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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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PER E.O. 13526
2009-0744-MR
ZC 6/18/12

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with Constantine Mitsotakis, Prime
Minister of Greece (ϕ)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Prime Minister Contantine Mitsotakis
Interpreter: None
Notetaker: Jane E. Holl

DATE, TIME: June 10, 1992, 8:39 - 8:45am EST
AND PLACE: Oval Office

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

Prime Minister Mitsotakis: Thank you, I am fine. I am calling you once again on Macedonia. First I want to thank you for all you have done already in delaying the recognition of Skopje and intervening on our behalf with the Moscow. (ϕ)

I believe that a fair solution is now at hand and I need your help to see that it succeeds. The Portuguese have begun a new initiative and I want you to know that we look on it favorably. We want the Portuguese to discuss this proposal with Skopje. It offers a chance to settle the problem and accommodate the desires of both sides. (ϕ)

Skopje can call itself whatever they want but the rest of the world would recognize it by some other name. But this initiative will not succeed unless you exert your personal influence in Skopje and let the Europeans know before they arrive in Luxembourg on Monday. (ϕ)

I am sending my Deputy Foreign Minister to Luxembourg with specific instructions on all points plus an offer to provide \$50 million in help to Skopje. (ϕ)

Whatever happens next then will depend on the leadership in Skopje. But I need your support. You are the only one who can have an influence to solve this problem. You know I have tried to be constructive. And now I believe a fair solution is at hand. I am prepared to put the faith of my Government in this solution but I need your full support. (ϕ)

The President: Well first let me tell you one, that I appreciate what you have been trying to do to solve this thing, and two, that I'm leaving for Rio tomorrow and I'll have an opportunity to

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discuss this with the other Europeans. Have you raised this proposal with Gligorov? (Ø)

Prime Minister Mitsotakis: No. We have no direct contacts with Skopje, but the Portuguese are in contact with Gligorov and with us. (Ø)

The President: What has been Gligorov's reaction? (Ø)

Prime Minister Mitsotakis: I don't know. But if you ask him to accept this formula, he will accept it. This is the only solution now. (Ø)

The President: I respect what you are trying to do. I will talk to my experts. It seems to me that it does offer a good chance to solve this thing. I will take it up with the Europeans, but I want to be sure to talk to my experts, those working on it before I go to Gligorov. Let me get back to you on this. But I will talk to the Europeans leaders in Rio. (Ø)

Prime Minister Mitsotakis: Thank you. But please talk to Gligorov. It is a proposal from Europeans friends. It is not a Greek one. You must talk to Gligorov. (Ø)

The President: I think it is a very reasonable proposal, but I must talk to Secretary Baker and others. You are our friend and we want this resolved. But before I tell you that I'll call Gligorov, I must talk to our experts here. (Ø)

Prime Minister Mitsotakis: It is a good proposal, it is the breakthrough we've all been waiting for. (Ø)

The President: It sounds encouraging. (U)

Prime Minister Mitsotakis: If we succeed, a vote will be taken in Monday in Luxembourg. (Ø)

The President: We will get started on it. (U)

Prime Minister Mitsotakis: Thank you again for all you have done, my friend. Good-bye. (U)

The President: Give my regards to your wife. Good-bye. (U)

-- End of conversation --

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