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NSC: Records

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Azcona of Honduras, 10/21/1987

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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name LATIN AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIRECTORATE, NSC:
RECORDS

Withdrawer

KML 8/11/2011

File Folder PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT AZCONA OF
HONDURAS, OCTOBER 21, 1987

FOIA

M10-350/2

Box Number 92433

SEELY

60

| ID | Doc Type | Document Description | No of Pages | Doc Date | Restrictions |
|--------|-----------------|--|-------------|------------|--------------|
| 116532 | MEETING MINUTES | RE PRESIDENT AZCONA VISIT (HANDWRITTEN) R 2/1/2013 M350/2 | 6 | ND | B1 |
| 116533 | MEMO | MELVYN LEVITSKY TO FRANK CARLUCCI RE BRIEFING MATERIALS R 12/12/2012 M350/2 | 1 | 10/18/1987 | B1 B3 |
| 116534 | TALKING POINTS | RE PRESIDENT AZCONA VISIT R 12/12/2012 M350/2 | 2 | ND | B1 |
| 116535 | BIO | D 11/30/2015 M350/2 | 2 | 5/21/1986 | B1 B3 |
| 116536 | BIO | PAR 11/30/2015 M350/2 | 1 | 4/8/1986 | B1 B3 |
| 116537 | BIO | D 11/30/2015 M350/2 | 1 | 4/9/1986 | B1 B3 |
| 116538 | BIO | D 11/30/2015 M350/2 | 1 | 5/20/1986 | B1 B3 |
| 116539 | MEMO | JOHN WHITEHEAD TO THE PRESIDENT RE VISIT OF HONDURAN PRESIDENT AZCONA R 12/12/2012 M350/2 | 2 | 10/19/1987 | B1 |

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

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

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B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

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RECORDS

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File Folder PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT AZCONA OF
HONDURAS, OCTOBER 21, 1987

FOIA

M10-350/2

Box Number 92433

SEELY

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| ID | Doc Type | Document Description | No of Pages | Doc Date | Restrictions |
|--------|----------|--|-------------|------------|--------------|
| 116540 | MEMCON | RE MEETING WITH PRESIDENT AZCONA OF HONDURAS <i>R 2/1/2013 M350/2</i> | 4 | 10/21/1987 | B1 |
| 116541 | MEMCON | SAME TEXT AS DOC 116540 <i>R 2/1/2013 M350/2</i> | 4 | 10/21/1987 | B1 |

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

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116532

11:12 AM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

RR: AM TP

Ag: We are delighted to be here in this house that rep. democ. govt of U.S. We are also happy Mrs. RR is doing well.

With respect to hic and CAP our position is clear and expressed in Congress yesterday. We understand your point of view that is similar to ours. But Congress believe that with CAP everything is resolved. But that is not real. We understand that for you, ^{CAP} it was not entirely satisfactory. But we thought

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR MID-350/2 # 116532

BY RW NARA DATE 2/1/13

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

2

It was necessary although
risky step. At this moment
we must ensure that Sand.
comply with CAP. We are
talking with Congress and Press
to make these points. We
emphasize the amnesty problem.
We regard the general amnesty
- with all jails opened - plus
a negotiated ceasefire and other
CAP measures. - all these
things will indicate that
democratization can be
genuine. It is necessary for
the Congress to abstain from
eliminating the contra option.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

3

Was a vis me it's reasonable
and just position.

RR - thank you for your
support, we will proceed
no close bases. etc, etc

It can see two scenarios

a) full implementation

b) accord fails - NDR fights on
etc etc

Soviet/Cubans out
cooperate, remain united.

Ag. The acceptance of CAP by
U.S. strengthens its position.
It is not now the U.S. which
is pressing the sanctions, now is
the Sand. that have entered a
road towards democracy. If they
don't it means another engine

—

y

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

to its neighbors and the world.
We should press them to
comply. otherwise they will be
exposed. We will do our
task.

RR some (with) We are
closer than ever as allies
on this. Sad. betrayed
again just two days Radio
Catolica can't broadcast.
Our Foreign aid is cut but
we will do everything possible
to protect you your country is
high priority for me and my
administration

Ag : We have always been
aware of your support. We
know that it is Congress that

5
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Cuts. We have talked about
some problems of disbursement
and with FMS ^{we need} help on this
debts

to help the Armed Forces.

