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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT:

Withdrawer

SUBJECT FILE

9/24/2010 DLB

File Folder

CO171 (VENEZUELA) (5300000-END)

FOIA

S10-0306/01

Box Number

221

SYSTEMATIC

162

DOC NO	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date Restrictions
1	LETTER	SIMON CONTRERAS TO REAGAN 616068	3	10/28/1988 B6

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

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

4			iD #		an an
CORRESPO	WHITE HO		KSHEET	20	171
□ O - OUTGOING □ H - INTERNAL ⊠ I - INCOMING Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 87 10912	: <u>/</u>	∆ .		87	27686
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Comments:					

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.

Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).

Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.

Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

RECORDS MANAGEMENT ONLY

CLASSIFICATION SECTION

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UNCLASSIFIED (CLASSIFICATION)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT TRANSMITTAL FORM

'87 OCT -6 P4:49

S/S_8727686

DATE October 6, 1987

FOR:

REMARKS:

MR. GRANT GREEN EXECUTIVE SECRETARY NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL THE WHITE HOUSE

REFERENCE:		
To: Pres	sident Reagan FROM: President Ronald D. Sander	rs
DATE: 10/0	02/87 SUBJECT: Help To Get Equipment	
Released	By Republic of Venezuela at Port of Maracaibo Since	1979
REFERRAL	DATED: September 25, 1987 ID# 532160 (IF ANY)	
	HE ATTACHED ITEM WAS SENT DIRECTLY TO THE EPARTMENT OF STATE	
ACTION TAKEN:		
	A DRAFT REPLY IS ATTACHED.	
	A DRAFT REPLY WILL BE FORWARDED.	
	A TRANSLATION IS ATTACHED.	
X	AN INFORMATION COPY OF A DIRECT REPLY IS ATTACHED.	
***************************************	WE BELIEVE NO RESPONSE IS NECESSARY FOR THE REASON CITED BELOW.	
	THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HAS NO OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED TRAVEL.	
	OTHER (SEE REMARKS).	1

SECRETARIAT STAFF

UNCLASSIFIED (CLASSIFICATION)

United States Department of State



Washington, D.C. 20520

OCT 6 1987

Ronald D. Sanders, President National Expositions, Inc. New Kensington, Pa. 15068

Dear Mr. Sanders:

Your letter to the President concerning portable amusement equipment being held in Venezuela was referred to me for response. I telephoned our Consulate in Maracaibo for an update of the situation there.

I understand that the equipment you mentioned was embargoed by a Venezuelan court pending the outcome of a lawsuit against you there. The suit is still unresolved, and the equipment unreleasable.

The United States cannot represent you in a private legal proceeding, so there may be no way for the government to assist. Nonetheless, I have forwarded a copy of your letter and this one to Consulate Maracaibo for review and comment, if appropriate.

Sincerely,

L. Bradley Hittle

Venezuela Country Officer

cc. Consulate Maracaibo

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

SEPTEMBER 25, 1987

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 532160

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED SEPTEMBER 14, 1987

TO:

PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM:

MR. RONALD D. SANDERS

PRESIDENT

NATIONAL EXPOSITIONS, INC.

953 5TH AVENUE

NEW KENSINGTON PA 15068

SUBJECT: ASKS FOR HELP TO GET EQUIPMENT RELEASED BY REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA AT PORT OF MARACAIBO

SINCE 1979

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE (OR DRAFT) TO:

AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500

SALLY KELLEY DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

NATIONAL EXPOSITIONS INC. 953 FIFTH AVENUE NEW KENSINGTON, PA. 15068 532160

September 14, 1987

8727686

President Ronald Reagan White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, DC 20500

Mr. President:

I am writing this letter requesting your help. This matter concerns a large quantity of portable amusement equipment being held by the Republic of Venezuela, at the Port of Maracaibo since 1979. All avenues for retrieval of this equipment and compensation have been expended in the United States. Our courts recently ruled no jurisdiction. Efforts by our State Department and persons in the Carter administration were useless. I was quietly advised by the Central Intelligence Agency not to return to Venezuela .

