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RECORD OF A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRIME MINISTER'S AND PRESIDENT REAGAN, WEDNESDAY, 21 JANUARY, 1981

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL NO. T 10A/80

PM: Hello and many congratulations on a great day.

PR: I just wanted to call you and thank you first of all for your very nice message of congratulations and to tell you how much I look forward to working with you now and maintaining and emphasising this relationship that we have between our two countries.

PM: That is very kind of you and we are looking forward to it too. Indeed I think somehow the whole of Britain is. You know they recognise that we have to keep absolutely close together.

PR: Madam Prime Minister your voice is fading in and out I'm having difficulty hearing you.

PM: That's much better. We are very looking forward to working with you and indeed I think the whole of Britain is looking forward to it. Almost everyone watched the inauguration and was very thrilled particularly with your speech. And of course the Iran hostages made it doubly marvellous and there really won't be another day like it you know, there will never be another inauguration like it.

PR: Well, thank you very much. Nancy and I are specially looking forward to welcoming you to Washington next month.

PM: We are looking forward to it very much and we are very happy and we think it will be a great presidency. So we will talk about things when we meet next month.

PR: Indeed I look forward to talking to you on international issues as well, as well as the economic problems we face.

PM: The newspapers are saying mostly that President Reagan must avoid Mrs Thatcher's mistakes so I must brief you on the mistakes.

PR: I don't think I have to worry about that. I have just been watching and I know you have got such an uphill battle there but my goodness you've been staying there in the front line without rest or recreation.

/PM:-



because

PM:- Well you know it makes it worth it/when you are fighting for the things we are fighting for then we have to give everything we've got.

PR: We will lend strength to each other.

PM: We will.

PR: Incidentally I had a very nice message of congratulation from Queen Elizabeth - it was a message on the hostages. And we appreciate that very much even though that wasn't our problem to deal with during these past several months we might have dealt with it differently. But we are all delighted here that they are home and appreciate your kindness.

PM: Well it's a wonderful start to a new presidency too. I will be seeing the Queen soon in a few days time and I will tell her how pleased you were. Alright Mr President, it's wonderful of you to ring and much appreciated and we are really thrilled about the visit next month.

PR:- Well, we're waiting for it too.

PM: Good and lots of thoughts and kind regards to Mrs Reagan.

PR: I certainly shall.

PM: Thank you very much. I'm just going into the House of Commons on a debate on energy prices - work beckons. Goodbye.