CAP This same problem we
have with Egypt. It requires
Congressional approval. We
need to see how we can get
better refinancing terms out
Treasury objects to lower
interests. We will try to get
better terms. We can discuss
it at lunch.

6
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

RR/ We didn't talk about
your sport - Ping pong.
you are a champion!

Q I played a little. but I
have good partners - the
driver and my assistant
I have also played with
TAIWAN delegation but
he was younger. but I beat
him.

11:35

RR/ I have terrible habit of
collecting data about Soviets.
and your comment brought it
to mind. Anybody speeding
gets a ticket nobody who.
Soviet driver gets caught

~~SECRET~~

TIME STAMP

RECEIVED

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT STAFFING DOCUMENT

SYSTEM LOG NUMBER: 7697

87 OCT 19 AID: 56

URGENT

ACTION OFFICER: SORZANO

DUE: 20 OCT

☐ Prepare Memo For President

☐ Prepare Memo Green to Peterson / Murr

☒ Prepare Memo For Carlucci / Powell

☐ Appropriate Action

☐ Prepare Memo

to

CONCURRENCES/COMMENTS*

PHONE* to action officer at ext. 4592

FYI
☒ ☐ Batjer
☐ ☐ Bernis
☐ ☐ Brooks
☐ ☐ Burns
☐ ☐ Childress
☐ ☐ Cobb
☐ ☐ Cockell
☐ ☐ Cohen
☐ ☐ Collins
☐ ☐ Danzansky
☐ ☐ Dean, B.
☒ ☐ Donley
☐ ☐ Douglass
☐ ☐ Ermarth
☐ ☐ Farrar
☐ ☐ Flower
☐ ☐ Fortier
☐ ☐ Grimes
☐ ☐ Heiser
☐ ☐ Henhoeffer

FYI
☐ ☐ Herbst
☐ ☐ Howard
☐ ☐ Kelly, B.
☐ ☐ Kelly, J.
☐ ☐ Kimberling
☐ ☐ Kissell
☐ ☐ Kraemer
☐ ☐ Ledsky
☐ ☐ Linhard
☐ ☐ Mahley
☐ ☐ Major
☐ ☐ Matthews
☐ ☐ McNamara
☐ ☐ Michael
☐ ☐ Oakley
☐ ☐ Past
☐ ☐ Parina
☐ ☐ Platt
☐ ☐ Porter
☐ ☐ Pugliese

FYI
☐ ☐ Reger
☐ ☐ Rodman
☐ ☐ Rosenberg
☐ ☐ Ross
☐ ☐ Rostow
☐ ☐ Saunders
☐ ☐ Scharfen
☐ ☐ Smith
☐ ☐ Sommer
☐ ☐ Sorzano
☐ ☐ Steiner
☐ ☒ Stevens
☐ ☐ Tahir-Kheli
☒ ☒ Tice
☐ ☒ Tillman *Flower*
☐ ☐ Tobey
☐ ☐ _____
☐ ☐ _____
☐ ☐ _____
☐ ☐ _____

INFORMATION ☒ Green
☐ Carlucci (advance)

☒ Courtney
☐ Powell (advance)

☒ Secretariat
☐ _____

COMMENTS CRW: 8707011

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~~SECRET~~

Return to Secretariat



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United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

7697

October 18, 1987

UNCLASSIFIED with ~~SECRET~~ attachmentsMEMORANDUM FOR MR. FRANK C. CARLUCCI
THE WHITE HOUSESUBJECT: Briefing Materials for the President's Meeting with
Honduran President Azcona, October 21 at 11:00 a.m.

This memorandum transmits requested briefing and background materials in preparation for the President's meeting with President Azcona at 11:00 on October 21. President Azcona is making a private visit to the United States October 19 - 23 which includes stops in Miami, Washington, and Mobile, Alabama.

