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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

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MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with Toshiki Kaifu, Prime Minister of Japan
on February 28 (S)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Toshiki Kaifu, Prime Minister of Japan
Interpreter: Frances Seeds
Notetaker: Karl D. Jackson

DATE, TIME February 28, 1991, 7:03 - 7:15 a.m. EST
AND PLACE: Oval Office

The Prime Minister called the President to offer congratulations on the Gulf situation. (S)

The President: Toshiki, good morning. (U)

Prime Minister Kaifu: George. Congratulations! (U)

The President: Thank you so much. It is a great relief to have this over -- if, I say, if Saddam Hussein does what he ought to do. Unfortunately, Baghdad radio is still broadcasting absurd propaganda. As far as we are concerned, we have completed the job and I really appreciate your phone call of congratulations. (S)

Prime Minister Kaifu: I was very much moved by your television speech in which you announced your decision. (U)

The President: Our military leaders feel very comfortable with this decision. I did not want to put our forces at risk but they felt that it was appropriate too. (S)

Prime Minister Kaifu: Let me restate my admiration for your unwavering resolve not to condone aggression, and your wide ranging leadership of the coalition. At the same time I want to praise highly the servicemen and women of the U.S. and other members of the multinational forces. I want to extend my sympathies to the bereaved families of soldiers who were lost. (S)

The President: We are very thankful that there were relatively low casualties but I appreciate your expression of sympathy. (U)

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Prime Minister Kaifu: What is important now George, is that Saddam Hussein accept your proposal promptly and unconditionally, and implement the resolutions. I have just said to the Japanese people that it was of utmost importance that Saddam Hussein do this. (Ø)

The President: That is an important point and I appreciate your going public with that to the Japanese people. (Ø)

Prime Minister Kaifu: Lastly, many tasks remain for the restoration of peace and stability in the region. That is why I want to send Foreign Minister Nakayama to consult with Secretary Baker. (Ø)

The President: That is very important. Would you like to have Secretary Baker contact you? (Ø)

Prime Minister Kaifu: Our Embassy in Washington will contact the Secretary. (Ø)

The President: General Scowcroft is here and he or I will tell Secretary Baker about Foreign Minister Nakayama. (Ø)

Prime Minister Kaifu: Thank you. (U)

The President: I am pleased very much with the cooperation that you have given us and look forward to more cooperation in the future, and I need to start focusing on when I can accept your invitation to come to Japan. (Ø)

Prime Minister Kaifu: Thank you. I am very much looking forward to receiving you in Japan. (U)

The President: Goodbye sir and its nice to talk to you. I am grateful for the call. (U)

Prime Minister Kaifu: Goodbye. (U)

- End of Conversation -

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