This equipment is being held illegally by the host government. This ordeal has caused considerable pain, financially and other wise, to various American citizens. It forced this company to insolvency costing jobs and commerce. We are a small company and have little resources or leverage. We have been raped and our equipment extorted by the country of Venezuela. Justice is beyond our reach.

This humble request for help is the only other thing that i can think of. I apologize for taking your valuable time with such a minor problem. Any assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Yours entirely.

nur Ronald D. Sanders Pres. National Expositions, Inc

Phone 412 337 3289

PS: Keep up the good work

NATIONAL EXPOSITIONS INC. 953 FIFTH AVENUE NEW KENSINGTON, PA. 15068 September 14, 1987 8727685 President Ronald Reagan SEUCH STIRW 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, DC 20500 Mr. President: I am writing this letter requesting your neip. This matter concerns a large quantity of portable amusement equipment being held by the Republic of Venezuela, at the Port of Maracalbo since 1979, All avenues for retrieval of this equipment and compensation have been expended in the United States. Our courts recently ruled no jurisdiction. Efforts by our brate Department and persons in the Carter administration were useless, I was quietly advised by the Central Intelligence Agency not to return to Venezuela . This adulpment is being held illegally by the host government. This ordeal has caused gons derable pain. Financially and other wise, to various American citizens, it forced this company to insolvency costing lobs and commerce. We are a small company and have little resources or leverage. We have deen raped and our equipment extorted by the country of Venezuela, Justice is beyond our reach. Tend points request for and all green and seeper alcomun alors can think of, I applied to far taking your valuable time with such a minor problem, Any analytance will be greatly appreciated. YOURS COEFFERY. Ronald D. Sanders Prins. Mational Expositions, Inc PROGRES ALS SERVE Phis Reep up the good work

DA

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

ID/7/ 0642 redo

IL TACOH-//
FG00612 Deputy Netl Sec Advisor has seen

ACTION

February 4, 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR JOHN D. NEGROPONTE

FROM:

STEPHEN I. DANZANSKY

SUBJECT:

Appointment Request for Frank Alcock

Michael Sherman of Collier, Shannon, Rill and Scott called seeking an appointment February 8 with you for Frank Alcock, 2nd Vice President of Petroleos de Venezuela (Tab A). Alcock is making one of his periodic trips to the U.S. Sherman said Alcock is interested in discussing Enserch's case under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 as amended by the Trade Act of 1974, regarding oil imports and discussing energy security generally. Enserch has asked the Secretary of Commerce to determine that oil imports are a threat to national security and requests remedial action. Commerce has the case under review.

Sherman said Alcock is positioned either to become Ambassador to the U.S. or President of Petroleos de Venezuela. We have nothing to confirm this. Sherman, who represents the Venezuelan oil industry, may wish to demonstrate his connections.

Because of pending proceedings, whose results may be reviewed here, we recommend that you not see Alcock. On the other hand, this Directorate is prepared to listen to what Alcock has to say.

Kim Flower and Nichtas Rostow concur.

RECOMMENDATION:

That we see Frank Alcock in the Directorate.

Approve

JBN 2/4/88

Disapprove ____

Attachment

Tab A

Letter from Michael Sherman

Prepared by: Eric Melby DM

NGC#8800642

Collier, Shannon, Rill & Scott

Attorneys-at-Law

1055 Thomas Jefferson Street, N. W. Washington, D. C. 20007

Telephone: (202) 342-8400 Telecopier: (202) 338-5534 Telex: 440665 CSRS UI Writer's Direct Dial Number

(202) 342-8562

January 26, 1988

Robert L. Meuser Judith L. Oldham Patrick B. Fazzone Jeanne M. Forch Laurence J. Lasoff Christopher J. MacAvoy Kathleen Weaver Cannon Patrick J. Coyne Daniel J. Harrold T. Michael Jankowski Carol A. Mitchell Frederick D. Baker Joel M. Mitnick K. Michael O'Connell B. Michael Hodge Mark D. Dopp Mary T. Staley Robert M. Huber J. Keith Ausbrook Gerard P. Fox Rosanne A. Hurwitz Robin H. Beeckman Anne M. Coffey

