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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

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2000-0429-F

JL 6/17/09

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with Prime Minister  
Margaret Thatcher of the United Kingdom ~~(S)~~

PARTICIPANTS: The President  
Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister  
Notetaker: Philip Zelikow, NSC Staff

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: June 11, 1989, 8:07 a.m. - 8:24 a.m.  
Camp David

Prime Minister Thatcher, after thanking the President for his kind letter, said she had called to discuss three subjects: China, including Hong Kong; Vietnamese boat people; and Poland.

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The President said that he was watching the situation in Hong Kong. He liked what the Prime Minister had said about steadiness. It was now clear that the Chinese authorities were making a wider crackdown against dissent. The country was in a real state of flux. The President was trying to preserve the relationship with China while speaking out against abuses. There was also a problem with dissidents being sheltered in the American Embassy. Relations could not be normal, but all involved had a stake in continued U.S. involvement, which could encourage reform and progress toward democracy. (C)

Prime Minister Thatcher

(b) (1)

(b) (1)

The President asked if it was possible to separate the economic migrants from the political refugees. (C)

Prime Minister Thatcher

(b) (1)

(b) (1)

The President said he would try to help. Deputy Secretary of State Eagleburger was going to the conference on this subject in Geneva. (C)

Prime Minister Thatcher

(b) (1)

(b) (1)

The President said he would talk to Secretary Baker and be on the alert for Prime Minister Thatcher's message. Prime Minister Thatcher could be sure that the President understood her position. Like the UK, the U.S. had historically received refugees, as an important humanitarian commitment. Yet the U.S. had a similar problem on its borders in differentiating between economic and politically-motivated migrants. It was difficult to move away from the historic position. (Ø)

Prime Minister Thatcher

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The President said he was fascinated by these developments. He was so pleased that Prime Minister Thatcher felt this way about General Jaruzelski and Poland. General Jaruzelski had a terrible image in America. Perhaps a way could be found to give him some exposure in the United States to help his image, which was that of a symbol of repression. General Jaruzelski's visit to the UK would be helpful in America. (Ø)

Prime Minister Thatcher

(b) (1)

(b) (1)



The President said that, though it was a cosmetic matter, General Jaruzelski should change his glasses. (Ø)

Prime Minister Thatcher

(b) (1)

(b) (1)



The President observed that the world had certainly been in turmoil during the past week. (Ø)

Prime Minister Thatcher

(b) (1)

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The President agreed. He said there would be no surprises on China. There was no clear four-point program, but the U.S. would

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try to keep the doors open while being sure that the Chinese government knew of U.S. disapproval for its actions. (C)

Prime Minister Thatcher

(b) (1)

(b) (1)

Prime Minister Thatcher thanked the President for not opposing a conferral of honors upon President Reagan. (U)

The President asked if the Prime Minister had told President Reagan about this yet. (U)

Prime Minister Thatcher said she had not. It would be a marvelous occasion, she said, and President Reagan would see the Queen. (U)

The President said the American people would rejoice in such an honor being given to President Reagan. (U)

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# Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

## (George Bush Library)

Document No. and Type	Subject/Title of Document	Date	Restriction	Class.
20. Telcon	Re: Memorandum of Conversation with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher (5 pp.)	6/11/89	(b)(1)	S

**Collection:**

**Record Group:** Bush Presidential Records  
**Office:** Scowcroft, Brent, Files  
**Series:** Presidential Correspondence Files  
**Subseries:** Presidential Telcon Files  
**WHORM Cat.:**  
**File Location:** Presidential Telephone Calls - Memorandum of Conversations 5/10/89 - 7/27/89

**Document Partially Declassified**  
**(Copy of Document Follows)**  
 By RL (NLGB) on 10/5/10

<b>Date Closed:</b> 1/30/2009	<b>OA/ID Number:</b> 91111-002
<b>FOIA/SYS Case #:</b> 2009-0275-S	<b>Appeal Case #:</b>
<b>Re-review Case #:</b>	<b>Appeal Disposition:</b>
<b>P-2/P-5 Review Case #:</b>	<b>Disposition Date:</b>
<b>AR Case #:</b> 2000-0429F(483)	<b>MR Case #:</b>
<b>AR Disposition:</b> Released in Part	<b>MR Disposition:</b>
<b>AR Disposition Date:</b> 6/17/2009	<b>MR Disposition Date:</b>

### RESTRICTION CODES

**Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]**

P-1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]  
 P-2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]  
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