

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Meeting with Kozo Watanabe, Minister of Trade and Industry (MITI)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
Torkel Patterson, Director of Asian Affairs, NSC, Notetaker

Kozo Watanabe, Minister of Trade and Industry (MITI)
Noboru Hatakeyama, Vice Minister of International Trade and Industry (MITI)
Nobuyori Kodaira, Director, North American Affairs, MITI
Takakazu Kuriyama, Ambassador to the United States

DATE, TIME May 1, 1992 - 10:30-10:45 a.m.
AND PLACE: Oval Office

The President welcomed Minister Watanabe to the White House and the Oval Office. (U)

The President: Welcome my friend, good to see you here in the Oval Office. (U)

Minister Watanabe: Thank you, it's my privilege to be here. (U)

The President: I'd like to talk about the Uruguay Round and about the environment. We need to stay together on the environmental meeting in Brazil. We have to find a way to keep the developing countries from sending a big bill to the developed countries and to the United States. (✓)

The Uruguay Round is important, and I hope you'll be able to do your best to support this. (✓)

I hosted a meeting here with the EC President Delors and we discussed agricultural issues. I hope to reach a solid position by the end of June. (✓)

We hope we are not put in a position of isolation in Rio. I will not slow down the economy for an anemic recovery because of the Earth Summit. (✓)

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Minister Watanabe: I agree with you completely, that's exactly my personal feeling. Twenty years ago I took a strong stand on behalf of the environment. There will be technology breakthroughs. I hope we'll be able to achieve those that will help us with the environment. It is Japan and the United States which should cooperate; we can do this, we have the technology to achieve this. (U)

The President: Kind of like the old North-South issues. I do not want to see a bill to the United States, Europe and Japan to pay for past inequities. But there is something up in New York that we can agree to and should. (U)

Minister Watanabe: I am told that we will do what we can do to find a way to cooperate. The U.S. and Japan have expertise and we should make this available. (U)

By the way, I visited China and while I was in China I told them that human rights were important. (U)

The President: Good, I'm glad to hear that. I'm trying to help them, you know, with MFN. (U)

Minister Watanabe: I did discuss it. (U)

The President: Thank you very much. I've got to go now. Nice to have had you with us. (U)

Minister Watanabe: Thank you. (U)

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