

Extract of telephone conversation PM + Gov Carter 13.1.77

Governor Carter: Well, I'm very proud of that. I have asked Vice-President Mondale to come over to talk to you in some depth immediately after Inauguration and I think he would be able to speak directly for me, pending our own personal visit together. And obviously one of the things that he would like to discuss on my behalf is the prospect of our bilateral meeting in the future but also perhaps some mutual discussion with other nations' leaders on economic and perhaps other matters.

/Prime Minister:

CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

Prime Minister: Well, Mr. President, we are making arrangements to receive Senator Mondale and I would like him to meet some of our Ministers, if that is agreeable to him and to you, as well as myself, so that we can range over any topics that he wishes to raise with us, not just with me but with the Ministers who really know what is going on. And we'll make sure that he is properly looked after and to have any discussions that you want him to have with us.

Governor Carter: I think it might be good to point out that he is eager to come on a working mission and, perhaps even more than has been the case in the past, he is very close to me and can speak with maximum authority. Also I think it's good to have Senator Mondale bring to you the broad outlines of an economic stimulus package that I have presented to the Congress. It has been fairly well publicised already but I'd like him to be able to answer your questions about it. We are very much aware of the world-wide economic problems that we face. We're all in it together. I think to whatever degree we can strengthen one another, it will help us all.

Prime Minister: That's right, Mr. President. Let me say that whatever you do, as I said right at the very first sentence, whatever you do has an impact upon us. And therefore you'll get tired of hearing this from us, as the months go by. The world is getting more and more interdependent. The impact of the American economy upon Europe, and upon Britain in particular, quite apart from the other countries, is quite marked and this is why I think that the idea that you have had of having a pretty early meeting, at a summit level, is a good one. It ought to be properly prepared, but I myself am in favour of it and I was very glad indeed to hear that you were.

Governor Carter: All right. I'll ask Senator Mondale to discuss with you when he arrives in your country your own ideas about the time and place.

/Prime Minister:

CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL

- 3 -

Prime Minister: Yes, we have got some ideas about both those things naturally. And we would want to fit in with your convenience. I think we must all try and fit in with you this time round because you have just taken over and you've got the responsibilities, and I know what it is like. But I think on the whole we would prefer it rather earlier than later, not because we want to rush you, Mr. President, but we think that there are a number of problems that do exist on which it is worth exchanging views. We would want to see it prepared properly beforehand but I would feel that we had lost a chance really if we let it go till, say, July or so. That is my own feeling about it and you will find that the atmosphere when we meet and talk is of a totally informal character and nature. We don't commit each other to anything in particular, even though we move in certain general directions. And I would myself prefer a pretty early meeting.

Governor Carter: That sounds like a reasonable suggestion.