Melvyn Levitsky
Melvyn Levitsky
Executive Secretary

Enclosures:

1. Suggested Talking Points
2. Biographies of:
 - a. President Azcona
 - b. Foreign Minister Lopez Contreras
 - c. General Regalado
 - d. Economy Minister Panting

UNCLASSIFIED with ~~SECRET~~ attachmentsRW
12/12/12

9

1

~~SECRET~~SUGGESTED TALKING POINTSGUATEMALA ACCORD

- o We admire your efforts and those of your colleagues to achieve peace in Central America. We fully support your endeavors.
- o We strongly support your position that all obligations undertaken in the Guatemala Accord must occur simultaneously.
 - Your October 14 affirmation of this point was particularly well-timed and helpful.
- o We must all continue to hold the Sandinistas' feet to the fire. If they are not complying, we must say that.
- o Like you, we believe that the Nicaraguan resistance provides the only effective pressure on the Sandinistas to fulfill their commitments to you and to the Nicaraguan people.
- o We agree that there has not been sufficient compliance by the Sandinistas to merit a letter from yourself and the other presidents on November 7 requesting cessation of our support for the Resistance.

NICARAGUAN RESISTANCE

- o We greatly appreciate your steadfast support for the Resistance and the cooperation your government has rendered.
- o You are not alone in this effort. As I'm sure you've heard me say before, our commitment to the Resistance and to democracy in Central America, including Nicaragua will not falter.
- o We intend to proceed with our request to the Congress for additional funding for the Resistance. The timing of the request will be guided by events in the region.
- o This is a critical moment for the Resistance. Closure of their bases now would be a crippling blow.
- o I am certain that your discussions with Congressional leaders this week have created a clearer picture of the situation in Central America. I appreciate your effort.

~~SECRET~~

DECL: OADR

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR MID-350/2#116534
BY RW NARA DATE 12/12/12

11

~~SECRET~~

- 2 -

(only if raised)

- o I understand your concerns about the future of the Resistance. I believe very strongly that there are only two scenarios to consider here:
 - The Guatemala Accord is fully implemented by all parties enabling the freedom fighters to return to Nicaragua as full participants in a democratic system.
 - Alternately and in my judgment far more likely, the accord is not implemented, funding for the Resistance is continued and the fight goes on.

ECONOMIC AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE

- o As you may know, eliminating our domestic budget deficit has been one of my highest priorities.
- o This effort has entailed some painful sacrifices by the American people and in the government. Unfortunately, necessary cuts have also extended into the foreign assistance accounts.
- o That said, we will do everything possible to protect Honduras. You may be assured that Honduras will be a priority recipient of these scarce resources.

~~SECRET~~

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PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT AZCONA OF
HONDURAS, OCTOBER 21, 1987

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M10-350/2

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Box Number

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| ID | Document Type | No of pages | Doc Date | Restrictions |
|--------|----------------------|----------------|-----------|--------------|
| | Document Description | | | |
| 116535 | BIO | 2 | 5/21/1986 | B1 B3 |

The above documents were not referred for declassification review at time of processing

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

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Carlos LOPEZ Contreras
(Phonetic: LOpehs)

HONDURAS

Minister of Foreign Affairs
(since January 1986)

Addressed as: Mr. Minister



Experienced diplomat Carlos López is a skillful negotiator with a solid background in international relations. To instill professionalism in the foreign service and maintain continuity within the Foreign Ministry, he has surrounded himself with a qualified team of advisers—many of whom were carried over from the regime of former President Roberto Suazo. He plans to reorganize the Ministry to foster greater efficiency.

López, a cousin of former Armed Forces Commander Walter López's, lost considerable influence with and support from the military after his cousin was forced to resign in February 1986.

the military distrusts the Foreign Minister, claiming he played an advisory role in his cousin's attempt to demote fellow officers. Consequently, we believe that senior officers will move against López if he acts independently on military-related issues.

Conservative and cautious, López has generally supported US policies in Central America.

A chief representative to the Contadora peace process, López will probably continue to advocate Contadora as the mechanism to reach a solution to the Nicaraguan conflict. An expert on Honduras's border negotiations with El Salvador, he also will seek a bilateral resolution to the longstanding dispute before June 1986, when the case will go before the International Court of Justice.

