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**Collection:** Executive Secretariat, National Security Council:  
Head of State File: Records, 1981-1989

**Folder Title:** Italy: Prime Minister Craxi  
(8408677-8408889)

**Box:** 18

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# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

## Ronald Reagan Library

**Collection Name** EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT, NSC: HEAD OF STATE FILE

**Withdrawer**

CAS 1/23/2009

**File Folder** ITALY: PM CRAXI (8408677-8408889)

**FOIA**

M08-222

**Box Number** 18

GERLINI

3

| ID    | Doc Type | Document Description                                                                                                                 | No of Pages | Doc Date   | Restrictions |
|-------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| 62108 | LETTER   | PM CRAXI TO REAGAN (IN ITALIAN)<br><b>R 1/12/2011 M222/1</b>                                                                         | 2           | ND         | B1           |
| 62109 | LETTER   | UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF LETTER FROM PM CRAXI TO REAGAN RE LAW OF THE SEA<br><b>R 1/12/2011 M222/1</b>                              | 2           | 11/25/1984 | B1           |
| 62110 | LETTER   | DUPLICATE OF ITEM #62108<br><b>R 1/12/2011 M222/1</b>                                                                                | 2           | ND         | B1           |
| 62111 | LETTER   | DUPLICATE OF ITEM #62109<br><b>R 1/12/2011 M222/1</b>                                                                                | 2           | 11/25/1984 | B1           |
| 62112 | LETTER   | DUPLICATE OF ITEM #62109<br><b>R 1/12/2011 M222/1</b>                                                                                | 2           | 11/25/1984 | B1           |
| 62113 | LETTER   | DUPLICATE OF ITEM #62108<br><b>R 1/12/2011 M222/1</b>                                                                                | 2           | ND         | B1           |
| 62114 | MEMO     | CHARLES HILL TO ROBERT MCFARLANE RE LETTER FROM ITALIAN PM CRAXI<br><b>R 1/12/2011 M222/1</b>                                        | 1           | 12/5/1984  | B1           |
| 62115 | MESSAGE  | UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF MESSAGE TO THE REAGAN FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF ITALY<br><b>R 1/12/2011 M222/1</b> | 2           | ND         | B1           |

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]

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]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

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|-------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| 62116 | MESSAGE  | MESSAGE TO THE REAGAN FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF ITALY (ITALIAN)<br><i>R 1/12/2011 M222/1</i> | 2           | 11/29/1984 | B1           |

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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# Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

## Ronald Reagan Library

Case:1027

Archivist: David Bridge

| DOC | TYPE                                                                                                                                           | DATE       | PAGES | CLASS. | CLOSED     |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------|--------|------------|
| 1   | Letter                                                                                                                                         | 11-25-1984 | 2     |        | 06-06-2003 |
|     | NSC #: WHORM Subject #:<br>To: The President<br>From: Bettino Craxi<br>Subject: Original Italian Text [5-6]<br><b>Restriction : FOIA(b)1</b>   |            |       |        |            |
| 2   | Letter                                                                                                                                         | 11-25-1984 | 2     |        | 06-06-2003 |
|     | NSC #: WHORM Subject #:<br>To: The President<br>From: Bettino Craxi<br>Subject: Unofficial Translation [7-8]<br><b>Restriction : FOIA(b)1</b>  |            |       |        |            |
| 3   | Letter                                                                                                                                         | ND         | 2     |        | 06-06-2003 |
|     | NSC #: WHORM Subject #:<br>To: The President<br>From: Bettino Craxi<br>Subject: Original Italian Text [10-11]<br><b>Restriction : FOIA(b)1</b> |            |       |        |            |

