

George W. Bush Presidential Library

Mandatory Review 2012-0654-M

Collection: National Security Council – Records and Access Management

Series: Memcons and Telcons

Folder Title: Telcon with President Hu of China, 09/21/2008

RESTRICTION CODES

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

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
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- P5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
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PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

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- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Records Not Subject to FOIA

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EYES ONLY
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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

LIMITED ACCESS

6818

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with President of
China (U)

PARTICIPANTS: President Hu Jintao

Interpreter: Michael Yan
Notetakers: Scott Allen, Leah Awrich,
Laura Mullin

DATE, TIME September 21, 2008, 8:47-8:57 p.m. EDT
AND PLACE: The Residence

The President: Mr. President, thank you for taking my call, and it's good to hear your voice. First of all, thank you for the hospitality for me and my family at the Olympics. I know you are happy with the success of the Games. The second thing I want to talk about -- two points very quickly, I don't want to take too much of your time. The second thing was the financial, international financial markets. My government sees the seriousness of the issue and is taking bold measures and working with congress to pass measures to get stability not only to our markets, but also to the international markets. I know there is some concern in your government, and I want to let you know I take this issue extremely seriously, and I know you do as well. And the other thing is on North Korea. I am concerned that the North Korean Government's latest actions -- I just want to confirm with you that the Six-Party Talks remain strong, and that China and the United States must speak with a singular voice about this issue. We don't want a rocket test or them starting a plant to derail the progress of the Six-Party Talks. I know Condi will talk to your Foreign Minister about this, and I just want our governments to be together on this issue. That's why I'm calling. ~~(c)~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LIMITED ACCESS

Classified by: John I. Pray, Jr.

Reason: 1.4 (b) (d)

Declassify on: 9/23/18

CAUTION: A Memorandum of a Telephone Conversation (TELCON) is not a verbatim transcript of a discussion. The text in this document records the notes and recollections of Situation Room Duty Officers and NSC policy staff assigned to listen and memorialize the conversation in written form as the conversation takes place. A number of factors can affect the accuracy of the record, including poor telecommunications connections and variations in accent and/or interpretation. The word "inaudible" is used to indicate portions of a conversation that the note taker was unable to hear.

An interpreter facilitated this conversation. Differences in interpretation may result in subtle differences in the exact meaning of phrases. Please do not quote from the material in this TelCon/Call Notes.

DECLASSIFIED IN PART
Authority 2012-01654-M, #3383
By Sdh NARA, Date 9/25/2019

President Hu: Good evening, Mr. President, I'm delighted to talk to you. Thanks to the support of the international community, the Beijing Olympics and the Paralympic Games were a full success. I thank you, the American president, the American Government, and people of the United States for their support. Thank you for briefing me on the latest developments on the U.S. economy and financial markets. The United States Government has enacted new measures which will improve the economy for the better. This is not only in U.S. interests, but also in the interests of China, and conducive to maintaining stability in the international financial market.

(b)(1)1.4b, (b)(1)1.4d

Mr. President, in recent years, U.S.-China relations have always maintained good momentum and involvement, enjoyed high level exchanges, and cooperation in all fields. Not long ago Vice Premier Wang Qishan headed a Chinese delegation to Los Angeles, and co-chaired the J.C.C.T. meeting with the U.S. side. Premier Wen Jiabao will go to New York as head of the Chinese delegation tomorrow to attend related events at the United Nations. The Strategic Dialogue and the Strategic Economic Dialogue are also making good progress. The Chinese side is ready to continue to work with the U.S. side to intensify dialogue, exchanges, and cooperation, to handle issues of mutual interests and concerns, in particular the issue of Taiwan. Mr. President, thank you once again for calling me today. I look forward to meeting you in Lima at the APEC meeting in November.