Mr. Eric Melby Director, International Economic Affairs National Security Council Room 365, Old Executive Office Building Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear Mr. Melby:

Robert A. Collier (1917-1984) Thomas F. Shannon

James F. Rill

William W. Scott David A. Hartquist

Lauren R. Howard Paul D. Cullen

Mark L. Austrian Jeffrey W. King Joel Yohalem

John B. Williams Paul C. Rosenthal

John L. Wittenborn

Michael R. Kershow

Jeffrey S. Beckington

Jeffrey L. Leiter

Gary Jay Kushner Robert N. Steinwurtzel James R. Loftis, III

Richard S. Silverman

R. Timothy Columbus

Kathleen E. McDermott Michael D. Sherman

Thank you for your assistance in attempting to arrange a meeting for Monday, February 8, 1988, between John Negroponte of the National Security Council and Frank Alcock, the Second Vice President of Petroleos de Venezuela, S.A. ("PDVSA"), and Alfredo Essis, the Special Assistant to the President of PDVSA. In addition, I wanted to inform you that Venezuela's Ambassador to the United States, the Honorable Valentin Hernandez, would attend any such meeting.

Enclosed is some biographical information about the Ambassador, Mr. Alcock, and Mr. Essis. I greatly appreciate your efforts on this matter and hope that Mr. Negroponte's schedule will be able to accommodate the meeting.

Michael D. Sherman

Counsel, Venezuelan Oil Industry

MDS:jlh enclosure

CURRICULUM VITAE

Valentín Hernández appointed Ambassador of Venezuela to the United States in February 1984, has had a long and distinguished career.

Born on November 4, 1925 in San Fernando de Apure, he completed primary and secondary studies at the San Pablo Institute and Pedagogical
Institute of Caracas. He was a member of the first class of petroleum
engineers to graduate from the Central University of Venezuela in July
1948, and later pursued graduate studies at the London School of Economics from September 1959 to July 1961.

He began his career as a petroleum engineer with Creole Petroleum Corporation, where he was employed from 1948 to 1949. He left that company to enter private business, first as Manager of Rural Engineering Works, C.A.. from 1949-58, and then as Manager of San Antonio Constructions, C.A. from 1956-63.

In 1963, Ambassador Hernández entered the Venezuelan Foreign Service with the rank of Economic Counselor and was posted to the Embassy of Venezuela in Great Britain where, on various occasions, he served as Chargé d' Affaires, ad interim. He left the Foreign Service in 1964.

On December 2, 1965, he was appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the United Kingdom of Lybia, the Republic of Tunisia, and the Kingdom of Morocco, with residence in Tripoli. Following this tour of duty, on August 21,1969, he was appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Romania, where he served until 1972. In December

of that year he was appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Austria where he would remain until March 1974.

In 1974, he was appointed Minister of Mines and Hydrocarbons and served in this capacity for five years. During this period of time he was elected President of the OPEC Conference of Ministers on several occasions.

Ambassador Hernández has also served as the Venezuelan representative to a number of international conferences, among them: The International Coffee Council, with headquarters in London, England; the IV Petroleum Congress held in Beirut, Lebanon, in December 1963; the XII OPEC Meeting in Kuwait in 1966; the VI Arabian Petroleum Congress in Baghdad, Iraq, in - March, 1969; the XIII Conference Meeting of OPEC held in Vienna., Austria in 1967; and the Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 of the United Nations held in Algiers, Algeria in October 1967. During his assignment as -- Ambassador to Austria, he also represented Venezuela at the International Atomic Energy Commission.