López was born on 31 January 1940. He holds law degrees from the National Autonomous University of Honduras and the University of Madrid and has also attended University College (London). He began his diplomatic career in the 1960s as a second secretary in the Embassy in Madrid. He subsequently served as Charge D'Affaires in London and as Ambassador to Nicaragua, the Vatican, Malta, Denmark, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. From 1977 until 1982 López practiced law privately and taught law at the University of San Pedro Sula, except for a year (1979-80) when he served as Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs. Before receiving his current position, he had been a senior Foreign Ministry adviser since 1982.

soft spoken, pleasant, and attentive. Although he is a member of the opposition National Party (PNH) and served on its central committee in the early 1980s, he is not generally active in party politics. He speaks English and Italian. López is the nephew of former President (1963-71 and 1972-75) Oswaldo López Arellano. His wife, the former Armida María Villeda, is a niece of former President (1958-63) Ramón Villeda Morales. She is active in the PNH. The Lópezes have a son and a daughter.

CR M 86-11786
8 April 1986

DECLASSIFIED IN PART

NLRR MID-35212 #116536

BY RW NARA DATE 11/30/15

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs
EO 13526 3.3(b)(6)>25Yrs
EO 13526 3.5(c)

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|-----------|---|------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 116537 | BIO | 1 | 4/9/1986 | B1 B3 |

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HONDURAS, OCTOBER 21, 1987

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT STAFFING DOCUMENT

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SYSTEM LOG NUMBER:

7742

87 OCT 20 A 8: 57

URGENT

ACTION OFFICER: SORZANO

DUE: 21 OCT

☒ Prepare Memo For President

☐ Prepare Memo Green to Peterson / Murr

☐ Prepare Memo For Carlucci / Powell

☐ Appropriate Action

☐ Prepare Memo

to

CONCURRENCES/COMMENTS*

PHONE* to action officer at ext.

4592

FYI

☒ Batjer

☐ Bemis

☐ Brooks

☐ Burns

☐ Childress

☐ Cobb

☐ Cockell

☐ Cohen

☐ Collins

☐ Danzansky

☐ Dean, B.

☒ Donley

☐ Douglass

☐ Ermarth

☐ Farrar

☐ Flower

☐ Fortier

☐ Grimes

☐ Heiser

☐ Henhoeffer

FYI

☐ Herbst

☐ Howard

☐ Kelly, B.

☐ Kelly, J.

☐ Kimberling

☐ Kissell

☐ Kraemer

☐ Ledsky

☐ Linhard

☐ Mahley

☐ Major

☐ Matthews

☐ McNamara

☐ Michael

☐ Oakley

☐ Paal

☐ Perina

☐ Platt

☐ Porter

☐ Pugliarese

FYI

☐ Reger

☐ Rodman

☐ Rosenberg

☐ Ross

☐ Rostow

☐ Saunders

☐ Scharfen

☐ Smith

☐ Sommer

☐ Sorzano

☐ Steiner

☐ Stevens

☐ Tahir-Kheli

☒ Tice

☒ Tillman

☐ Tobey

INFORMATION ☒ Green

☐ Carlucci (advance)

☐ Powell (advance)

☒ Secretariat

☐

COMMENTS

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OF CLASSIFIED ENCLOSURE(S)

24 8/11/11

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~~SECRET~~

Return to Secretariat

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

October 19, 1987

~~SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: John C. Whitehead *JCW* Acting

SUBJECT: Private Visit of Honduran President Azcona,
October 19-23, 1987

I. WHERE DOES OUR RELATIONSHIP STAND?

- o Azcona is concerned that the Guatemala Accord has diminished U.S. commitment to Honduras. He believes he had no choice but to sign the agreement. He has worked to reconcile differences arising between us from his participation in a process we view as flawed.
 - On October 14, Azcona told reporters that he would not ask us to halt aid to the Resistance if the Sandinistas had not complied fully by November 7.
- o Honduran cooperation on Resistance matters has continued, but the specter of on-site verification has led some GOH officials to advocate closing the camps before November 7. Azcona, however, said October 14 that he would not allow on-site verification if the Sandinistas were not in full compliance.
- o Azcona strongly supports the Resistance and is making this trip largely to convey to Capitol Hill his belief that aid for the Resistance is the only effective pressure on the Sandinistas to comply with the accord.
- o Other facets of the relationship -- economic reforms, military exercises, narcotics cooperation -- are progressing steadily.

