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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

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Collection Name NORTH, OLIVER: FILES

Withdrawer

DLB 1/3/2007

File Folder TERRORISM: UNITED STATES-BRITISH (03/22/1986-05/26/1986)

FOIA

F02-071/3

Box Number 14

COLLINS

33

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
31693	MEMO	NICHOLAS PLATT TO JOHN POINDEXTER, RE: US-UK BILATERAL TALKS ON TERRORISM, MARCH 5, 1986 PAR 8/4/2008 F02-071/3; UPHELD 1/19/2011 M09-299 #31693	1	3/22/1986	B1
31694	MEMCON	US-UK BILATERAL MEETING ON TERRORISM, MARCH 5, 1986, WASHINGTON, DC - DAVID GOODALL, ET AL. & OLIVER WRIGHT, ET AL.	10	3/10/1986	B1
31695	AGENDA	US-UK BILATERAL MEETING MARCH 5, 1986	2	ND	B1
31696	LIST	US-UK BILATERAL MEETING ON TERRORISM - MARCH 5, 1986, WASHINGTON, DC - PARTICIPANTS	1	ND	B1
31697	MEMO	DUPLICATE OF #31693 PAR 8/4/2008 F02-071/3; UPHELD 1/19/2011 M299/1 #31697	1	3/22/1986	B1
31698	MEMCON	DUPLICATE OF #31694	10	3/10/1986	B1
31699	AGENDA	DUPLICATE OF #31695	2	ND	B1

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

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31700	LIST	DUPLICATE OF #31696	1	ND	B1

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March 22, 1986

31693

MEMORANDUM FOR VADM JOHN M. POINDEXTER
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: US-UK Bilateral Talks on Terrorism, March 5, 1986

The semi-annual and very frank talks with the UK on terrorism (participants list and agenda attached), covered bilateral cooperation; a review of the Libyan situation and sanctions problems; multilateral cooperation with western allies; US-UK coordination in response to a terrorist threat; retaliation/use of force; and, very briefly, Irish terrorism.

Key UK points: Redacted Redacted Redacted Redacted Redacted Redacted Redacted Redacted Redacted Redacted

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A copy of the Memorandum of Conversation reporting the talks is attached.

Nicholas Platt
Nicholas Platt
Executive Secretary

Attachments:

- 1. Memorandum of Conversation of US-UK Bilateral Talks on Terrorism
- 2. Agenda of the talks
- 3. List of participants

~~SECRET~~
Decl: OADR

DECLASSIFIED IN PART
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31694	MEMCON US-UK BILATERAL MEETING ON TERRORISM, MARCH 5, 1986, WASHINGTON, DC - DAVID GOODALL, ET AL. & OLIVER WRIGHT, ET AL.	10	3/10/1986	B1

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31695	AGENDA US-UK BILATERIAL MEETING MARCH 5, 1986	2	ND	B1

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31696	LIST US-UK BILATERAL MEETING ON TERRORISM - MARCH 5, 1986, WASHINGTON, DC - PARTICIPANTS	1	ND	B1

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North
2359

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

March 25, 1986

SECRET

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR RODNEY B. McDANIEL

FROM: OLIVER L. NORTH

SUBJECT: State Department Memcon on Bilateral U.S.-UK
Terrorism Talks

Attached at Tab I is the State Department's Memorandum of Conversation of the U.S.-UK bilateral talks on terrorism here in Washington on March 5. ADM Poindexter attended the last half hour of these talks and met privately with the senior British official, Mr. David Goodall, immediately after the talks.

This memcon should be filed "for the record."

RECOMMENDATION

That you authorize the attached to be filed "for the record."

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

Attachment

Tab I - Platt Memo to Poindexter of March 22, 1986

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Declassify: OADR

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31697	MEMO DUPLICATE OF #31693	1	3/22/1986	B1

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31698	MEMCON DUPLICATE OF #31694	10	3/10/1986	B1

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31699	AGENDA DUPLICATE OF #31695	2	ND	B1

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31700	LIST DUPLICATE OF #31696	1	ND	B1

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North

3692

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

ACTION

May 12, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR JOHN M. POINDEXTER

FROM: OLIVER L. NORTH
ROBERT L. EARLE

SUBJECT: Public Press Statement on the U.S.-UK Supplemental Extradition Treaty

As you know the British are extremely anxious to have the new protocol to the U.S.-UK Extradition Treaty ratified. The OSG-TIWG met on May 8 and agreed that the best strategy to ensure passage was for senior Administration officials to make strong public statements in support. Both the Secretary of State and the Attorney General will be doing so.