Ambassador Hernández has received extensive recognition for his diplomatic efforts. He has been decorated twice by the Government of Venezue-la, with the Order of the Liberator (Great Sash) and the Order of Francisco de Miranda (First Class), and the following countries: Mexico (Aztec Eagle, First Class); Romania (Order of Tudor Vladimirescu); Austria (Gold Cross, Sash), Iran (Order of Homayoun, Great Cross); Qatar (Order of Independence, First Class), Kuwait (Order of Kuwait, First Class); Saudi Arabia (Order of H.M. King Abdul Azis, First Class); Spain (Great Cross of Isabel the Catholic, First Class); Brazil (Order of the Southern: Cross, Great Sash);

and Portugal (Military Order of Christ, Great Sash).

He is married to Ysabel Díaz Gorrín and they have four Children, Valentin Eduardo, Marisela, Bibiana and Clementina Hernández.

* * * * *

Mr. Frank Alcock

Second Vice President Petroleos de Venezuela, S.A.

Mr. Alcock is Second Vice President of Petroleos de Venezuela, S.A. (PDVSA), the holding company of the Venezuelan national oil industry. He attained that position in the fall of 1986. From 1981 until he became Second Vice President of PDVSA, Mr. Alcock served as President of Corpoven, S.A., one of the three vertically-integrated oil companies that comprise PDVSA. Mr Alcock has also held senior executive positions with Mobil of New York and Paris, served as Executive Vice President of Mobil Venezuela, and as President of the Venezuelan Oil Industry Association. He was also President of Llanove (Ex-Mobil), Cevegas and a member of the first Board of Directors of the holding company, Petroleos de Venezuela. In addition to his extensive petroleum experience, Mr. Alcock was President of Xerox de Venezuela.

Mr. Alcock is an economist with degrees from Oxford and Harvard Business School as well as the Central University of Venezuela in Caracas.

ALFREDO B. ESSIS

Special Assistant to the President, Petroleos de Venezuela, S.A.

Education: Degree in Petroleum and Geological Engineering, University of Tulsa

<u>Previous Positions</u>: He entered the petroleum industry in 1961 with Mobil Oil Company. Then, he became a research professor and the Chief Director of the Institute of Petroleum at the Simòn Bolìvar University. In Corpoven, S.A., he has performed the duties of General Manager of Technology, Assistant General Manager of Production, and Manager of the Western Region Division of Corpoven.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

ACTION		Janua	ary 27, 1988	3
MEMORANDUM FOR	JOHN D. NEGROP			/
FROM:	STEPHEN I. DAN	ZANSKY		
SUBJECT:	Appointment Re	quest for Frank	Alcock	
seeking an apportunity of his periodic	ointment Februa of Petroleos d c trips to the 2 case on oil i	hannon, Rill and ry 8 with you for e Venezuela. Al U.S. He is intemports and discu	or Frank Alc Lcock is mak erested in d	cock, 2nd sing one liscussing
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That you see Fr	rank Alcock on	February 8.	/	
Approve _		Disapprove		
Alternatively,	that we see hi	m in the Directo	orate.	
Approve	- A	Disapprove		
	J			
			ared by: Melby	

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

ACTION		J	January	27,	1988
MEMORANDUM FOR	JOHN D. NEGRO				
FROM:	STEPHEN I. DAI	nzansky			
SUBJECT:	Appointment Re	equest for Fi	ank Alo	cock	
Michael Sherman of Collier, Shannon, Rill and Scott called seeking an appointment February 8 with you for Frank Alcock, 2nd Vice President of Petroleos de Venezuela. Alcock is making one of his periodic trips to the U.S. He is interested in discussing the Section 232 case on oil imports and discussing energy security generally.					k Alcock, 2nd s making one in discussing
Sherman said Alcock is positioned either to become Ambassador to the U.S. or President of Petroleos de Venezuela. We have nothing to confirm this.					
Should you not wish to see Alcock, we will see him in the Directorate.					
RECOMMENDATION:					
That you see Fr	cank Alcock on	February 8.			
Approve _		Disapprove		_	

Alternatively, that we see him in the Directorate.