**COLLECTION:** Executive Secretariat, NSC: Records

**SERIES:** Head of State Files

**TITLE:** Italy: Prime Minister Craxi (8408677 - 8408889)

**OA/ID NUMBER:** Box 18

**BOX NUMBER:** 18

**Folder #:** 1 of 1

### Restriction Codes

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]  
 PRA-1 -National Security Classified Information.  
 PRA-2 -Relating to the appointment to Federal Office.  
 PRA-3 -Release would violate a Federal statute.  
 PRA-4 -Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information.  
 PRA-5 -Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors.  
 PRA-6 -Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.  
 C. -Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donors' deed of gift.  
 PRM. -Closed as a personal record misfile.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]  
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| DOC | TYPE                                                                                                                                                                     | DATE       | PAGES | CLASS. | CLOSED     |
|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------|--------|------------|
| 4   | Letter                                                                                                                                                                   | 11-25-1984 | 2     |        | 06-06-2003 |
|     | NSC #: WHORM Subject #:<br>To: The President<br>From: Bettino Craxi<br>Subject: Unofficial Translation [12-13]<br><b>Restriction : FOIA(b)1</b>                          |            |       |        |            |
| 5   | Letter                                                                                                                                                                   | 11-25-1984 | 2     |        | 06-06-2003 |
|     | NSC #: WHORM Subject #:<br>To: The President<br>From: Bettino Craxi<br>Subject: Unofficial Translation [16-17]<br><b>Restriction : FOIA(b)1</b>                          |            |       |        |            |
| 6   | Letter                                                                                                                                                                   | ND         | 2     |        | 06-06-2003 |
|     | NSC #: WHORM Subject #:<br>To: The President<br>From: Bettino Craxi<br>Subject: Italian Text [18-19]<br><b>Restriction : FOIA(b)1</b>                                    |            |       |        |            |
| 7   | Memorandum                                                                                                                                                               | 12-05-1984 | 1     |        | 06-06-2003 |
|     | NSC #: 8408889 WHORM Subject #:<br>To: Robert McFarlane<br>From: Charles Hill<br>Subject: Letter from Italian Prime Minister Craxi [21]<br><b>Restriction : FOIA(b)1</b> |            |       |        |            |

COLLECTION: Executive Secretariat, NSC: Records

SERIES: Head of State Files

TITLE: Italy: Prime Minister Craxi (8408677 - 8408889)

OA/ID NUMBER: Box 18

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Folder #: 1 of 1

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| DOC                                                                                                                                              | TYPE   | DATE       | PAGES | CLASS. | CLOSED     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|------------|-------|--------|------------|
| 8                                                                                                                                                | Letter | 11-29-1984 | 2     |        | 06-06-2003 |
| NSC #: WHORM Subject #:<br>To: The President<br>From: Bettino Craxi<br>Subject: Unofficial Translation [23-24]<br><b>Restriction : FOIA(b)1</b>  |        |            |       |        |            |
| 9                                                                                                                                                | Letter | 11-29-1984 | 2     |        | 06-06-2003 |
| NSC #: WHORM Subject #:<br>To: The President<br>From: Bettino Craxi<br>Subject: Italian Text of Message [25-26]<br><b>Restriction : FOIA(b)1</b> |        |            |       |        |            |

COLLECTION: Executive Secretariat, NSC: Records

SERIES: Head of State Files

TITLE: Italy: Prime Minister Craxi (8408677 - 8408889)

OA/ID NUMBER: Box 18

BOX NUMBER: 18

Folder #: 1 of 1

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
UNCLASSIFIED

ID 8408677

White House Guidelines: August 28, 1997  
By 108 NARA, Date 9/15/02

RECEIVED 28 NOV 84 18

TO PRESIDENT

FROM CRAXI, BETTINO

DOCDATE 25 NOV 84

PETRIGNANI, RINALDO

26 NOV 84

STATE

28 NOV 84

KEYWORDS: ITALY

LOS

HS

SUBJECT: LTR TO PRES PM CRAXI RE UN CONVENTION ON LAW OF THE SEA

ACTION: PENDING STATE RECOMS

DUE: 05 DEC 84 STATUS D FILES ~~WE~~ PA

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

STATE

COBB

LEVINE

STARK

THOMPSON

COMMENTS

REF# 8432453

LOG

NSCIFID

( DR )

| ACTION OFFICER (S) | ASSIGNED | ACTION REQUIRED       | DUE | COPIES TO |
|--------------------|----------|-----------------------|-----|-----------|
|                    | — 12/12  | Rec'd state memo      |     |           |
|                    | C 12/12  | No response necessary |     | CO, CV    |
|                    |          |                       |     |           |
|                    |          |                       |     |           |
|                    |          |                       |     |           |

DISPATCH

W/ATTCH FILE (C)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(Classification)

DECLASSIFIED

Department of State Guidelines, 1997

By WOS NARA, Date 5/13/02

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8432453

Date December 11, 1984

For: Mr. Robert C. McFarlane  
National Security Council  
The White House

Reference:

To: President Reagan From: Prime Minister Craxi  
Date: November 25, 1984 Subject: Law of the Sea Convention

WH Referral Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ NSC ID# \_\_\_\_\_  
(if any)

\_\_\_\_\_ The attached item was sent directly to the  
Department of State.

