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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

0019

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: The President's Telephone Conversation with
 Italian Prime Minister De Mita

PARTICIPANTS: The President
 Rudolf V. Perina, NSC (Notetaker)
 Neil Seidenman, Department of State
 (Interpreter)

 Prime Minister De Mita

DATE, TIME January 23, 1989, 10:25 a.m. - 10:29 a.m.
AND PLACE: Oval Office

The President asked the Prime Minister how he was.

The Prime Minister responded "not bad." He said he wished to repeat his congratulations to the President.

The President said he had called to say thank you for the warm congratulations which the Prime Minister had sent.

The Prime Minister said he wanted to reiterate those and also hoped to see the President in Italy soon.

The President said he also hoped so. It would be wonderful, and he remembered his last visit to Italy with great affection. They would be talking about that. For now, he just wanted to thank the Prime Minister and say how much he looked forward to working with him.

The Prime Minister extended best wishes to the President and hopes for his success in office. He also hoped the two would deepen their friendship.

The President said he had great respect and admiration for the job which the Prime Minister had done in Italy. They would work closely together because Italy was very important to the United States. The President again thanked the Prime Minister for the message of congratulations, and the two men said good-bye.

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