We must capitalize on the commitment to improve extradition procedures contained in the statement signed at the Tokyo Summit as well as on the U.S. public's sense of appreciation for the courageous support given by the British government to our actions against Libya. The President needs to support strongly and publicly Senate ratification of the supplemental treaty.

If no press conference/interview is scheduled for this week, the President could do an op ed piece for the Washington Post on Wednesday or Thursday. We would draw on the talking points State has provided at Tab I to prepare part of a speech, Q&As in an interview, or an op ed piece in the newspaper. The time has come for the President to go beyond private phone calls or letters to Foreign Relations Committee members and mobilize public pressure on the opponents of this vital agreement.

Ron Sable ^{RS} concurs (Pres. will address during GOP leadership Tues 13 May.)

RECOMMENDATION

That you select the appropriate forum(s) for the President to make a public statement this week in support of the treaty.

Interview to reporters	Yes _____	No _____
Remarks in speech	Yes _____	No _____
Op ed piece to newspaper	Yes _____	No _____
Presidential appearance and statement at daily press briefing	Yes _____	No _____

Attachment

Tab I - Platt Memo to Poindexter w/Talking Points



MEMORANDUM FOR VADM JOHN M. POINDEXTER
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: US-UK Supplementary Extradition Treaty

The US-UK Supplementary Extradition Treaty (signed June 1985) is still pending before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The mark-up may be as early as May 14. The treaty, which removes specified violent crimes from the political offense exception to extradition between the United States and the United Kingdom, is an important initiative in our overall counter-terrorism effort, and is seen by the United Kingdom--particularly in the wake of PM Thatcher's courageous and controversial stand on use of British bases in the Libya raid--as politically vital. (We understand that this point was made directly to the President by Mrs. Thatcher.)

The most vocal public opposition to the treaty comes from Irish Americans, who argue incorrectly that the treaty is anti-Irish and constitutes support for British rule in Northern Ireland. We have emphasized that the treaty is not anti-Irish, but anti-violence. Both State and Justice have expended major efforts in testifying, writing letters, lobbying individual Senators, etc. There has been broad, favorable editorial coverage. And Chairman Lugar could not be more supportive. Nevertheless, the Irish American pressure is such that there is still not a majority of the SFRG in favor of the treaty. At this point all eight Democrats on the Committee--led by Biden, Dodd and Kerry--plus Senator Helms are opposed to the treaty. Several of the Democrats, however, e.g. Eagleton, Pell, and Zorinsky, may be open to persuasion.

Given our inability to sway these individuals by other methods, State and Justice have concluded that the only strategy likely to proceed is one based upon strong public statements by Administration officials--particularly the Secretary of State, the Attorney General and the President--making the point that a vote against the treaty is a vote which will be received favorably by the terrorists and will be a blow to the prospects for closer cooperation from our allies as agreed upon at the Tokyo Summit. Steve Trott from Justice and Bob Oakley from State took this line in a March 8 hearing of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Such a strong public stance by senior officials has a chance of tipping the balance. We need to put the issue squarely on the public agenda, framed in terms of the key question: our willingness to take substantive legal measures in concert with our democratic allies to combat international terrorism.

Attached is a set of talking points for use in public statements on the treaty.

Nicholas Platt
Executive Secretary

Attachment:
As stated.

TALKING POINTS ON EXTRADITION

- The Tokyo Summit makes ratification of the US-UK Extradition Treaty more important than ever. The Summit declaration cited the need for "improved extradition procedures...for bringing to trial those who have perpetrated acts of terrorism."
- The British and other European allies attach a great deal of importance to the extradition issue.
- Our friends see this as a test of whether we have a double standard: Are we against terrorists in other countries trying to escape justice by claiming they acted for political reasons but willing to let terrorists who flee to the United States stay here when they use the same excuse?
- It makes it harder to get other countries to extradite terrorists we are chasing--like Abu Abbas who recently threatened us on TV--when our courts allow murderers to escape justice by claiming they were engaging in "political acts." Failure to ratify the treaty in effect makes us a country providing sanctuary to terrorists.
- Voting against ratifying the Treaty undermines our international fight against terrorism.
- It will be misinterpreted as a sign that we are not willing to back our anti-terrorist actions abroad with necessary legal actions at home.
- It is intolerable that we are unable to help the people of the United Kingdom, including northern Ireland, fight their terrorist threat at the same time that we urge and receive substantial UK assistance in fighting Libya and other terrorist threats.
- The Supplementary US-UK Treaty is NOT anti-Irish, or a threat to civil liberties. It is similar to the 1977 Council of Europe Convention for the Suppressions of Terrorism which has been ratified by many European countries. They include Denmark, Sweden, Switzerland, the UK and the Netherlands which have a strong and demonstrated commitment to human rights.
- The treaty is an improvement on the European Convention in that it specifies in clearer terms--which will be easier for US courts to apply--those criminal offenses such as bombings and murder for which the political offense exception shall no longer apply.
- Senate ratification would be a significant step in fighting terrorism under the rule of law.