Action Taken:

- \_\_\_\_\_ A draft reply is attached.
- \_\_\_\_\_ A draft reply will be forwarded.
- \_\_\_\_\_ A translation is attached.
- \_\_\_\_\_ An information copy of a direct reply is attached.
- X We believe no response is necessary for the reason  
cited below.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The Department of State has no objection to the  
proposed travel.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other.

Remarks:

This letter is an answer to a letter from President Reagan

*James W. Bea*  
Charles Hill  
Executive Secretary

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(Classification)

OADR





S/S 8432453

United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

November 28, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Robert M. Kimmitt  
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

Subject: Alerting NSC on Presidential  
Correspondence

Enclosed is a copy of a letter to President Reagan from the Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi which is transmitted for your information.

This document was received in the Executive Secretariat Information Management Section on November 27, 1984.

*Charles E. Jackson, Jr.*  
Director, S/S-I  
Information Management Section  
Executive Secretariat  
ext. 23836

*Ambasciata d'Italia  
Washington*

*L'Ambasciatore*

November 26, 1984

Dear Mr. President:

I have the honour to convey to you the text of the message from the Italian Prime Minister, the Honorable Bettino Craxi, accompanied by an unofficial translation.

I avail myself of this opportunity to express to you the assurances of my highest consideration.

*Yours Sincerely  
Rinaldo Petrigiani*

Rinaldo Petrigiani

---

The President  
White House

*Ambasciata d'Italia  
Washington*

Caro Presidente ed Amico,

la Sua lettera del 9 novembre u.s. relativa alla Convenzione delle Nazioni Unite sul diritto del Mare ha formato oggetto della mia piu' attenta considerazione avendo soprattutto a mente la collaborazione reciproca dei nostri due Paesi in materia di sfruttamento minerario dei fondi marini manifestatasi tra l'altro nella conclusione dell'Accordo di Ginevra del 3 agosto scorso.

Il Governo italiano sta valutando i vari e complessi elementi del problema in vista della decisione da prendere nei prossimi giorni.

Fra tali elementi figura la constatazione che, soprattutto nelle due sessioni di quest'anno della Commissione Preparatoria, si e' manifestata in seno ai Paesi in Via di Sviluppo una certa disponibilita' a raccogliere talune tesi dei Paesi Industrializzati in materia di regime di fondi marini, elemento questo che ha contribuito a creare una atmosfera costruttiva nello svolgimento dei lavori della Commissione.

D'altro canto ritengo che proprio attraverso la piena partecipazione alla attivita' della Commissione Preparatoria sara' possibile contribuire alla formazione di quel consenso, che e' regola per la presa di decisioni in seno a tale organo, che tenga conto dei legittimi interessi dei Paesi Industrializzati occidentali.

Nel valutare la opportunita' della firma della Convenzione, il Governo Italiano terra' inoltre presente che al momento attuale l'entrata in vigore della Convenzione appare piuttosto lontana nel tempo. In tale contesto anche la recente lettera indirizzatami dal Segretario Generale dell'ONU per invitare l'Italia a sottoscrivere la Convenzione accenna alla possibilita' di una firma senza "impegno per il futuro per quanto attiene alla ratifica".

Vorrei poi aggiungere che, se si prescinde dalla parte relativa allo sfruttamento minerario del mare profondo, la Convenzione nel suo insieme appare positiva per la codificazione, conforme in larga misura agli specifici interessi italiani, di una serie di norme consuetudinarie.

Ulteriore elemento del quale il Governo da me presieduto terra' conto e' quello relativo al quadro mediterraneo dove alcuni paesi (quali Libia), non l'hanno ancora firmata perche' considerano inaccettabili quei principi di liberta' di navigazione sanciti dalla Convenzione stessa e che costituiscono un principio basilare di diritto internazionale sia per l'Italia che per gli Stati Uniti.

./..

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR M08-222#67108

BY RW NARA DATE 1/12/11

La firma dell'Italia sara' in ogni caso accompagnata da una ferma dichiarazione relativa alle serie perplessita' che continua a suscitare la Parte XI della Convenzione, perplessita' che, di conseguenza, impediscono l'avvio delle procedure per la ratifica, a meno che sostanziali miglioramenti possano essere realizzati nel regime dei fondi marini.

