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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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PER E.O. 13526

2009-0760-MR
JL 10/16/12

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telecon with Kiichi Miyazawa, Prime Minister
of Japan on December 2, 1992

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Kiichi Miyazawa

Notetaker: Torkel Patterson

DATE, TIME December 2, 1992, 5:57-6:07pm
AND PLACE: White House

The President telephoned Prime Minister Miyazawa concerning
Somalia. (U)

PM Miyazawa: Nice to hear from you. (U)

President: Thank you for the sweet message about my mother. I
am sending a note off to you soon. (U)

PM Miyazawa: I will miss working with you. What happened,
happened, you know. The economy is getting better. (U)

President: Well you are right. By the way, I've been talking
with Governor Clinton. He will be fine to work with. He's a
bright man. He understands the importance of this very important
relationship, which you helped to build. (U)

PM Miyazawa: You are very kind. I'm still going to miss
you. (U)

President: Well, I hope to see you in Texas, please stop
by when you have the chance. (U)

PM Miyazawa: I will George, I will. (U)

President: I have some points that I would like to go through
with you on Somalia if that would be O.K.? (U)

PM Miyazawa: Please go through them. (U)

President: I'm calling about something very important for the
world community:

I wanted to do a real consultation with you and ask for your
support in helping us overcome the tragedy in Somalia. (U)

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The situation in Somalia has reached a crisis point. I am sure the Japanese people have been moved by the pictures on the television. Our people hurt also to see this tragedy. Thousands of Somalis are dying every day. The problem is that international relief agencies are unable to provide the food the people so desperately need. (U)

As the Secretary General pointed out in his report on November 30 to the Security Council, the core issue is security. Despite the UN's best efforts they have been unable to secure local permission to deploy enough troops to do the job. We're dealing with a handful of crazy warlords here. (U)

Now, I'm out in front on this, but I am proposing an international coalition which would, under United Nations auspices, establish the necessary security environment in the hardest hit areas of Somalia. (U)

These peacemaking forces would get the relief operation off the ground and running the way it should. They would then turn over the task of maintaining this newly established secure environment to a regular UN peacekeeping force. (U)

I am prepared to make a significant contribution of troops and military assets. I do not believe this is high risk, but we have to have enough troops to make sure we get the job done right. But this will not be possible without the help of others. (U)

Kiichi, I need your help in three areas: Troops, financial assistance and certainly, support in the Security Council. (U)

I know you have political problems with contributing troops, but I'd like you to look at the possibility, perhaps for the peacekeeping phase. We're prepared to take a risk, to go in harm's way; even though it's not too dangerous, some lives may be lost. I would like to urge you to think about what I've asked. (U)

And could I ask you to consider serving as a financial sponsor of a poor troop contributor? An impoverished country. (U)

The contributions of Japan are so important. (U)

I don't need to bother you with every detail. I will ask our ambassador, Mike Armacost, to follow-up. (U)

PM Miyazawa: Thank you, George. Now on your three points: We do have a problem sending troops, but no problem with your other two points. (U)

George, you know that Japan is contributing already \$27 million in 1992, so we are providing financial assistance. Yes, we are willing to provide financial assistance. (U)

Therefore, I am generally in agreement with you. (U)

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President: Good, I am glad to hear that. Just to keep you informed, I'm meeting tomorrow with Dick Cheney, Colin Powell and others on the military aspects of this. We can not let bands of young kids with automatic weapons rip-off food supplies that Japan and others are providing. (U)

Another point is that we are not interested in staying there a long time. I see the peacemaking phase as very short. (U)

PM Miyazawa: I see the point. I want to say, that I appreciate your leadership on this very much, George. We will support you and see that the people are clothed and fed and help to eliminate warlords interference. (U)

President: Once again I am delighted to talk with you. (U)

PM Miyazawa: I can assure you that you have the support of my government. (U)

President: Good. We'll be talking again before I leave the Presidency. (U)

PM Miyazawa: Good luck to you. (U)

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