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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Call from the President to
President Carlos Salinas de Gortari
of Mexico

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President
For National Security Affairs
David A. Pacelli, NSC (Notetaker)

President Carlos Salinas de Gortari

DATE, TIME January 30, 1989, 11:00 - 11:03 a.m.
AND PLACE: Oval Office - Presidential Residence, Mexico
City

The President said he was calling to thank President Salinas for the congratulations he sent for the inauguration on January 20. The President recalled how much he enjoyed meeting President Salinas in Texas before the inauguration.

President Salinas told the President that he was very kind and said that the President was off to a nice start.

The President observed that it was better to have a measured pace and that if you rush things you can get in trouble, at least with the Congress. He then asked how things were with President Salinas's administration.

President Salinas said that things were fine and that he had tested the waters on some issues.

The President said he was going to Tokyo for the funeral of Emperor Hirohito and inquired whether President Salinas would attend.

President Salinas said that he would not attend but that his wife would go.

The President said maybe Barbara could say hello to her.

President Salinas said he appreciated the President's call.

The President said that he had his National Security Advisor Brent Scowcroft with him and that he had organized a fine team. The President suggested that perhaps some time his people could meet the new players on President Salinas's team. The President noted that President Salinas was already acquainted with Secretary of State Baker.

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President Salinas thought that such a meeting was a good idea.

The President thanked President Salinas for the courtesies extended to his son Jeb during the Salinas inauguration.

President Salinas said he was happy to do so and hoped that Jeb would come again.

The President said that was "wonderful," and remarked that Mexico practically has an agent in the White House in the form of his son Jeb. The President said Jeb loves Mexico and enjoyed his visit.

President Salinas thanked the President for his remarks.

The President said that he looks forward to seeing President Salinas again in the future. He said President Salinas should not hesitate to call him if saw any problems. The President said he has a good team that feels the same way he does about maintaining good relations with Mexico.

President Salinas agreed and said he also was dedicated to preserving good relations with the United States. He said it was very nice to talk to the President again and commented that it seemed as if the President had a cold.

The President said that he did have a hoarse voice and did not know where it came from.

President Salinas wished the President well.

The President wished President Salinas the best of luck.

President Salinas said that the President was very kind and thanked him for the call.