Con stima ed amicizia,

Bettino Craxi

*Ambasciata d'Italia  
Washington*

Unofficial translation

Rome, November 25, 1984

Dear Mr. President and Friend:

Your letter of November 9, 1984, concerning the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, was the object of my most careful consideration, keeping in mind, above all, the reciprocal cooperation between our two Countries in the sector of mineral exploitation of the sea beds which emerged during the conclusion of the general Agreement of last August 3rd.

The Italian Government is presently evaluating the various and complex elements connected to the problem, in view of the decision which has to be undertaken during the next few days.

Among those elements is the ascertainment that, particularly during the two sessions of the Preparatory Commission of this year, the developing countries showed a certain willingness to accept some of the thesis brought forth by the industrialized countries on the subject of the regulations applying to the sea beds, an element which contributed to create a constructive atmosphere during the course of the Commission's work.

On the other hand, I believe that precisely through a full participation in the activity of the Preparatory Commission, it will be possible to contribute to the establishment of a consensus - which is required in order to reach decisions within that body - which will take into consideration the legitimate interests of the Western industrialized Countries.

In evaluating the desirability to adhere to the Convention, the Italian Government will also keep in mind that, at the present time, the entering into effect of the Convention seems to be somewhat remote in the future. Within this context, even the recent letter, sent to me by the Secretary General of the United Nations inviting Italy to sign the Convention, mentions the possibility of signing the document without "commitment for the future with regard to its ratification".

I should also like to add that, if the part pertaining to deep sea mining is not considered, on the whole the Convention seems to be positive for the codification of a series of consuetudinary rules and in great measure in line with the specific Italian interests.

---

The President

White House

DECLASSIFIED  
NLRR M08-222#62109  
BY RW NARA DATE 11/21/11

*Ambasciata d'Italia  
Washington*

A further element which my Government will take into consideration is the one concerning the Mediterranean basin where some countries (like Lybia) have not yet signed the Convention because they consider unacceptable those very principles of freedom of navigation, established by the same, which constitute, for both Italy and the United States, the basic principles of international law.

The Italian signature will be accompanied, in any case, by a firm statement concerning the serious perplexities which Part XI of the Convention still raises. These perplexities, consequently, hinder the start of the procedures for the ratification, unless substantial improvements can be brought in the regulations governing the sea beds.

With high esteem and friendship, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Bettino Craxi

5  
Ambasciata d'Italia  
Washington

L'Ambasciatore

November 26, 1984

Dear Mr. President:

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*for security*  


Rinaldo Petrignani

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The President  
White House

10

*Ambasciata d'Italia  
Washington*

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./.

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR M08-222 #62110  
BY RW NARA DATE 1/12/11



La firma dell'Italia sara' in ogni caso accompagnata da una ferma dichiarazione relativa alle serie perplessita' che continua a suscitare la Parte XI della Convenzione, perplessita' che, di conseguenza, impediscono l'avvio delle procedure per la ratifica, a meno che sostanziali miglioramenti possano essere realizzati nel regime dei fondi marini.

Con stima ed amicizia,

Bettino Craxi

681 12

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Unofficial translation

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The Italian Government is presently evaluating the various and complex elements connected to the problem, in view of the decision which has to be undertaken during the next few days.

Among those elements is the ascertainment that, particularly during the two sessions of the Preparatory Commission of this year, the developing countries showed a certain willingness to accept some of the thesis brought forth by the industrialized countries on the subject of the regulations applying to the sea beds, an element which contributed to create a constructive atmosphere during the course of the Commission's work.

On the other hand, I believe that precisely through a full participation in the activity of the Preparatory Commission, it will be possible to contribute to the establishment of a consensus - which is required in order to reach decisions within that body - which will take into consideration the legitimate interests of the Western industrialized Countries.

In evaluating the desirability to adhere to the Convention, the Italian Government will also keep in mind that, at the present time, the entering into effect of the Convention seems to be somewhat remote in the future. Within this context, even the recent letter, sent to me by the Secretary General of the United Nations inviting Italy to sign the Convention, mentions the possibility of signing the document without "commitment for the future with regard to its ratification".

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---

The President  
White House

DECLASSIFIED  
NLRR 1008-222#62111  
BY RW NARA DATE 1/12/11

*Ambasciata d'Italia  
Washington*

A further element which my Government will take into consideration is the one concerning the Mediterranean basin where some countries (like Lybia) have not yet signed the Convention because they consider unacceptable those very principles of freedom of navigation, established by the same, which constitute, for both Italy and the United States, the basic principles of international law.

