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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with President Robert Mugabe of
Zimbabwe on November 19, 1991 (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
President Mugabe
Interpreter: None
Notetaker: Mark Johnson

DATE, TIME November 19, 1991, 2:37 - 2:43pm EST
AND PLACE: The Oval Office

President Bush: Hello. How are you? (U)

President Mugabe: I'm well and you? (U)

President Bush: Well Mr. President, it's a beautiful day here,
and its good to hear your voice. (U)

President Mugabe: It's night here, about 10:00. (U)

President Bush: Well, what's on your mind? (U)

President Mugabe: May I begin with congratulating you on your
success in bringing the Middle East parties together in Madrid.
I hope the next stage will show progress. (U)

President Bush: Thank you. We hope so too. We plan to stay
engaged. Secretary Baker is here with me now, I'll tell him of
your remarks. He worked hard on this as you know. (U)

President Mugabe: I'm sure. Mr. President I would like to
emphasize my appeal made about our candidate for UN Secretary
General position. If you could please do some work for us and
support him, we'd be very grateful. We think he's the best
candidate. (C)

President Bush: He's getting good support, not opposed by
anyone. It's odd that, just as you phoned, we were talking about
how this all evolved. I've got to be honest with you, he's not
the only choice. But he's getting good reviews from our
bureaucracy and the UN. You see, also, Jim Baker knows him, and
has worked with him at the World Bank, so you don't need to sell
us on his qualifications. As you know, there is also another
strong African candidate, Boutrous Ghali, who is also well known
to us. But there's no selling needed of your man's outstanding

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credentials. Let me say I'm not trying to dictate who should be selected because sometimes we get accused of muscling our people into these positions. I'll tell Jim Baker and Tom Pickering about your candidate. Nice talking to you. Enjoyed our visit earlier. (C)

President Mugabe: Thanks a lot for sending us such a good Ambassador. I'll be seeing him tomorrow. (U)

President Bush: Thank you for receiving him. (U)

-- End of Conversation --

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2000-0429-F

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Record Group/Collection: George H.W. Bush Presidential Records
Collection/Office of Origin: National Security Council
Series: Presidential Telcon Files
Subseries:

OA/ID Number: CF01730
Folder ID Number: CF01730-012

Folder Title:
[Memorandum of Telephone Conversations (Telcons) - May 1991-December 1991]: November 1991