~~(e)~~

The President: Thanks for the call, sir. (U)

President Hu: Bye. (U)

The President: Bye-bye. (U)

-----End Conversation-----

George W. Bush Presidential Library

Mandatory Review 2012-0654-M

Collection: National Security Council – Records and Access Management

Series: Memcons and Telcons – Vladimir Putin Binder

Folder Title: Telcon with President Hu Jintao of China, 08/21/2006

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~~SECRET~~

4935

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telecon with President Hu of China on
August 21, 2006 (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
President Hu

Interpreter: Michael Yan
Notetaker: Deanna Kim, Todd Whatley, and
Jim Cooney

DATE, TIME August 21, 2006, 7:40 - 8:01 a.m. EDT
AND PLACE: Oval Office

The President: Good morning or good day. (U)

President Hu: Good morning, Mr. President. I am very happy to talk to you. (U)

The President: Thank you for taking my call. I have three reasons I am calling, then I will be glad to listen to your response. First, I want to express condolences for the recent typhoon that took the lives of some of your citizens. It was a huge storm, and we, of course, mourn the loss of life. I know you do as well. Secondly, Secretary Paulson is anxious to lead a delegation to conduct a very thorough strategic economic dialogue with your government. The Secretary is very familiar with your great country, and, as you know, he is anxious to make sure that our economic relationships remain strong. So he is anxious to be the President's Special Representative for the Strategic Economic Dialogue. The idea would be to hold formal sessions with a counterpart every 6 months. Paulson is my top economic advisor, and I would hope that if you agree with this idea of creating an economic partnership, that you would appoint your top economic advisor. Perhaps the Premier could be such a person. Thirdly, Mr. President, I want to visit briefly about North Korea. We are committed to a nuclear-free Korean peninsula. I believe our coordination on this very important issue has been excellent, and I thank you very much. I know my

~~SECRET~~

Classified by: V. Phillip Lago
Reason: 1.4(d)
Declassify on: 8/22/16

DECLASSIFIED IN PART
Authority LP4W3 2012-0654-17 #3384
By sdw NARA, Date 9/25/2019

friend, Ambassador Randt, recently met with the Foreign Ministry. He expressed to them my concern that indications are that the North Koreans will conduct a nuclear test. Some of our military people are absolutely certain it is going to happen. Others are unsure. Nevertheless, we must plan as if he were going to test. Therefore, the first step for your great country and ours is to strategize on how to prevent such a thing from happening because that would be a terrible signal. [redacted]

[redacted] (b)(1)1.4b, (b)(1)1.4d [redacted]

[redacted] So step one is to work closely together and have a message in concert if we think he is going to test and then what to do if he does test. We view a test as a very grave decision. My call is to reiterate our desire to work closely with you. So I want to thank you for taking the phone call, sir, and will listen to your response. ~~(S)~~

President Hu: Mr. President, to begin with let me thank you for the warm sentiments you have expressed to the Chinese Government and people. This summer, some provinces along the southeast coast of China have been hit incessantly by strong typhoons which have resulted in human casualties and property loss. We have taken countermeasures to go all out to help the people who have been hit by this disaster and to reconstruct the areas that have been hit. As things stand now, it seems that these disaster-hit areas are gradually getting back to normal. When the Chinese people suffered from serious natural disasters, the American Government and you, Mr. President, have expressed your warm feelings to the Chinese people, and, again, I would like to thank you for your warm sentiments. Mr. President, Secretary Paulson is an old friend of ours. We certainly welcome him to China as the special envoy of you, Mr. President. I listened very attentively to your proposal, Mr. President, on the U.S.-China strategic economic dialogue. I also share your view, Mr. President, that with the ever-closer economic ties between China and the United States, stronger dialogue between the United States and China on other areas would be conducive to the economic development of both countries. It will also have a positive impact on global economic growth and on the stability and security of the world at large. The Chinese side agrees in principle to the establishment of a China-U.S. strategic dialogue mechanism, and I am willing to study the specific proposals that may be put forward by the U.S. side. My tentative idea, at this moment, is to designate a leading official from the State Council to work together with his counterpart in the United States, Secretary Paulson, to establish the strategic dialogue. I also believe that the China-U.S. Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade (JCCT) and

joint Economic Commission (JEC) and other mechanisms also play an important economic role. I believe the two sides need to continue to make full use of these mechanisms, and I am sure you also agree with me on this matter. ~~(c)~~

The President: Yes. ~~(c)~~

President Hu: Mr. President, the Chinese side takes the information forwarded by Ambassador Randt to us very seriously on a possible nuclear test by the DPRK, and we are very much concerned by the development. As you know, Mr. President, the Chinese side has long held that the Korean Peninsula needs to be denuclearized. We believe that we need to seek a peaceful and diplomatic solution to this issue so we can ensure stability on the Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asia as a whole. [redacted]

