

116815

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

30

~~SECRET~~

April 15, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY ALEXANDER HAIG

FROM: WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT: MEMCON FOR SECRETARY HAIG ON PRESIDENT'S PHONE
CALL TO PRESIDENT GALTIERI

For your information in your meetings with President Galtieri, attached is a verbatim transcript of the President's phone conversation with President Galtieri tonight. As you can see, it ran about 30 minutes.

Galtieri did not raise much that was new nor did he bring up specific negotiating points. He did underline his obvious concern about the approaching British fleet. Galtieri also suggested unnamed nations might be exacerbating the conflict, and that U.S. media disclosures were unhelpful. The Argentine President ended with a rousing Argentine version of western hemisphere history and implied that the Argentines and North Americans share a common heritage of struggle against (British) colonialism.

President Reagan reiterated our search for a peaceful solution resolution of the dispute and called on the parties to be flexible and restrained in the coming days and weeks. The President also expressed his personal support for your mission.

I might add we read Galtieri as a worried man, but one not yet ready to retreat from previously established positions.

Word of the call leaked and as a consequence we prepared a short press release which deals only with generalities. Then, so as to relieve any concerns on Maggie's part we notified Prime Minister Thatcher of the call through a cabinet line message.

Attachments

- Tab A Text of Conversation
- Tab B Text of Press Release
- Tab C Text of Message to Prime Minister
Thatcher

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NLRR M371/1 #114815

BY RW NARA DATE 6/22/15

President: This is Ronald Reagan.

Galtieri: Good afternoon, Mr. President. This is President Galtieri of Argentina speaking to you. It's a pleasure to greet you, Mr. President. I wonder if you hear me well. I can hear you very well.

President: Yes, I can hear just fine, and I know that you wish to continue our conversations. I'm pleased to have this opportunity to talk with you. I'm at your disposal.

Galtieri: Mr. President, I'm very glad to be able to speak to you once again as a follow-up to our first conversation that we had which, perhaps, was not very fruitful on the night of April 1 at a time from our standpoint the essence of the issue was resolved and we were not in a position to ~~respond~~ ^{accede} immediately to your request. Can you hear me, Mr. President?

accede
~~respond~~

President: Yes, just fine.

Galtieri: Mr. President, I think it is highly important for Argentina, for us to have assistance, the assistance of your government, in this very difficult situation, that we are experiencing in our relationship with Great Britain which, among other things, is affecting the solidity of the Western World. Can you hear me, Mr. President?

President: I can hear you, yes, very well.

Galtieri: Mr. President, it is the profound wish, my personal wish, and that of the government, and the people of Argentina, to see to it that this situation does not deteriorate.

continue to

And it is furthermore our wish that with the assistance of the United States, that both countries seek an acceptable solution within the framework of UN Resolution 502 taking into account the whole background of this problem that goes back 150 years both from the standpoint of the bilateral relationship as well as all that has been debated, all that has been, the way the problem has been dealt with, the whole record of the UN in its debates of the problem ^{at} within the past 16 years with reference to the issue of decolonization around the world. Did you read me, Mr. President?

President: Yes, I have all of that.

Gaitieri:-

President: Was that all the President wanted to say BEFORE, ^{or do you} want a response from me now or does he have more?

Gaitieri: Mr. President, going on with one more paragraph, if you ^{will} allow me, I also wish to have you realize that with the advance of the British fleet toward the South Atlantic region we feel that there is an increasingly dangerous situation, not only between our two countries, between the two countries involved in the South Atlantic, but it also our concern that this issue not deteriorate to a point where other nations might become involved and that this might not become tangled up and exacerbated by outside interests. We wish to continue the good relationships that have been established between our two governments, your administration and my administration, over recent times, relationships which have become ^{so} close, Mr. President, and for this reason we wish to continue this relationship with reference to all aspects of the international scene

and within this context it is my fear that if the British continue their hostilities in the direction of the South Atlantic Region the situation may slip out of our grasp, may slip out of our control and become an extremely delicate issue for the world at large. Did you understand me, Mr. President?

