











The President: Good. I will instruct our people to come in a positive frame of mind -- to try to help and not find problems but find reasons to help. After that, Mikhail, it seems to me that at the summit we could discuss financial institutions, energy, the environment and housing. We can discuss this at our meeting. (S)

President Gorbachev: George, these are important and encouraging subjects. I discussed some of these with Mitterrand. George, I am really happy that we had this substantive conversation. It had been some time since we had a conversation like that. (S)

The President: Let me ask you a personal question. How is your health? (C)

President Gorbachev: So far, I am hanging tough. (C)

The President: That is good. You are my friend and I want to prove that and work with you. I don't like stories in our press that put you down. I hope you noticed that I took them on in public the other day. (S)

President Gorbachev: Well, thank you for those words. I share your approach on this and other issues. I have made a choice, a serious choice on relations with the U.S., providing it is reciprocated, and will follow that course. (S)

The President: That is wonderful. It is nice talking to you and good luck. (U)

President Gorbachev: Thank you, George, and the same to you. Best regards to all at Camp David, especially Barbara. (U)

The President: She just walked in the room and just walked out. She is on her way to the gym. (U)

President Gorbachev: I am glad to hear that. (U)

The President: Okay. Good-bye. (U)

President Gorbachev: Good-bye. (U)

-- End of Conversation --