[redacted]
(b)(1)1.4b, (b)(1)1.4d

[redacted] Mr. President, I will certainly expect the Chinese foreign ministry to keep in touch with the American side at any time. I am also willing to listen to your views, Mr. President, on those matters as well. ~~(s)~~

The President: Well, Mr. President, thank you very much. I am meeting with Secretary Paulson this afternoon and look forward to sharing with him this information at that time. I just want to assure you that Secretary Paulson will be coordinating very closely with Secretary Rice and myself because economics is part of a very important relationship. As to North Korea, I think it is going to be very important for our experts to continue to consult with one another. I think the Six-Party framework is really important right now. I know that we will be able to accomplish our objective peacefully, if North Korea sees that the United States, China, and others are working closely together. My problem is that I do not have much insight into the thinking of the Government of North Korea. I suspect that his attitude is that if he tries to frighten everybody, we will be inclined to make concessions. First, he fired the rockets. Now, he will try another tactic. I think it is very important for him to understand that such tactics will not work, that there is a better way forward. [redacted]

[redacted]
(b)(1)1.4d

There is a better choice for Kim Jong-il than the one he appears to be making, and that is my current thinking. Of course, if

you have any ideas, I need to hear from you, sir, today or any time. ~~(S)~~

President Hu: Mr. President, you and I have had a very good conversation on the phone. On the nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula, I agree with you, Mr. President, that we need to work together within the framework of the Six-Party Talks.

(b)(1)1.4b, (b)(1)1.4d

The Chinese side will maintain communications with the United States on this matter. I look forward to meeting you again, Mr. President, and another exchange of views with you on the sidelines of the upcoming APEC meeting in Vietnam. ~~(S)~~

The President: Well, that would be good. I am sure we will talk before then. You are playing an important role in the world. ~~(C)~~

President Hu: I will take your word. ~~(C)~~

The President: Thank you for the phone call. (U)

President Hu: Please give my regards to Laura. (U)

The President: And to your lovely wife as well. (U)

President Hu: Good-bye. (U)

The President: Good-bye. (U)

-- End of Conversation --

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Meeting with the President Hu of China ~~(C)~~

PARTICIPANTS: United States
 The President
 Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State
 Sue Schwab, U.S. Trade Representative
 Joseph Hagin, Deputy Chief of Staff
 Jim Jeffrey, Deputy National Security
 Advisor
 Dana Perino, Press Secretary
 Dan Price, Deputy National Security Advisor
 for International Economic Affairs
 Chris Hill, Assistant Secretary of State for
 East Asia and Pacific Affairs
 Dennis Wilder, Special Assistant to the
 President and Senior Director for East
 Asian Affairs (Notetaker)
 James Brown, (Interpreter)

China
 President Hu
 Wang Gang, Director of the General Office of
 the CPC Central Committee
 Yang Jiechi, Minister of Foreign Affairs
 Ma Kai, Minister of National Development and
 Reform Commission
 Bo Xilai, Minister of Commerce
 Wang Huming, Director of the Policy Research
 Office of the CPC Central Committee
 Chen Shiuj, Director of the Office of the
 President
 He Yafei, Assistant Minister of Foreign
 Affairs
 Liu Jieyi, Director General of Department of
 North America and Oceanic Affairs for the
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 Dai Qingli, Interpreter

DATE, TIME September 6, 2007, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.,
AND PLACE: Premier's Room, InterContinental Hotel,
 Sydney, Australia

President Hu: Good afternoon. You are looking very fit,
Mr. President. ~~(C)~~

The President: Thanks, you exaggerate but I am feeling good.
The Australians tell me that you are saying nice things to them
about your relationship with me. Thanks for that. I think we
have a good relationship. It's good to see you. ~~(C)~~

President Hu: I have also noted your positive public comments
on our relationship. It's been 3 months since we met in Germany
and I think our relations continue to progress. Last month, I
met with Secretary Paulson in Beijing and we had an in-depth
discussion about the Strategic Economic Dialogue (SED). This
dialogue is helping us to build mutual trust. China has made
the decision to buy \$3 billion of nuclear power plants from
Westinghouse. Its our largest nuclear purchase to date. ~~(C)~~