President: Yes, let me just say I'm committed to a peaceful resolution of this dispute. This is important to us because as I've said both countries involved, yours and Great Britain, are friends of ours so our good offices will continue to be extended to you both. Now, Secretary Haig will be arriving in Buenos Aires in a few hours to continue our efforts, and he is my personal representative and I have full faith and confidence in him. Now, Mr. President, I am committed wholeheartedly to a peaceful resolution of this dispute. I agree that a war in this Hemisphere between two Western nations, both friendly to the United States, is unthinkable. It would be a tragedy and disaster for the Western world, and a bitter legacy for future generations of Argentines, Britons, and Americans. The only one who could profit from such a war would be the Soviet Union and its slave state allies, and it would be a common --~~misfortunate~~ misfortune for the rest of us. So I hope we can work out a solution to this. Over.

Galtieri: Thank you, Mr. President, I share your views. But with the passing of every hour and with the continuation of the blockade by Great Britain along our coasts and as the British fleet continues to advance toward the South Atlantic, I fear that whether we wish to see this or not, this may bring about some serious misfortune that we will not be in a position to pinpoint or to keep under control immediately and will have the consequence of aggravating the present situation. And this is why I think that we must be very careful in regard to this because it is obvious that there are attempts also on the part of the American press and the world press as we noticed in some of the coverage yesterday, in particular to bring about some split in the very good relationships that have been established between our two

countries in recent times; between our governments, ^{our} two governments, ^{our} two nations, and between our two administrations. For this reason I fear that as time passes we may be faced with certain events that would very difficult to bring under control.

It goes without saying, Mr. President, that I am thankful to you for dispatching Secretary Haig once again to Buenos Aires and, of course, I will again be in touch with him tomorrow and we will have lengthy conversations tomorrow to focus on

~~this~~ ~~the~~ problem which is of ^{your} concern to us. Over.

President: Mr. President, as I said, I sincerely hope that we all can reach an agreement soon. And I share your fears about an ^{some} inadvertent act creating the trouble that ^{you'd} we will be unable to retreat from. I know that you and the British Prime Minister are leaders of courage, principle and determination and we're going to need all of that in these days ahead.

We're also going to need, though, flexibility and restraint from both you and the British. And, if we have that we can get through this together. I know we have a ways to go but there must be a just and peaceful solution to this very serious matter and one that, ~~as~~ I said the other night, when I spoke to you, that takes into consideration the interests of those people living on the islands. And, Secretary Haig will be with you soon and I will be relaying what we have just said to my own staff here, and again you have my assurance about him and that he is my personal representative.

It's a most sensitive situation and I want to assure you that I know others have used propaganda to try and indicate that there is some division ~~between~~ between us. We are doing nothing to undermine our role as an honest broker in these talks. Peace, Mr. President, is our common cause. To preserve peace between our two good friends, you and Britain. That is my personal goal. And that is our single objective. We've been careful to maintain good relations with both ^{you} and the British, because if we didn't we couldn't continue to offer our help in this. At the same time, failure to live up to existing obligations, going beyond them, would jeopardize our ^{position} to play an honest role. The role both Argentina and the United Kingdom want. So, I want you to know that we are maintaining this neutral attitude. I hope we can continue to, if fighting breaks out

this will be much more difficult. I have ~~undergone~~^{undergone} some criticism myself simply because we're trying to remain neutral. But I intend to do that as we continue to negoti~~tate~~^{ate} this and I just hope and pray that there will be no hostile act from either side while we continue to work this out.

Galtieri: I thank you very much, Mr. President, I'm sure that ^{you} are aware that the purpose of this call was to continue the dialogue that we had ~~initiated~~^{initiated} on the first of April for a direct communication between two presidents and to continue the cordial and friendly ~~and friendly~~ relationships ^{with} the understanding that has been developed between both countries in our search on behalf of the Western world for solutions to our problems in order to avoid any divisions ~~of~~^{of} splits ~~among~~^{between} us. I only wish to add, Mr. President, the following consideration. The people of the United States in 1976 ^(sic) and the Northern Hemisphere began their struggle against colonialism and achieved their independence. We, in the Southern Hemisphere, began this struggle in the last century, perhaps somewhat later than you did, and we achieved independence for our people and now on the 2nd of April 1982, we have tried to make this independence complete. Perhaps achieving ^{independence as a state} independence later than you did, Mr. President. I hope that you can appreciate our sentiments in this regard, Mr. President. Over.

