

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

0078 8/25/88

SUBJECT: President's Telephone Conversation with Mrs. Thatcher

DATE AND TIME: June 12, 1987
3:44 - 3:47 p.m.
Berlin, Tempelhof Airport

In opening the telephone call, the President congratulated Mrs. Thatcher on her magnificent victory. He emphasized how pleased he was that Mrs. Thatcher had been reelected. Mrs. Thatcher replied that the results had been terrific for the Conservative Party. She was thrilled. The margin of victory had exceeded her wildest expectations. It looked like she was set to remain in office for another 3-4 years, declared Mrs. Thatcher.

Calling it a major accomplishment, the President said he understood she was the first Prime Minister to be elected three times in a row since 1832. Mrs. Thatcher thanked the President for his kind remarks and asked if the President was having a good day in Berlin.

The President replied that his visit was going well. He had just spoken before the Brandenburg Gate, where he called for the Wall to come down. These remarks, he felt, had been especially well-received. Mrs. Thatcher said she heard the crowd had roared its approval. She then asked about "Nancy." The President responded that "Nancy is doing fine" and also sends her warmest congratulations.

Mrs. Thatcher noted that she hoped to come see the President "for a long talk" before he departs for vacation in August. The President said he hoped a visit could be worked in before too long.

Returning to the election, the President noted the press had often tried to get him to say something awkward during the campaign. He had felt like "kicking back" at them but had successfully resisted. Mrs. Thatcher stressed the President handled these questions "beautifully."

The President underscored that he looked forward to continuing his close working partnership with Mrs. Thatcher. In thanking the President for calling, the Prime Minister emphasized that she also looked forward to working with "her good friend, Ron." She then sent her "love to Nancy."

The call concluded at 3:47 p.m.