The President: Thanks. That's good. ~~(C)~~

President Hu: Thanks to our joint efforts, we are making
positive progress on the Korean Peninsula. We are in close
communication on (b)(1)1.4b, (b)(1)1.4d as well. This all demonstrates
that China and the United States are not just stakeholders in
the international order but we are constructive partners. The
international situation is still undergoing profound changes and
we have a lot of important issues to contend with in order to
maintain growth and stability in the world. I am committed to
working with you in a constructive, cooperative partnership.
Here are the issues I think we need to work together on. ~~(C)~~

(b)(1)1.4b, (b)(1)1.4d

(b)(1)1.4b, (b)(1)1.4d

(b)(1)1.4b, (b)(1)1.4d

(b)(1)1.4b, (b)(1)1.4d

(b)(1)1.4b, (b)(1)1.4d

The President: Even we non-economists understand that. ~~(C)~~

(b)(1)1.4b, (b)(1)1.4d

The President: I value our commercial ties. I think they are very important. Vice Premier Wu Yi's relationship with Secretary Paulson demonstrates your far sighted approach on this. With such high levels of trade, there are inevitably going to be problems. (b)(1)1.4b, (b)(1)1.4d

we must address the problems so as not to allow protectionists to use this as an excuse. Addressing this issue head-on is smart. You are right that the trade balance won't change over night. But as you stimulate your consumer society, we will begin to get the balance right. It will take time. Of course, your currency reforms will not solve the trade balance on their own but the fact that you are willing to take steps will show the American people your good will. When Wu Yi visited with me, she talked about your efforts to increase imports. Our biggest challenge is to weaken the influence of those arguing for protectionist measures. Thank you for making the decision to buy American power plants. I hope you bought them because they were the best available. I also hope you will keep buying our beef and pork. Wu Yi knows all about my concerns on this front. The beef industry affects a lot of people. ~~(S)~~

Let me just say a few words about Doha. I am sure that China wants the Doha round to succeed. But I must tell you that there are many out there who are not really for it. I'm for it and we will work hard to make it work. That's why I brought my trade representative, Ambassador Schwab, with me to APEC. ~~(C)~~

On climate change, the United States and China get bad press. The perception is that we don't care about the environment. At

least that is what they are saying in Europe about us. I'd like to prove them wrong. The Sydney Declaration is a good document. The goals outlined will not stop your economic growth but it will send a good signal about your intentions. Mr. President, you may not even know the details of the declaration and some are telling me that you are nervous about it. But I really believe you should sign it. ~~(c)~~

On this issue, the United States is really your best friend. You see, I believe that you are concerned about your environment. You want to fix the problems. When we hold the major economies meeting in Washington, we should set goals that we can realistically achieve. If we have a good statement here at APEC, it will create momentum. Tariffs should be taken off technologies and equipment that can improve the environment. You should let the world come to you and compete for your market in this arena. Environmental issues are going to be solved by technological solutions. This is something you can do in the near term for your people. I don't believe in the European solutions but we need to show the world we care without wrecking our economies. ~~(c)~~

(b)(1)1.4b, (b)(1)1.4d

The President: It will also require developing countries to allow greater market access. Do you think Doha will work? ~~(c)~~

President Hu: I think so. I am optimistic that we can find those points of common interest. ~~(c)~~

