, 1992 2:45 pm
AND PLACE: Oval Office

Minister Dumas: President Mitterrand sends his best wishes. (U)

The President: I wrote him a note because I appreciated his recent remarks on my handling of the situation in Los Angeles. (U)

Minister Dumas: The President very much wishes that you could stop in France soon. Perhaps you could stop in Paris on your way to Munich? (U)

The President: I'd like to do that, but it is not clear that it will be possible given my schedule. Is Francois going to Rio? We are deciding whether to go. It looks like we will, but we're in the process of deciding. It is hard for me to get the time. How long will Francois be there? (Ø)

Minister Dumas: Three days I believe. (Ø)

The President: Well, as I say, we're trying to decide whether and when to go, though it looks like I will be there. When was the last time I was in France? Rambouillet, that was it. We gave that decoration to your General. (Ø)

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Minister Dumas: Yes. (U)

The President: I assume you had good discussions with Jim this morning. I haven't gotten a full read-out yet. I trust you discussed that sensitive but important problem of GATT. We need a solution. (C)

Secretary Baker: Yes, we touched on that, and we discussed NATO, the EC and other issues. (C)

Minister Dumas: Yes, we had a good discussion. We talked about European security questions and the effects of the Maastricht Treaty. I explained to Jim that we want to create a new Europe and to make European unity a reality, but at the same time we need to retain and reinforce ties to the United States. (C)

The President: Yes, that is very important. Did Jim brief you on the Kravchuk visit and related developments? (C)

Secretary Baker: No, we didn't get into visits. (U)

Minister Dumas: We did try to work out our differences on the European nuclear powers meeting together. (C)

The President: I thought we had agreed to that. Didn't we agree that it would be at the Under Secretary level? (C)

Secretary Baker: Yes, and we are still willing to do it. (C)

The President: But it is a bad time now

(b)(1) (C)

Secretary Baker: Yes, that is right. (C)

Minister Dumas: Yes, Jim explained all of your concerns about the Ukraine, Russia and others. (C)

The President: In fact, I just a minute ago got off the phone with Prime Minister Demirel. He was back from Kazakhstan and

(b)(1)

I'm sure Nazarbayev is a nice guy, but we just can't do that, as I am sure you agree Roland. The costs would be way too high.

(C)

Minister Dumas: Nazarbayev will be coming to Paris next week and will see Mitterrand. Perhaps, he is stopping on the way to Washington. (C)

The President: Well, he's a good man.

(b)(1)

Did you and Jim talk about the Bosnia situation? (C)

Secretary Baker: Yes, a bit. The Russians are still blocking action on suspending the Serbs in CSCE and the EC just voted to withdraw Ambassadors from Belgrade. (C)

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Minister Dumas: Only for consultations. (Ø)

The President: Is that enough pressure to stop the fighting, Roland? (Ø)

Minister Dumas: No, it's not enough. They seem determined to fight some more. (Ø)

The President: It's funny, fighting seems to be breaking out all over. It just underlines that we need to stay close together in these times. (Ø)

Secretary Baker: One thing worth exploring if Nazarbayev is stopping in Paris is his request for security guarantees. He wants guarantees (b)(1) (b)(1) (b)(1). We have made clear to him, and to the Ukraine, that we cannot provide such guarantees. (b)(1) Nazarbayev committed to sign on to the NPT, and we have now offered him a role in ratifying the START treaty along with the Ukraine and Belarus, as he wanted. (b)(1) We just cannot see nuclear proliferation be the result of the break-up of the Soviet Union. (Ø)

The President: Yes, I made this same point to Demirel on the phone. (Ø)

Secretary Baker: We must remember that only in December Nazarbayev told us that he would sign the NPT as a non-nuclear state if we supported Kazakhstan's entry into the CSCE and the world community. We have done all he asked. (b)(1) (b)(1)

Minister Dumas: What about Kravchuk? Did he say all of the nuclear weapons were out? (Ø)

The President: Yes, the tactical weapons. (Ø)

Minister Dumas: And does your intelligence confirm that? (Ø)

Secretary Baker: Yes, we believe that the tactical weapons have been removed from all republics except Russia. (Ø)

The President: Well, its good to see you. I'm off now for Philadelphia. Say Hello to Francois. (Ø)

Minister Dumas: Do not forget that we would like you to visit, perhaps on the way to Munich. (Ø)

The President: Well, I don't know if I can. If it is possible, I would like to. Good bye my friend. (U)

-- End of Conversation --

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