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Sincerely yours,

Bettino Craxi



S/S 8432453 8677  
United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

November 28, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Robert M. Kimmitt  
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

Subject: Alerting NSC on Presidential  
Correspondence

Enclosed is a copy of a letter to President Reagan from the Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi which is transmitted for your information.

This document was received in the Executive Secretariat Information Management Section on November 27, 1984.

*Charles H. Jackson, Jr.*  
Director, S/S-I  
Information Management Section  
Executive Secretariat  
ext. 23836

*Ambasciata d'Italia  
Washington*

*L'Ambasciatore*

November 26, 1984

Dear Mr. President:

I have the honour to convey to you the text of the message from the Italian Prime Minister, the Honorable Bettino Craxi, accompanied by an unofficial translation.

I avail myself of this opportunity to express to you the assurances of my highest consideration.

*Yours Sincerely  
Rinaldo Petrignani*

Rinaldo Petrignani

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The President  
White House

8432453

*Ambasciata d'Italia  
Washington*

Unofficial translation

Rome, November 25, 1984

Dear Mr. President and Friend:

Your letter of November 9, 1984, concerning the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, was the object of my most careful consideration, keeping in mind, above all, the reciprocal cooperation between our two Countries in the sector of mineral exploitation of the sea beds which emerged during the conclusion of the general Agreement of last August 3rd.

The Italian Government is presently evaluating the various and complex elements connected to the problem, in view of the decision which has to be undertaken during the next few days.

Among those elements is the ascertainment that, particularly during the two sessions of the Preparatory Commission of this year, the developing countries showed a certain willingness to accept some of the thesis brought forth by the industrialized countries on the subject of the regulations applying to the sea beds, an element which contributed to create a constructive atmosphere during the course of the Commission's work.

On the other hand, I believe that precisely through a full participation in the activity of the Preparatory Commission, it will be possible to contribute to the establishment of a consensus - which is required in order to reach decisions within that body - which will take into consideration the legitimate interests of the Western industrialized Countries.

In evaluating the desirability to adhere to the Convention, the Italian Government will also keep in mind that, at the present time, the entering into effect of the Convention seems to be somewhat remote in the future. Within this context, even the recent letter, sent to me by the Secretary General of the United Nations inviting Italy to sign the Convention, mentions the possibility of signing the document without "commitment for the future with regard to its ratification".

I should also like to add that, if the part pertaining to deep sea mining is not considered, on the whole the Convention seems to be positive for the codification of a series of consuetudinary rules and in great measure in line with the specific Italian interests.

The President  
White House

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NLRR MD8-222#62112  
BY RW NARA DATE 1/12/11

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*Ambasciata d'Italia  
Washington*

A further element which my Government will take into consideration is the one concerning the Mediterranean basin where some countries (like Lybia) have not yet signed the Convention because they consider unacceptable those very principles of freedom of navigation, established by the same, which constitute, for both Italy and the United States, the basic principles of international law.

The Italian signature will be accompanied, in any case, by a firm statement concerning the serious perplexities which Part XI of the Convention still raises. These perplexities, consequently, hinder the start of the procedures for the ratification, unless substantial improvements can be brought in the regulations governing the sea beds.

With high esteem and friendship, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Bettino Craxi

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*Ambasciata d'Italia  
Washington*

Caro Presidente ed Amico,

la Sua lettera del 9 novembre u.s. relativa alla Convenzione delle Nazioni Unite sul diritto del Mare ha formato oggetto della mia piu' attenta considerazione avendo soprattutto a mente la collaborazione reciproca dei nostri due Paesi in materia di sfruttamento minerario dei fondi marini manifestatasi tra l'altro nella conclusione dell'Accordo di Ginevra del 3 agosto scorso.

Il Governo italiano sta valutando i vari e complessi elementi del problema in vista della decisione da prendere nei prossimi giorni.

Fra tali elementi figura la constatazione che, soprattutto nelle due sessioni di quest'anno della Commissione Preparatoria, si e' manifestata in seno ai Paesi in Via di Sviluppo una certa disponibilita' a raccogliere talune tesi dei Paesi Industrializzati in materia di regime di fondi marini, elemento questo che ha contribuito a creare una atmosfera costruttiva nello svolgimento dei lavori della Commissione.