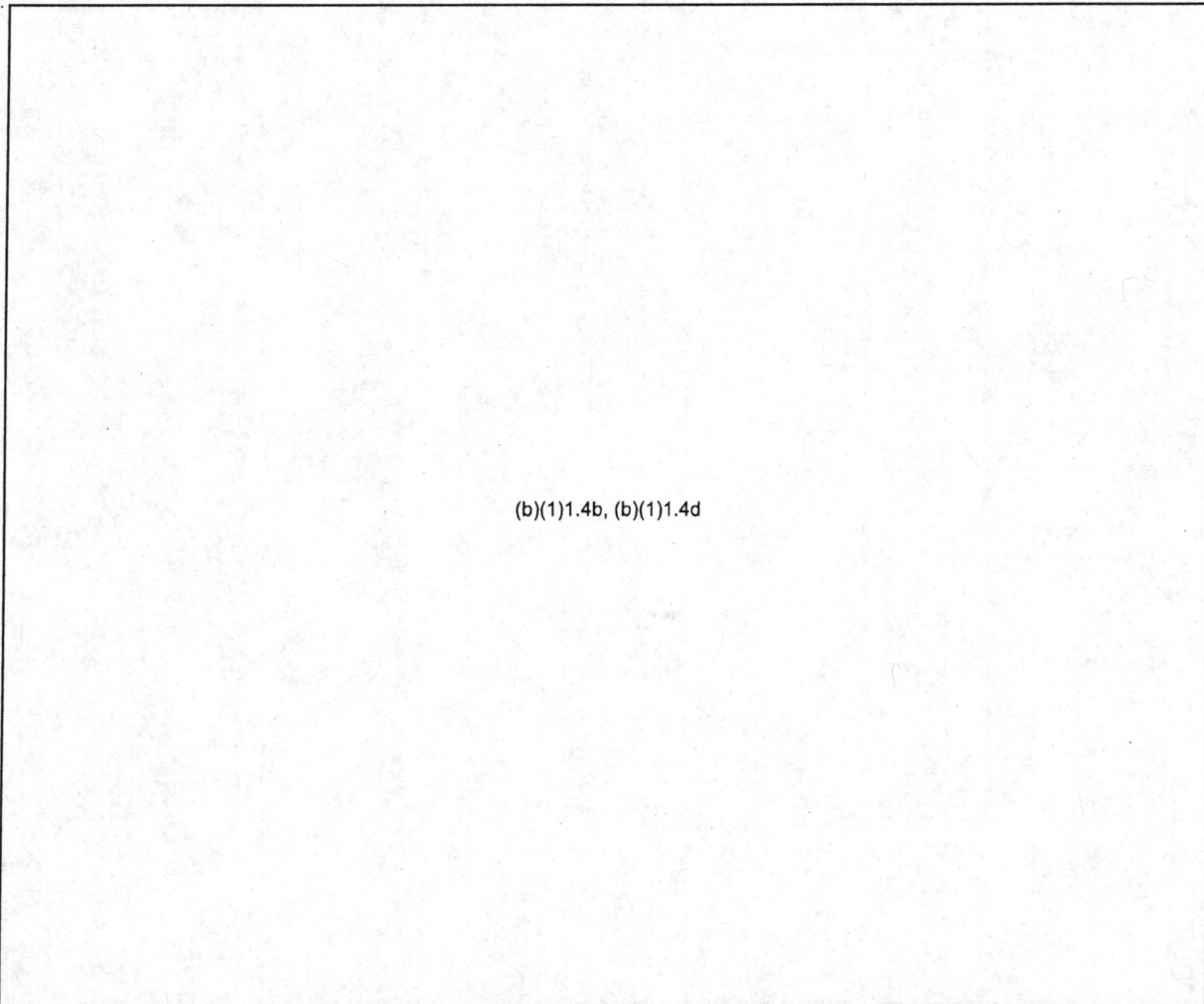
The President: I hope you are right, but I am worried. ~~(c)~~

(b)(1)1.4b, (b)(1)1.4d

The President: It sounds like we are in agreement.
Secretary Rice, do you see any remaining problems? ~~(c)~~

Secretary Rice: I think there is still some work to be done on the exact language in the text but that can be handled at lower levels. ~~(c)~~

President Hu: Mr. President, let me thank you for this deep and candid discussion. ~~(c)~~



(b)(1)1.4b, (b)(1)1.4d

The President: (b)(1)1.4b, (b)(1)1.4d
How is your Olympic planning going?
~~(c)~~

President Hu: The construction is going very smoothly. We are working hard to address transportation and environmental concerns. ~~(c)~~

The President: You know of course that the Olympics will place you in the glare of world attention. We are not going to politicize this event. We are going to send our athletes. If there are issues that come up, we want to discuss them constructively. I'm coming to Beijing because I want to see good sports. I just hope you let the American team win a couple medals. (Laughter) ~~(C)~~

President Hu: The Olympics belong to the entire world.
 (b)(1)1.4b, (b)(1)1.4d I believe we have already invited you and your entire family. ~~(C)~~

The President: I'm coming but you may not want my entire family. I've got my hotel reservations already. It's a bit pricey. Secretary Rice is eager to come too. So is my brother. It will be a great sporting event. I'm coming for the opening week. What about the upcoming Party Congress? What's going to happen? ~~(C)~~

President Hu: Well, its still more than a month away. ~~(C)~~

The President: Now that China is a big power, everyone watches your politics closely. I wish you the best. ~~(C)~~

President Hu: Thank you, Mr. President. ~~(C)~~

--End of Conversation--