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MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with President Mubarak
of Egypt (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
President Mubarak
C. David Welch, NSC, Notetaker

DATE, TIME June 12, 1990; 12:43 - 12:49 p.m. EST
AND PLACE: The Oval Office

President Mubarak initiated the call. (U)

The President: Hi, Hosni, how are you doing? (U)

President Mubarak: Hello, George. Happy Birthday to you! (U)

The President: Let me tell you, Hosni, don't turn 66 -- it makes you feel old! Thanks for your birthday wishes. (U)

President Mubarak: My whole family extends congratulations. George, I'm trying hard with these people, with the PLO. (S)

The President: Any luck? (U)

President Mubarak: Nothing new. There is the statement of two days ago. They are forming a committee for investigation. The committee should finish its investigation in two to three weeks. (S)

The President: Well, I hope they speed it up; the committee should report more quickly. The pressure here is mounting. (S)

President Mubarak: I know; I assure you I am trying my best. George, I want to tell you something -- some factions in the PLO want the dialogue to be frozen. This is my concern. (S)

The President: I agree. There is a problem there with the factions and there is a problem in the other country as well. I agree with you about the factions. That's why we have called for certain actions that would facilitate keeping the dialogue. A statement by Arafat publicly condemning the attack would help. (S)

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President Mubarak: Most of the Executive Committee want it to end. Some of them want this to hurt Egypt, so that we are in a bad situation with Israel. (Ø)

The President: That is a problem. We are trying to keep things on track, but it is pretty difficult. The (PLO's) June 11 statement was helpful on terrorism and on the PLO's December 1988 commitments. But the statement ignored the two critical points I mentioned in my message to you: one, specific denunciation of the PLF attack; and, some disciplinary action against Abul Abbas. I know you are working very hard, but the PLO must be more explicit and public on these points. (Ø)

President Mubarak: I'll try to do my best. (U)

The President: I know. Our friends are getting hurt -- you, the Saudis, and the Israelis. I don't think it's even in Israel's interest to see this happen. We need a good faith effort from them, since we have information about other concerns in the area of terrorism that has me very worried. I just hope they are restrained and don't go off and do something else now. (Ø)

President Mubarak: I'll do my very best, don't worry. (U)

The President: Thank you very, very much; I don't know where we would be without friends like you. We are running out of time on this thing. I think that unless the PLO position changes, that by Friday I will have little choice but to suspend the dialogue. Maybe you can tell Arafat that and it will help. (Ø)

President Mubarak: Thank you, George. Again, Happy Birthday, and I wish you well. (U)

The President: Thank you for your call. Goodbye. (U)

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