D'altro canto ritengo che proprio attraverso la piena partecipazione alla attivita' della Commissione Preparatoria sara' possibile contribuire alla formazione di quel consenso, che e' regola per la presa di decisioni in seno a tale organo, che tenga conto dei legittimi interessi dei Paesi Industrializzati occidentali.

Nel valutare la opportunita' della firma della Convenzione, il Governo Italiano terra' inoltre presente che al momento attuale l'entrata in vigore della Convenzione appare piuttosto lontana nel tempo. In tale contesto anche la recente lettera indirizzatami dal Segretario Generale dell'ONU per invitare l'Italia a sottoscrivere la Convenzione accenna alla possibilita' di una firma senza "impegno per il futuro per quanto attiene alla ratifica".

Vorrei poi aggiungere che, se si prescinde dalla parte relativa allo sfruttamento minerario del mare profondo, la Convenzione nel suo insieme appare positiva per la codificazione, conforme in larga misura agli specifici interessi italiani, di una serie di norme consuetudinarie.

Ulteriore elemento del quale il Governo da me presieduto terra' conto e' quello relativo al quadro mediterraneo dove alcuni paesi (quali Libia), non l'hanno ancora firmata perche' considerano inaccettabili quei principi di liberta' di navigazione sanciti dalla Convenzione stessa e che costituiscono un principio basilare di diritto internazionale sia per l'Italia che per gli Stati Uniti.

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BY RW NARA DATE 11/12/11



La firma dell'Italia sara' in ogni caso accompagnata da una ferma dichiarazione relativa alle serie perplessita' che continua a suscitare la Parte XI della Convenzione, perplessita' che, di conseguenza, impediscono l'avvio delle procedure per la ratifica, a meno che sostanziali miglioramenti possano essere realizzati nel regime dei fondi marini.

Con stima ed amicizia,

Bettino Craxi

NSC/S PROFILE

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ID 8408889

RECEIVED 06 DEC 84 15

TO PRESIDENT

FROM CRAXI, BETTINO

DOCDATE 29 NOV 84

HILL, C

05 DEC 84

KEYWORDS: ITALY

ARMS CONTROL

USSR

HS

SUBJECT: PM CRAXI RESPONSE TO PRES 22 NOV LTR / ARMS CONTROL NEGOTIATIONS IN  
JAN

ACTION: NO REPLY NECESSARY PER STATE DUE: STATUS C FILES PA

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

COBB

SOMMER

MATLOCK

KRAEMER

FORTIER

COMMENTS

*Thompson*

REF# 8432784 LOG NSCIFID ( HW HW )

ACTION OFFICER (S) ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED DUE COPIES TO

DISPATCH \_\_\_\_\_ W/ATTCH FILE \_\_\_\_\_ (C)



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United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

December 5, 1984

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~~SECRET~~WHITE HOUSE  
SITUATION ROOMMEMORANDUM FOR MR. ROBERT C. MCFARLANE  
THE WHITE HOUSE

SUBJECT: Letter from Italian Prime Minister Craxi

Prime Minister Craxi has sent a reply to the President's letter of November 22, announcing U.S.-Soviet agreement to begin new arms control negotiations in January. Craxi's letter to the President (attached) describes the U.S.-Soviet agreement as a "major turning-point" and expresses the deep appreciation of the Italian Government. He suggests that it may now be necessary to "modify the negotiating structures which existed before the interruption of the Geneva negotiations." In that event he believes it would also be appropriate to "adjust the mechanism of consultations among the Allies."

Since Craxi's letter is a reply to the President's letter, and in view of Secretary Shultz's upcoming meetings with NATO Foreign Ministers in Brussels, we do not believe a reply to Craxi's letter is necessary.

Charles Hill  
Executive Secretary

Attachment: As stated.

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BY RW NARA DATE 1/12/11

*Ambasciata d'Italia  
Washington*

*L'Ambasciatore*

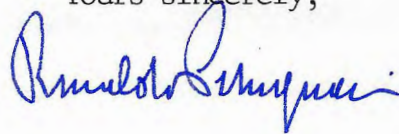
November 29, 1984

*Dear Mr. President,*

I have the honor to convey to you a message from the President of the Council of Ministers of Italy, the Honorable Bettino Craxi, accompanied by an unofficial translation.

I avail myself of this opportunity to express to you, Mr. President, the assurance of my greatest respect and my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,



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The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.



*Embassy of Italy  
1601 Fuller St. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009*

Unofficial translation of the message addressed to the President of the United States by the President of the Council of Ministers of Italy, dated November 29, 1984.

