

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation between the President
and President de Klerk

PARTICIPANTS: The President
President F.W. de Klerk of South Africa
Interpreter: None
Notetaker: John Ordway

DATE, TIME November 8, 1992, 8:06 - 8:10 a.m. EST
AND PLACE: Camp David, Maryland

President de Klerk: Hello, Mr. President.

The President: How are you, President de Klerk?

President de Klerk: It is wonderful to hear your voice.

The President: It is wonderful of you to call.

President de Klerk: I have been thinking constantly of you for the past few days, President Bush. I have sent you a message but I want to say personally that what you have done in your time in office during this historic period in world history will be recorded as a unique contribution.

The President: Thank you very much. It's wonderful of you to call, and it has been a pleasure working with you. It's no fun to lose, but it is good to hear from you and to have you put it in that historical perspective.

President de Klerk: I am a big supporter of democracy, but democracy has one weakness at times, of not always recognizing true worth and achievement. Democracy has dealt you a blow you don't deserve. I know you will go down in history as one of the great presidents of the United States.

The President: It's good to hear that from you, President de Klerk. I have especially admired what you have been doing. How are things going at home in South Africa?

President de Klerk: We have some delays, some due to the complexity of the process and some artificial. But I am hopeful that early in the year multi-party negotiations will resume, and I am confident we will pick up the threads again.

The President: Thank you very much for calling. I hope our paths will cross again. But right now Barbara and I are going back to Texas. I hope to do some travelling, and hope our paths will cross again in the future.

President de Klerk: This is some form of psychological communication. I would love to see you in South Africa. South Africans will open their arms and hearts to you. I would like to extend an official invitation to visit South Africa when you are ready for it, and experience the terrific dynamic of what is going on here, when you are settled.

The President: You're wonderful to extend that invitation. Maybe we will get to do it some day.

Thank you for your call. If there is anything I can do between now and January, just let me know. We're still calling the shots.

President de Klerk: Thank you very much. I would also like to wish you and your family a wonderful Christmas holiday and all the best in the coming year.

-- End of Conversation --