Approve ____

Prepared by: Eric Melby

Disapprove ____

National Security Council The White House

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NEGROPONTE

FROM MELBY

DOCDATE 27 JAN 88

MELBY

· 04 FEB 88

KEYWORDS: OIL

ENERGY

ALCOCK, FRANK

VENEZUELA

ΑP

SUBJECT: APPT REQUEST FOR ALCOCK / VP OF PETROLEOS DE VE.EZUELA / RE OIL

IMPORTS & ENERGY SECURITY

ACTION: FOR DECISION

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Secondary Subject Codes	s:	
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UNCLASSIFIED (Classification)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT TRANSMITTAL FORM

s/s 8834363

Date November 30, 1988

For: Mr. Paul Schott Stevens
Executive Secretary
National Security Council
The White House

Reference:

To: Presiden	nt Reagan	From: M	r. Simon R. Contreras	
Date: 10/28	/88	Subject:	Visa for Juan F. Contreras	
Referral Date	ed: <u>11/21/88</u>		ID# <u>616068</u>	
	The attached Department of		sent directly to the	
Action Taken	:			
	A draft reply	is attacl	hed.	
spredikter utverker valvat standare	A draft reply	will be	forwarded.	
	A translation	is attac	hed.	
X	An information	n copy of	a direct reply is attached.	
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UNCLASSIFIED (Classification)

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Washington, D.C. 20520

November 28, 1988

Mr. Simon R. Contreras Apartment 1 2110 North Monroe Street Arlington, VA 22207

Dear Mr. Contreras:

Thank you for your recent letters to the President and Vice President concerning the recent visa denial of your brother, Juan Francisco Contreras. As much as they would like to, President Reagan and Vice President Bush cannot personally answer every letter that they receive. Since your inquiry involves a visa matter, it was referred to me for reply.

I would like to assure you that consular officers abroad are expected to give prompt and courteous service to visa applicants. In view of your description about the events surrounding your brother's recent visa application at the American Embassy in Caracas, I have ask the Embassy's Consul General to look into this matter. I have asked that a report be sent directly to you on the circumstances surrounding your brother's application. A copy of the response will be sent to this office for additional consideration. Please let me know if you have any further questions after you have had an opportunity to review the information you will be receiving from the post.

Sincerely,

Sharon P. Wilkinson Director, Office of

Public and Diplomatic Liaison, Visa Services

Enclosure: DSL-851

DOCUMENT TYPE:

Loc: VACO, ROOM 1027

CORRESPONDENCE-IN

Tel: 389-5598

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATOR CONTROL AND TRACKING SLIP (OOB3)

Control Number: 0081115026 NON-VA MATTER Assigned to APPROPRIATE ACTION Action Required: CHIEF OF STAFF Priority : WHITE HOUSE FOR SIGNATURE KELLEY 616068, SALLY Originator Facility Organization MH Written to VA, On: 10/28/88 COMPLAINT - EMBASSY IN CARACAS Subject On Behalf Of CONTRERAS, SIMON FYI COPIES TO : ---- ASSIGNMENT TRACKING SECTION Assigned Actn Susp Comp Excused Comments Assn Code Date Date Delay To Date REIN TO WH HR 11/15 AA 11/17 11/16 --- INTERIM CONTACTS WITH WRITER AND ORIGINATOR NOTES-----ORIGINATORS NOTES: Summary of Contacts Date

READER: HTR RUR: RELATED CONTROL #S:

KEYER: HTR FILE:

'88 NOV-21 2:01 PM

OFFICE THE WHITE HOUSE

REFERRAL

NOVEMBER 21, 1988

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 616068

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED OCTOBER 28, 1988

TO:

PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM:

MR. SIMON R. CONTRERAS

APARTMENT 1

2110 NORTH MONROE STREET

ARLINGTON VA 22207

SUBJECT: COMPLAINT AGAINST PERSONNEL IN CARACAS EMBASSY FOR WAY BROTHER JUAN FRANCISCO

CONTRERAS WAS TREATED

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE (OR DRAFT) TO: AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500

> SALLY KELLEY DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

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SIMON CONTRERAS TO REAGAN

616068

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.