President: I understand your concern and assure you again that we are going to stay in this with the sincere hope that we can help bring about a peaceful solution and maintain the friendship that we have with the nations of the Western world and I appreciate your calling me and look forward to hearing from Secretary Haig after you have had a chance to discuss matters with him and so I will say thank you again and good night.

Galtieri: Talk to you again, Mr. President, thank you very much.

Galtieri: Good night to you, Mr. President.

President: Good night. (We'll talk again, some time.)

MEMORANDUM

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

WPC HAS SEEN

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ACTION

BY

NLRR m37111 #116811

NARA DATE 6/22/15

April 15, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: WILLIAM P. CLARK *WPC*

SUBJECT: Proposed Phone Call from President Galtieri of Argentina

Issue

President Galtieri of Argentina has asked to talk to you by phone today.

Facts

President Galtieri's office phoned the White House this morning to arrange a phone call between you and President Galtieri. We have set a mutually agreed upon time of 5:00 p.m. today.

Discussion

President Galtieri has made known that the call is not "urgent" but he wishes to continue the dialogue begun with you last week shortly before Argentine forces occupied the Falkland Islands.

The best guess is President Galtieri is looking for reassurance from you that the U.S. remains committed to a peaceful resolution of the dispute and an evenhanded approach to the problem.

He may, however, raise some new points to be considered in the negotiations. More likely, Galtieri may seek your personal assurance that the United States is not providing intelligence and other forms of military assistance to the British during the crisis as was reported in the American press two days ago.

It is important that Galtieri hear from you your personal concern regarding the crisis and your commitment to bringing about a peaceful resolution of the dispute. It would also be a good idea to phone Prime Minister Thatcher in order to brief her on your talk with President Galtieri.

Attached are talking points for your use in talking today with President Galtieri (Tab A).

Recommendation

OK

No

✓ That you talk to President Galteri and then contact Mrs. Thatcher at the earliest convenient moment.

Attachment

Prepared by:
Roger W. Fontaine

Tab A Talking Points

SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS FOR PHONE CALL FROM
PRESIDENT GALTIERI OF ARGENTINA

-- MR. PRESIDENT, GOOD TO HEAR FROM YOU AGAIN. I KNOW YOU EXPRESSED A WISH TO CONTINUE OUR CONVERSATIONS. I AM VERY PLEASED TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO TALK WITH YOU. I AM AT YOUR DISPOSAL.

(PRESIDENT GALTIERI WILL THEN MAKE HIS STATEMENT OF CONCERN. HE WILL PROBABLY OUTLINE THE SITUATION AS HE SEES IT AND SEEK REASSURANCE THAT THE U.S. AND YOU PERSONALLY ARE COMMITTED TO AN EVENHANDED APPROACH TO SETTLING THE DISPUTE. YOUR RESPONSE SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING POINTS.)

-- I REMAIN COMMITTED TO A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THIS DISPUTE. THIS IS IMPORTANT TO US BECAUSE AS I HAVE SAID, TWO OF OUR FRIENDS ARE INVOLVED. OUR GOOD OFFICES WILL CONTINUE TO BE EXTENDED TO YOU BOTH.

-- SECRETARY HAIG IS MY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND HE WILL BE ARRIVING IN BUENOS AIRES IN A FEW HOURS TO CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS. I HAVE FULL FAITH AND CONFIDENCE IN SECRETARY HAIG.

-- I MUST TELL YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, I AM COMMITTED WHOLEHEARTEDLY TO A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE DISPUTE. A WAR IN THIS HEMISPHERE BETWEEN TWO WESTERN NATIONS, FRIENDLY TO THE U.S., IS UNTHINKABLE. IT WOULD BE A TRAGEDY AND A DISASTER FOR

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NLRR M371/1 # 116812
BY RW NARA DATE 6/22/15

FOR THE WESTERN WORLD. IT WOULD BE A BITTER LEGACY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS OF ARGENTINES, BRITONS, AND AMERICANS. ONLY THE SOVIET UNION AND ITS ALLIES WOULD PROFIT AT OUR COMMON MISFORTUNE.

-- SO I HOPE, SIR, THAT WE CAN COME TO AN AGREEMENT SOON.