II. WHAT DO WE WANT?

- o Honduran insistence on full Sandinista compliance with all obligations of the Guatemala Accord.
- o Continued cooperation on Resistance activities, particularly retention of bases inside Honduras.

~~SECRET~~
DECL: OADRDECLASSIFIED
NLRR MID-350/2# 116539
BY RW NARA DATE 12/12/12

~~SECRET~~

- 2 -

70

III. WHAT DOES AZCONA WANT?

- o Assurances that we consider Honduras a trusted ally we will not abandon.
- o Renewed assistance to the Resistance and a commitment to resettle Resistance combatants in the United States if that becomes necessary.
- o To ensure, after Costa Rican President Arias' highly-publicized visit, that Honduran views are known to decision-makers and to Capitol Hill.
- o Maintenance of U.S. economic and military assistance levels.
- o U.S. agreement to participate in a "Marshall Plan for Central America" which we expect to be proposed during this visit.

IV. WHAT CAN BE ACHIEVED FROM THIS VISIT?

- o Improve perceptions, especially on the Hill, of Central American realities.
- o Reinforce Azcona's resolve to allow the Resistance to remain in Honduras.
- o Reiterate our own commitment to the Resistance and describe our efforts to obtain further funding.
- o Explain serious budgetary situation and dim prospects for foreign assistance increases as well as our intention to provide as much assistance as possible to Honduras.

~~SECRET~~

REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENTS

CHRON FILE

To: Officer-in-charge
Appointments Center
Room 060, OEOB

Please admit the following appointments on Wednesday, October 21, 1987
for THE PRESIDENT of _____:
(NAME OF PERSON TO BE VISITED) (AGENCY)

State Dept Officials:

Michael ARMACOST
DOB: 4-15-1937

Elliott ABRAMS
DOB: 1-24-1948

Ted BRIGGS, U.S. Ambassador
DOB: 4-06-1934

Morris BUSBY
DOB: 3-15-1938

Rose LIKINS (Rose Likins will be ESCORTING ELIZABETH AZCONA --
DOB: 1-22-1959 President Azcona's daughter)

Elizabeth AZCONA -- TO OVAL OFFICE FOR PHOTO OP w/President Reagan
DOB: 10-5-1969 and President Azcona

HONDURAN DELEGATION will be accompanied by State Dept Protocol and
are being cleared and escorted by STATE/WH PROTOCOL.

(SEE ATTACHED)

MEETING LOCATION

Building The White House

Requested by Kim Flower

Room No. Oval Ofc/Cabinet Room

Room No. _____ Telephone x7353

Time of Meeting 10:30 & 11:00 AM

Date of request October 21, 1987

Additions and/or changes made by telephone should be limited to five (5) names or less.

APPOINTMENTS CENTER: SIG/OEOB - 395-6046 or WHITE HOUSE - 456-6742

PARTICIPANTS FOR HONDURAN PRESIDENT AZCONA
OFFICE CALL, OCTOBER 21, 1987

PRESIDENTIAL PRE-BRIEF, OVAL OFFICE, 10:30 - 10:55 a.m.

United States

The President
The Vice President
Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger
Chief of Staff Howard Baker
Kenneth Duberstein, Deputy Chief of Staff
National Security Advisor Frank Carlucci
✓ Acting Secretary of State Michael Armacost
✓ Assistant Secretary of State Elliott Abrams
✓ Ambassador Ted Briggs
Ambassador Jose Sorzano, NSC

Morris Busby

PHOTO-OP AND OVAL OFFICE MEETING, 11:00 - 11:50 a.m.

United States

Same participants as the pre-brief, listed above.

Honduras

President Azcona
General Regalado, Commander, Honduran Armed Forces
Mr. Lopez Contreras, Foreign Minister
Mr. Panting, Economic Minister
Ambassador Martinez, Honduran Ambassador to U.S.

