

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

32144

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ACTION

October 13, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR JOHN M. POINDEXTER

FROM: TYRUS W. COBB *TWC*

SUBJECT: Presidential Phone Call to PM Thatcher

Attached at Tab I is a memorandum from you to the President recommending he call Mrs. Thatcher this afternoon. We understand that the PM had indicated she wished to call the President to express her support for his negotiating position in Iceland and to get a personal readout on his meetings with General Secretary Gorbachev.

I also understand from John Kerr at the British Embassy that Mrs. Thatcher has specific concerns regarding the apparent agreement to eliminate nuclear weapons within a decade. She will argue that this proposal would make the world safe for Soviet aggression, given the disparities in conventional capabilities, and will argue that any such agreement must include a commitment to conventional parity as well. She may also register concern over an INF agreement -- you may recall that she opposed zero-zero in Europe, although she may be satisfied with 100-100 global levels.

Mrs. Thatcher will also raise the possibility of her visiting the President in mid-November, preferably at Camp David. Her visit, particularly if it includes a Camp David meeting, will generate pressure to receive other allied leaders in the same fashion. However, the President has indicated that he wants to see her at Camp David November 15 or 16.

Recommendation

That you sign and forward the memorandum at Tab I recommending the phone call to Mrs Thatcher.

Approve *J* Disapprove _____

Lit
Linton Brooks and Peter Sommer concur. *TWC for*

Attachments:

- Tab I Memo recommending phone call
- Tab A Suggested talking points

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Declassify on: OADR

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NLRR M048-207#32144
BY RW NARA DATE 7/27/11

TALKING POINTS

32145

BY NDI NARA DATE 8/4/08

- Pleased to call you to provide personal readout of my meetings with Gorbachev in Reykjavik.
- Intensive discussions in Iceland. Good agreements floundered over unjustified Soviet insistence on killing SDI, even though they are deeply engaged in similar research.
- Regret this outcome. Do not plan to give up.
- (If asked on proposed agreement to eliminate nuclear weapons within ten years.) All arms agreements carry risks and recognize your concern with eliminating part of the nuclear deterrent which has preserved peace. But believe more stable deterrence based on strategic defenses which would defend BOTH us and our allies worth risk from eliminating offensive ballistic missiles.
- (If asked on INF agreement proposing zero-zero in Europe, which Mrs. Thatcher has opposed without severe and proportionate cutbacks in Asia.) I will not accept INF agreement that simply moves missiles out of range of Europe. Must include global reductions. Soviets agreed to zero-zero in Europe, 100-100 global. Means reduction from over 400 SS-20s to 33. Good outcome, achieved only due to support for INF you and other allies gave. Sorry they backed off.
- Great talking with you, appreciate support from such a loyal ally and friend.

F. le
UK

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COBB 05
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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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October 13, 1986

Call memo

32143

RECOMMENDED TELEPHONE CALL

TO: Margaret Thatcher
Prime Minister of Great Britain

DATE: October 13, 1986

RECOMMENDED BY: John M. Poindexter *JMP*

PURPOSE: Mrs. Thatcher wishes to talk with you to express her support for your negotiating positions in Reykjavik.

SECURE or OPEN: Open Line call

INTERPRETER: None required

PHONE NUMBER: 01-930-4433

CONTACT PERSON: Charles Powell

TIME DIFFERENCE: Five hours

SUGGESTED TIME: 1:00 p.m. est October 13, 1986

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

1. Your meetings with General Secretary Gorbachev in Iceland.
2. Her concern over framework of apparent arms control agreements.
3. Possible visit to U.S. in November, including Camp David meeting with you.

We will have Situation Room plus the call for you at 1:00 p.m.

Suggested Talking Points are at Tab A.

cc Vice President

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BY LOS NARA DATE 8/4/08

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