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MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with President Kaczynski of the Republic of Poland (C)

PARTICIPANTS: President Lech Kaczynski

Interpreter: President Kaczynski's Interpreter
Notetakers: Will Hudson, Randal LaBine, Brian Sollom

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: August 11, 2008, 7:49 - 7:54 p.m. GMT
Air Force One

The President: Mr. President. (U)

President Kaczynski: Hello, Mr. President. (U)

The President: Yes, sir. How are you? Go ahead, please. (U)

President Kaczynski: I'm very pleased to hear you. The situation is extremely difficult because losing Georgia is not only losing Georgia, but also losing Azerbaijan and other post-Soviet states. I'll do everything within my power. I'm going there with the other presidents. The key lies in your hands. (C)

The President: Mr. President, we agree with your position. We're putting around-the-clock pressure on the Russians. I'll

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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 Please do not quote from the material in this TELCON.

be giving a public statement in an hour and a half after I get off the airplane. Our message to the Russians is very clear. I know you're going to Tbilisi. I appreciate it. We'll coordinate our efforts. (C)

President Kaczynski: Thanks for your support, sir. Let me say again, no other country in the world has as much influence as your country. I'm convinced Georgia will surrender if left by itself, and Azerbaijan will surrender. The next object will be Ukraine. (C)

The President: That's right. We understand. The government of the people of Georgia should be decided by the people of Georgia. (C)

President Kaczynski: I know. I know you're dedicated to democracy and spreading democracy. Apart from democracy, the western world has its interests. There are huge resources in Azerbaijan and neighboring countries. If Georgia folds, Azerbaijan and those resources will fall into the hands of Russia. I know Saakashvili is not an ideal democrat and not up to your or my standards. I'm sure he's a better democrat than the Russians' would-be successor. (C)

The President: We're standing with the Government of Georgia. I've made my position clear to the President and Prime Minister of Russia. Condi Rice is in touch with them. We share your concern, Mr. President. It's a bad situation. (C)

President Kaczynski: Thank you very much, sir. When I'm in Georgia, I'll try to use the American Embassy to pass on the information I get there. (C)

The President: Okay, please do. Thank you for your courage and leadership. (C)

President Kaczynski: Thank you, sir, for the conversation. I hope we can overcome this crisis. (C)

The President: Me too. Stay strong. (C)

-- End of Conversation --