355

~~SECRET~~

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

SYSTEM II
91168

22

October 23, 1987

~~SECRET~~

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR FRANK C. CARLUCCI

FROM: JOSE S. SORZANO *JS*

SUBJECT: Minutes of President Reagan's Meeting with
President Azcona of Honduras, October 21, 1987

Attached at Tab I are the minutes of the President's meeting with
President Azcona for your review and approval.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you approve the attached memorandum of conversation.

Approve

JS

Disapprove

Attachment

Tab I - Minutes of Meeting

DECLASSIFIED
Sec.3.4(b), E.O. 12958, as amended
White House Guidelines, Sept. 11, 2006
BY NARA KML, DATE 8/11/11

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Declassify on: OADR

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Tab I

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

SYSTEM II
91168

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Meeting with President Azcona of Honduras

PARTICIPANTS: United States
The President
Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger
Chief of Staff Howard Baker
Deputy Chief of Staff Kenneth Duberstein
Deputy National Security Adviser Colin L. Powell
Acting Secretary of State Michael Armacost
Assistant Secretary of State Elliott Abrams
U.S. Ambassador to Honduras Ted Briggs
Ambassador Jose S. Sorzano, NSC
Special Negotiator for Central America Morris Busby
State Department Interpreter Rita Boren

Honduras

President Jose Simon Azcona Hoyo
Mr. Carlos Lopez Contreras, Minister of Foreign Affairs
General Humberto Regalado Hernandez,
Commander-in-Chief, Honduran Armed Forces
Mr. Reginaldo Panting, Minister of Economy and Commerce
Ambassador Roberto Martinez Ordonez,
Honduran Ambassador to the United States

DATE, TIME: October 21, 1987, 11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.,
AND PLACE: The Oval Office/The Cabinet Room

Prior to the meeting in the Cabinet Room, there was a brief photo opportunity in the Oval Office where President Azcona introduced his daughter, Elizabeth Azcona, to President Reagan. President Reagan remarked that he still could not get over the fact that she was at Notre Dame (previously male students only) and wondered what the relationship between Notre Dame and St. Mary's was now. He also remarked about how he played "The Gipper" and understood the movie is shown to all Notre Dame incoming freshmen classes. Ms. Azcona said she had not seen the movie but that she was very pleased to be at Notre Dame and to meet President Reagan.

After the photo opportunity, President Reagan escorted President Azcona from the Oval Office to the Cabinet Room to join members of their respective governments and the meeting began at 11:12 a.m.

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Declassify on: OADR

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NLRR MID-350/2# 116540

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BY RW NARA DATE 2/1/13

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President Reagan: Let me start this meeting by welcoming you again to the White House. It is always a pleasure to receive you, the representative of a country that is a true and valued ally in the region.

I am very concerned about the Guatemala Peace Accord and I know that you have similar concerns. I also understand that you share my judgment that the Freedom Fighters must remain a viable military force until Nicaragua is irreversibly on the road to democracy. We appreciate your support of their cause. We must, however, cooperate now more closely than ever. We must ensure that the Sandinistas comply and we also will be working to see that the issue of the Soviet-Cuban presence in Nicaragua is taken care of.

President Azcona: I am delighted to be here again in the White House, a house that symbolizes the democratic government of the United States. I am equally pleased to hear that Mrs. Reagan is doing well and recuperating rapidly.

With respect to Nicaragua and the Central American Peace Accord, the Honduran position is very clear and I expressed it publicly yesterday in my many meetings in the Congress. We also understand the United States' point of view, which is very similar to ours. Yet there are some in Congress that believe that with the Peace Agreement everything is resolved but that is not a realistic judgment. I understand that you have your doubts and concerns about the Peace Agreement and that for you it was not entirely satisfactory but we thought that it was a necessary step that had to be taken at that moment, although it involves clear risks. There is no undoing that. What we must do now is to ensure that the Sandinistas comply with all aspects of the Peace Agreement. This is the same point that I have emphasized again and again in my meetings with the Congress and with the press. I particularly highlight the need for a general amnesty in Nicaragua. This general amnesty -- all the jails open -- plus a negotiated ceasefire with the Contras are key indicators to show that the democratization process is genuine. In our opinion, it is necessary for the U.S. Congress to abstain from eliminating the Contra option. It is a form of pressure needed to ensure that the Sandinistas comply with the Agreement. We regard this as reasonable and just.

