

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

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11. Memcon	Re: Meeting with Brian Mulroney, Prime Minister of Canada [FOIA exemptions redacted] (3 pp.)	10/7/92	(b)(1)	C

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RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P-1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
 P-2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
 P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
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 P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

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(b)(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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 (b)(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
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 (b)(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON



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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Meeting with Brian Mulroney, Prime Minister of Canada (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
James A. Baker, III, Chief of Staff
Lawrence Eagleburger, Acting Secretary of State
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
Peter Teeley, U.S. Ambassador to Canada
Thomas M. Niles, Assistant Secretary of State for European and Canadian Affairs
Eric Melby, Senior Director for International Economic Affairs, NSC

Brian Mulroney, Prime Minister of Canada
Derek Burney, Ambassador to the United States
Michael Wilson, Trade Minister
Gilles Loisel, President of the Treasury Board
Donald Campbell, Deputy Minister of International Trade and External Affairs
James Judd, Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet, Foreign and Defense Policy

DATE, TIME: October 7, 1992, 4:40 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
AND PLACE: Plaza de San Antonio Hotel, San Antonio, Texas

The President: Thank you for coming all this way. I am very comfortable with the overall relationship. I am sure we have some trade matters but otherwise things are fine. (U)

Prime Minister Mulroney: The inter-agency Howe Group at the NSC is good news for us. Thank you for setting it up. I thought I might have to bend your ear on lumber. But I understand Derek and Brent are working on it and so it may be in hand. (U)

Steel is a looming problem. But Derek is working with Brent and Larry on it. (U)

I want to raise another issue. Jim Bolger of New Zealand, whom I saw recently, wants a Security Council seat. He is looking for a way to get back with the U.S. He is embarrassed by the actions of his predecessor. (U)

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2009-0698-MR
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The President: With our policy on nuclear weapons, why does he still have a problem? (Ø)

Prime Minister Mulroney: He is a good fellow; he likes you. I said I would raise the issue with you. (Ø)

The President: What's our policy? (Ø)

James Baker: I broke the mold by seeing him. The security people were quite upset. (Ø)

The President: Brent, let's take a look at this. (Ø)

Lawrence Eagleburger: New Zealand is trying hard. There are three candidates for Security Council seats -- Sweden, Spain and New Zealand. We need to pick two out of three. Mr. President, as Acting Secretary I have already decided we should support New Zealand and Spain. (Ø)

The President: Brian, we will follow through on New Zealand. We have got a big China problem again. (Ø)

Michael Wilson: I was in Taiwan recently. The Chinese Ambassador in Ottawa wanted to know all about my trip. (Ø)

The President: China was pleased about our MFN decision. But it is threatening publicly on the F-16 sales. (b)(1)

(b)(1)

James Baker: Could Brent tell the Prime Minister the extent we have moved on the nuclear issue? (Ø)

Brent Scowcroft: As a matter of policy our nuclear ships won't carry tactical nuclear weapons. Only submarines will. But we still won't say which ships carry nuclear weapons. (Ø)

Prime Minister Mulroney: If you don't mind, I'll follow through with Bolger as a courtesy. (Ø)

The President: Fine... (U)

Lawrence Eagleburger: We cannot undercut Australia. (Ø)

Prime Minister Mulroney: Bolger could be the president of a Chamber of Commerce in the U.S. The attitude is changing in New Zealand. We're trying to help him in the Commonwealth and Francophonie. (Ø)

I know you also want to hear about the referendum in Canada. We're doing OK. The referendum is non-binding, only advisory. We have a unanimous agreement representing ten premiers and the Prime Minister. It is a generous, balanced approach. A lot of people don't like it -- some don't like the French, Jews or Indians. (Ø)

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We took a hit from Bourassa. Let me tell you something. We struck the deal on August 28. I told the premiers to be careful because the press was picking up cellular phone conversations with scanners. Bourassa's legal adviser called an aide in Quebec from his hotel room. He told her that Quebec had lost, that Bourassa had sold out. All this was picked up by a journalist and reported. Someone then hired two actors to read the transcript on the radio -- the only legal way to do it. It has caused a firestorm. (C)

But I think we can win. (U)

The President: What do you think will happen? (U)

Prime Minister Mulroney: We will get a majority in Canada. But we need a majority plus one in each province. If Quebec votes no, there will have to be a direct confrontation in the Quebec legislature. Yes or no. British Columbia and Alberta will be the toughest. The polls show that we are tied nationally at 42-42. We are behind in BC, Alberta and Quebec where the undecided are at 42%. (C)

Let me say one word on your debates. I won in '84 in space of 37 seconds during a debate. In '88 I almost lost the election during the debates. You need a series of lines to get out no matter what. Regardless of what the question is, get your message out. You've got to cut, cut, cut. And when he's down, stomp on him. (C)

The President: That's hardly Presidential! I gather you've got a meeting with Salinas now. (U)

-- End of Conversation --

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