File

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

May 22, 1986

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR JOHN M. POINDEXTER

FROM: OLIVER L. NORTH
ROBERT L. EARLE

SUBJECT: U.S.-UK Extradition Treaty

Because we are holding the President's public statement in support of the U.S.-UK Extradition Treaty amendment until after the Senate recess, it is recommended that a copy of the draft Presidential statement be provided to the British as reassurance. We have a precedent for this with the Presidential statement after the April 14 airstrike on Libya.

Such a step would have two principal benefits:

- It makes clear to the British that we haven't forgotten them on this issue, and that we intend to proceed full bore once Congress returns in two weeks.
- Input from the British might strengthen the Presidential statement (as it did in the Libya speech).

For Sable and Peter ^{PNB} concur. ^{with British}
Concur providing statement is shared ^{orally} after document has gone through
RECOMMENDATION chew process.

That you authorize a copy of the draft Presidential statement be shared discreetly with the British Embassy for their government's suggestions to strengthen the speech prior to its issuance during the first week in June.

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

5-29
discussed in
Counil/Co-Sub
5-29

Attachment
Tab I - Draft Presidential Statement

STATEMENT ON U.S.-UK EXTRADITION TREATY

Last June representatives of the United States and the United Kingdom signed a supplementary extradition treaty designed to make clear that persons accused of crimes of violence in one of our two countries could not escape justice by fleeing to the other country and claiming some political motivation for their offense. Too often in the past, terrorists who had kidnapped, killed, and maimed in Britain had fled to the United States and been protected by our courts on the ground that their offenses were "political."

Recent events have underlined more clearly than ever the need for the civilized international community to stand together in the fight against terrorism. Ensuring that terrorists will be brought to justice is a key weapon in that fight. Our joint declaration on terrorism at the Tokyo Summit emphasized that there can be no justification whatsoever for terrorist acts and recognized the need for "improved extradition procedures...for bringing to trial those who have perpetrated acts of terrorism."

Unfortunately the United States Senate has refused -- for nearly a year now -- to approve our supplementary extradition treaty with the United Kingdom. This is the first attempt to amend an extradition protocol; it will be followed by negotiations with other nations with whom we have extradition treaties.

Our friends around the world see this as a test of whether the United States operates under a double standard, demanding the surrender of terrorists in other countries who claim they acted for political reasons, but granting safe-haven to terrorists who flee to the United States and offer the same excuse. The Senate's refusal to approve this treaty undermines our ability to get other countries to extradite terrorists we are trying to apprehend -- such as Abu Abbas, admitted mastermind of the ACHILLE LAURO hijacking, who recently threatened publicly to perpetrate further acts of terrorism against Americans.

Some of the members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee have prepared a "substitute" treaty. Their version would allow terrorists who murder policemen or soldiers -- the very people who protect the rest of us from terrorism -- to avoid extradition on the ground that their heinous actions were "political" in nature. At the same time, this substitute treaty would create wide loopholes through which even terrorists who attack civilians could escape justice. This proposal would not in any way contribute to our battle against international terrorism. It is simply unacceptable.

I find it especially shameful that the Senate is unwilling to help the people of the United Kingdom, including northern Ireland, fight their terrorist threat at the same time that we ask -- and receive -- invaluable British assistance in responding to terrorist threats from Libya and elsewhere.

Our supplementary extradition treaty with the United Kingdom is not a radical new departure or a threat to civil liberties. Its concept is based on that of the European Convention for the Suppression of Terrorism, concluded ten years ago, and since ratified by many European countries -- including states like Denmark, Sweden, Switzerland, and the Netherlands, which have strong and demonstrated commitments to human rights.

Prompt Senate approval of the treaty would be a significant step in fighting terrorism under the rule of law. We can no longer shirk our responsibility to put our own home in order in the international campaign against terrorism.