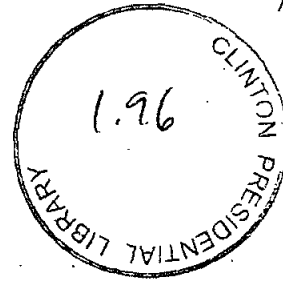


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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON



MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with British Prime Minister Blair (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Prime Minister Blair

Notetakers: Michael Manning and Clark Lystra

DATE, TIME December 13, 2000, 4:30-4:41 a.m. EST
AND PLACE: Belfast, Ireland

The President: Hello? (U)

Prime Minister Blair: Hello? Hi, Bill, how are you doing? (U)

The President: Good. (U)

Prime Minister Blair: Did you get some rest? (U)

The President: Yes, a little. (U)

Prime Minister Blair: It was amazing coverage of your visit yesterday. It was unbelievable. In Northern Ireland, it looks good. Did you speak to Adams and Seamus this morning? (C)

The President: No. Our people have been talking. (gap) I know what they are going to say to you. *(et)*

Prime Minister Blair: What's that? (U)

The President: That the Sinn Fein view is that before the election campaigns in the UK, there ought to be a deal on demilitarization and decommissioning. They want to delay on Patten and can't embrace it right now. They will not cooperate directly on the Real IRA. We need to talk to them on the input they would do. There need to be more arrests in Omagh. Anyway, all they said was that they couldn't do more. Seamus Mallon is in a particular situation, you know, and the problem is that he says he will not agree yet on a police force. He may agree on one if arrests are made or something and if we find out more we will tell you, but I think you have to flush them out. I will

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Reason: 1.5(d)

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E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

work today in our meeting with him. I'll try to find out more about whatever the sequence is. ~~(S)~~

Prime Minister Blair:

[Redacted]

The President: That might cut the mustard with them. ~~(S)~~

Prime Minister Blair:

[Redacted]

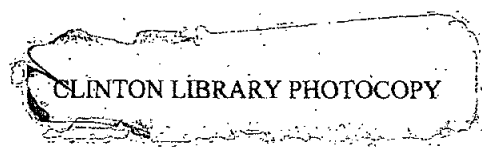
The President: OK. ~~(S)~~

Prime Minister Blair:

[Redacted]

The President: There may be something there. ~~(S)~~

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)



Prime Minister Blair:

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

The President: That's why I think that if I were you, I would do a specific trade-off and if you could make some progress there, it would be alright (gap). I have to go and get to my meetings now. We'll be in touch. (e)

Prime Minister Blair: We need to decide on how specific we should be when we meet later. (e)

The President: OK. Good-bye. (e)

Prime Minister Blair: Good-bye. (U)

-- End of Conversation --