-- I MUST ALSO SAY IN ALL CANDOR THAT IF FIGHTING BEGINS, IT WILL BE VERY DIFFICULT TO MAINTAIN THIS COUNTRY'S NEUTRALITY. I HAVE BEEN CRITICIZED ALREADY FOR MAINTAINING GOOD RELATIONS WITH BOTH SIDES. I WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO, BUT IF FIGHTING BREAKS OUT, IT WILL BE VERY, VERY DIFFICULT.

-- BOTH YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, AND THE BRITISH PRIME MINISTER ARE LEADERS OF COURAGE, PRINCIPLE, AND DETERMINATION. WE ARE GOING TO NEED THAT COURAGE AND DETERMINATION -- ALL OF IT -- IN THE COMING DAYS AND WEEKS.

-- WE WILL ALSO NEED FLEXIBILITY AND RESTRAINT FROM YOU AND THE BRITISH IN THE COMING DAYS AND WEEK.

-- WITH FLEXIBILITY AND RESTRAINT WE CAN GET THROUGH THIS TOGETHER. WE STILL HAVE A WAYS TO GO, BUT I AM CONFIDENT WE CAN FIND A JUST AND PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THIS VERY SERIOUS MATTER.

(IF PRESIDENT GALTIERI PRESSES SPECIFIC NEGOTIATING POINTS THE FOLLOWING POINT IS RECOMMENDED.)

-- MR. PRESIDENT THESE ARE INTERESTING POINTS (PROPOSALS). AS YOU KNOW, SECRETARY HAIG WILL BE WITH YOU SOON. I SHALL REVIEW YOUR POINTS WITH MY STAFF AND WITH HIM. MEANWHILE, YOU HAVE MY ASSURANCE THAT SECRETARY HAIG IS MY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE.

(IF PRESIDENT GALTIERI ASKS FOR A PERSONAL ASSURANCE THAT THE U.S. IS NOT PROVIDING INTELLIGENCE AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO THE BRITISH, AS REPORTED IN THE PRESS, THE PRESIDENT SHOULD RESPOND:)

-- I REALIZE YOUR CONCERNS. AND IT IS A MOST SENSITIVE SITUATION. MR. PRESIDENT I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT THE UNITED STATES IS DOING NOTHING TO UNDERMINE ITS CRITICALLY IMPORTANT ROLE AS HONEST BROKER IN THESE TALKS. PEACE, MR. PRESIDENT, IS OUR COMMON CAUSE. TO PRESERVE PEACE BETWEEN OUR GOOD FRIENDS IS MY PERSONAL GOAL.

(IF PRESSED BY PRESIDENT GALTIERI)

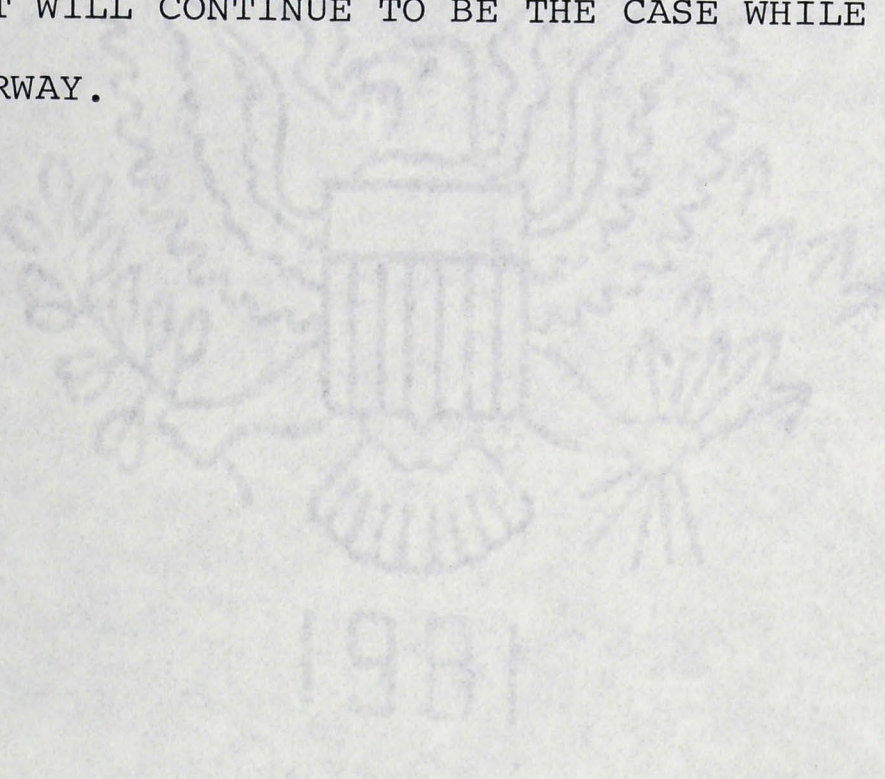
-- MR. PRESIDENT, I REITERATE THAT A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE DISPUTE IS MY SINGLE OBJECTIVE.

