

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

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PER E.O. 13526

2009-0737-MR  
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MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with Prime Minister Rabin of Israel on December 5, 1992 (Ø)

PARTICIPANTS: The President  
Prime Minister Yitzak Rabin  
Notetaker: Richard Haass, NSC

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: December 5, 1992; 1:42 - 1:47 p.m.  
Camp David

Prime Minister Rabin requested the phone call. (Ø)

The President: Hello. How are you sir? (U)

Prime Minister Rabin: Fine, Mr. President. I'm trying hard to do what is expected of me. Jack Stein just visited and brought me your note, which I appreciated very much. (Ø)

The President: How nice of you to call, and how nice of you to see Jack Stein. He is a good friend. (U)

Prime Minister Rabin: I agree. In addition, I'd like to compliment you on your decision to send U.S. forces to Somalia. I saw your statement to the American people. It took real courage. People speak of the international community, but the key is the United States. Nothing is done unless the U.S. takes the lead. I will say tomorrow in our cabinet meeting that I talked with you and congratulated you. (Ø)

The President: That is so thoughtful. I really appreciate it. We are getting good support. There is some nitpicking, such as from my friends at The New York Times. But we are on the right track. This is not high risk I believe, even though it will be high cost. I worried about whether to do this, though. (Ø)

Prime Minister Rabin: I take your open invitation to visit when I come to visit; I would like to visit with you in Texas. (Ø)

The President: That would be great. I think it will go well between you and our new President. He and I have our differences, but not about the Middle East. I think you'll find him enjoyable to work with. I am confident that you will. (Ø)

Prime Minister Rabin: I hope so. I plan to be coming to the United States in mid-March, and I will try to see you then. (C)

The President: I look forward to it. Happy holidays. (U)

Prime Minister Rabin: Thank you. (U)

-- End of Conversation --