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"Dear Mr. President and Friend:

Thank you for your message of November 22 last, with which you informed me of the latest understanding between the United States and the Soviet Union concerning the resumption of dialogue on arms control.

This is a major turning-point for all of us and I would like to express to you the deep appreciation of the Italian Government for the positive results you have attained. There is no doubt that the steadfastness shown by the Allies together with a shrewd flexibility and an intelligent propositional role have all been of decisive importance.

There are, of course, many more problems that must be overcome before being able to get to the heart of negotiations and in this regard the preparatory talks which are to take place in January between the Secretary of State and Minister Gro myko in Geneva fulfill a necessary purpose.

Considering that the cohesion shown by the Allies on the problem of Intermediate Nuclear Forces has certainly been a major factor in the evolution that has taken place in the Soviet positions, it will be all the more important in the future to consolidate this cohesion. This can be achieved by continuing to ensure - via the process of consultation which in the past has furnished such positive results - the involvement of the European members of the Alliance in the negotiation.

I believe, in fact, that it may well be necessary to modify the negotiating structures which existed before the interruption of the Geneva negotiations, and to adopt formulas in which the problems of pre-eminent European interest can be dealt together with those of more direct interest to the balance of power between the United States and the Soviet Union. If, as I perceive it, we were to take this approach, it would become extremely appropriate to adjust the mechanism of consultations

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BY RWJ NARA DATE 1/21/11

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among the Allies, so that the role of the Europeans will in no way be diminished. It is a source of satisfaction to me to learn from your message that you share my opinion on this aspect of the importance of the problem.

Finally I would like to assure you that the Italian Government intends to continue offering its contribution, in close contact with the Atlantic Allies, for a favourable and positive development of the dialogue which will begin in January.

With respect and friendship,

Bettino Craxi"



*Embassy of Italy*  
*1601 Fuller St. N.W.*  
*Washington, D.C. 20009*

November 29, 1984

TEXT OF THE MESSAGE ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES  
BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF ITALY.

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"Caro Presidente ed amico,

La ringrazio del suo messaggio del 22 novembre con cui mi ha informato dell'intesa intervenuta tra gli Stati Uniti e l'Unione Sovietica in ordine alla ripresa del dialogo sul controllo e la riduzione degli armamenti.

Si tratta di una svolta di grande importanza per tutti noi e desidero esprimerLe il vivo apprezzamento del governo italiano per il positivo risultato conseguito. Non vi e' dubbio che la fermezza dimostrata dagli alleati, non disgiunta da un'accorta flessibilita' e da un intelligente ruolo propositivo, hanno avuto una importanza decisiva.

Certo, molte difficolta' dovranno essere ancora superate prima che si possa entrare nel vivo di una trattativa e sotto questo profilo i colloqui preparatori che saranno avviati dal Segretario di Stato e dal Ministro Gromyko a Ginevra in gennaio rispondono ad una obiettiva necessita'.

Proprio perche' la coesione mostrata dagli alleati sul problema delle FNI ha certamente costituito un fattore di rilievo nella evoluzione intervenuta nelle posizioni sovietiche, sara' di grande importanza consolidare tale coesione in avvenire continuando ad assicurare, attraverso il processo di consultazione che ha dato risultati cosi' positivi in passato, il coinvolgimento dei membri europei dell'Alleanza nella trattativa.

Ritengo, infatti, che possa rendersi necessario modificare le strutture negoziali che esistevano prima della interruzione delle

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BY RW NARA DATE 1/12/11

trattative di Ginevra ed adottare formule in cui i problemi di preminente interesse europeo vengano trattati insieme a quelli di piu' diretto rilievo per il rapporto di forze tra Stati Uniti ed Unione Sovietica. Se, come mi sembra di capire, ci si avviasse su tale approccio, diverrebbe oltremodo opportuno adattare i meccanismi di consultazioni tra alleati cosi' che il ruolo degli europei non ne risulti diminuito. E' per motivo di compiacimento rilevare dal suo messaggio che anche Lei e' consapevole della importanza di questo aspetto del problema.

Desidero assicurarLe infine che il governo italiano intende continuare ad offrire il suo concorso, in stretta concertazione atlantica, per un favorevole e positivo sviluppo del dialogo che avra' inizio nel prossimo gennaio.

Con stima ed amicizia,

Bettino Craxi."