-- WE HAVE BEEN CAREFUL TO MAINTAIN GOOD RELATIONS WITH BOTH YOU AND THE BRITISH. IF WE DID NOT WE COULD NOT CONTINUE TO OFFER GOOD OFFICES. WE ARE KEENLY AWARE OF THAT.

-- AT THE SAME TIME, FAILURE TO LIVE UP TO EXISTING OBLIGATIONS -- OR GOING BEYOND THEM -- WOULD JEOPARDIZE OUR ABILITY TO PLAY AN HONEST ROLE -- A ROLE BOTH ARGENTINA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM BOTH WANT.

(IF FURTHER PRESSED)

-- MR. PRESIDENT THE UNITED STATES, AS SECRETARY HAIG POINTED OUT YESTERDAY, HAS NOT ACCEDDED TO REQUESTS THAT GO BEYOND THE SCOPE OF CUSTOMARY PATTERNS OF COOPERATION BASED ON EXISTING BILATERAL AGREEMENTS. THAT WILL CONTINUE TO BE THE CASE WHILE OUR PEACE EFFORTS ARE UNDERWAY.



MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION

April 15, 1982

SIGNED

MEMORANDUM FOR WILLIAM P. CLARK

FROM: ROGER W. FONTAINE *RY*

SUBJECT: President Galtieri's Phone Call to the President

President Galtieri of Argentina wants to phone the President today. Our information is that he has no specific issue or proposal in mind, but wants to continue the dialogue begun last week.

My best guess is that Galtieri mostly wants reassurance that the U.S. remains evenhanded in settling the Falkland Islands question.

President Galtieri may, however, bring to the President's attention some new points for the negotiating process. Galtieri may also want a direct assurance from the President that the United States is not providing the British with intelligence and other support as reported two days ago in the American press.

Attached at Tab I is a memo from you to the President as well as talking points (Tab A).

Recommendation

That you sign the memo to the President forwarding the talking points.

Approve ✓

Disapprove _____

Attachments

- Tab I Memo to the President
- Tab A Talking Points

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 BY RW NARA DATE 6/22/15

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116814	MEMCON RE. RR AND MARGARET THATCHER	2	4/17/1982	B1

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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Brian,

Pass to Ed Roberts
for file. Also file in 575 II.

W

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BUENOS AIRES NZ

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ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
116813	MEMO	ROGER FONTAINE TO CLARK RE. PRESIDENT GALTIERI'S PHONE CALL TO RR R 6/22/2015 M371/	1	4/15/1982	B1
116814	MEMCON	RE. RR AND MARGARET THATCHER	2	4/17/1982	B1
116815	MEMO	WILLIAM CLARK TO ALEXANDER HAIG RE. PRESIDENT'S CALL TO PRESIDENT GALTIERI [W/NOTATIONS] R 6/22/2015 M371/	6	4/15/1982	B1
116816	CABLE	WH02011 R 6/22/2015 M371/	2	4/15/1982	B1
116817	CABLE	WH02019 R 6/22/2015 M371/	11	4/16/1982	B1
116818	MEMCON	RE. CONVERSATION BETWNN RR AND PRESIDENT MUBARAK R 6/22/2015 M371/	1	4/25/1982	B1
116819	MEMCON	RE. CONVERSATION BETWNN RR AND PRIME MINISTER BEGIN R 6/22/2015 M371/	2	4/25/1982	B1

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