President Reagan: Well, thank you again for your support. We will proceed with our request to Congress for continuing U.S. funding. There are two scenarios: either the Guatemala Accords are fully implemented and the Nicaraguan Resistance enters into a political process within a democratic framework or, if the Accords fail, the fight continues with renewed assistance. In either event, we must remain in close contact and cooperate with one another.

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President Azcona: The acceptance of the Peace Agreement by the United States strengthens it and helps the United States because it is not now the United States alone which is pressing the Sandinistas. Now the Sandinistas have signed an Agreement that places them on the road toward democracy. Maybe they don't mean it. Maybe they will again seek to deceive their neighbors and the world as they did in 1979 but we should press them to comply and if they don't comply, they will be exposed. In this we will do our part.

President Reagan: So will we. I believe that we are closer than ever as allies on this matter. The Sandinistas again betrayed their previous promises. Just two days ago, Radio Catolica was prevented from broadcasting a news program despite Sandinista pledges to allow full freedom of the press. We have a difficult situation in our budget and our foreign aid programs are being cut but we will do everything possible to protect Honduran interests. Your country is a high priority for me and my Administration.

President Azcona: Mr. President, we have always been aware of your support. We know that it is the Congress that cuts our programs. We have talked about some disbursement problems that we have with the State Department and I want to ask your help on our FMS debt. We need help on this so that we can help our armed forces.

Secretary Weinberger: Mr. President, this is the same problem that we have with Egypt. In order to forgive the debt, it requires express Congressional approval and that is difficult to obtain. Another alternative would be to see whether we can get better refinancing terms but, here too, there are obstacles because Treasury objects to placing lower interest rates on debts to the United States Government. I believe that we should try nevertheless to get better terms. We can discuss this topic at the lunch meeting.

President Reagan: I am sorry that I did not talk to you about your sport, ping pong. I understand that you are a champion.

President Azcona: Yes, I have played a little but my secret is that I have very good partners -- the drivers of our cars and my assistants. But I also have played with the Chief of a Taiwanese delegation, who was Taiwan's champion. He was ten years younger than I was but I beat him.

President Reagan: Mr. President, I must confess to a terrible habit of mine. I like to collect stories about what Soviet citizens say about their government and your comment about your

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driver brought this story to mind. It is said that under Gorbachev new traffic rules have been issued which direct traffic policemen to give a ticket to any violators, regardless of rank. Well, these couple of policemen saw a big black limousine speeding and one of them went out to give him a ticket. It just so happened that Gorbachev likes to drive and was driving that day while his chauffeur was sitting in the back seat. When the first policeman came back, the second one asked him "Did you give him a ticket?" to which he replied, "No." And he was asked: "Why not? We have instructions to give a ticket to anybody no matter how high in the government. Who was it?" And the policeman responded, "I did not recognize him but he must be very high because Gorbachev was his driver."

The meeting concluded. President Azcona and his delegation departed for a lunch being hosted at the Pentagon by Secretary Weinberger.

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

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10/23/87

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR FRANK C. CARLUCCI

FROM: JOSE S. SORZANO *JS*

SUBJECT: Minutes of President Reagan's Meeting with
President Azcona of Honduras, October 21, 1987

Attached at Tab I are the minutes of the President's meeting with
President Azcona for your review and approval.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you approve the attached memorandum of conversation.

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

Attachment
Tab I - Minutes of Meeting

DECLASSIFIED
Sec.34(b), E.O. 12958, as amended
White House Guidelines, Sept. 11, 2006
BY NARA KML, DATE 8/11/11

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Declassify on: OADR

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

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Chief of Staff Howard Baker
Deputy Chief of Staff Kenneth Duberstein
Deputy National Security Adviser Colin L. Powell
Acting Secretary of State Michael Armacost
Assistant Secretary of State Elliott Abrams
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President Jose Simon Azcona Hoyo
Mr. Carlos Lopez Contreras, Minister of Foreign Affairs
General Humberto Regalado Hernandez,
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Declassify on: OADR

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR MID-350/2 #116541

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BY RW NARA DATE 2/1/13

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