

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: The President's Telephone Call to Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte

DATE, TIME: April 22, 1989, 8:48 a.m. - 8:50 a.m.  
AND PLACE: Camp David - Walter Reed Army Medical Center

PARTICIPANTS: The President  
David A. Pacelli, NSC (Notetaker)  
  
President Duarte

The President began by saying, "Hello, Mr. President."

President Duarte, speaking in English, said hello and asked how the President was.

The President said he was fine, but he was interested in how President Duarte was.

President Duarte said he was well. The doctors told him that the cancer was the same as before [before it began to grow again last month].

The President said that he was sorry to miss seeing President Duarte this trip. He was out of town, at Camp David. But he wanted to call up and pay his respects.

President Duarte said, "Thank you."

The President said that he realized that this may be the last trip President Duarte was making to Washington as President of El Salvador, and he just wanted to pay his respects.

President Duarte said he would come back in June for longer treatments.

The President said that perhaps he would see him then. In any event, the President said, he wanted to pay his respects and also extend his condolences over the murder of the Salvadoran Attorney General and over the attacks on other government officials. The President said it was his impression that terrorist attacks by the FMLN on government officials were getting worse.

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President Duarte said yes, they were getting worse all the time. "That is what they want." He blamed this on "extremes" winning the election.

The President said that even though Duarte's term as President was coming to an end, he hoped that he would continue to speak out, not only on El Salvador, but also for democracy in Nicaragua.

President Duarte said it would depend upon his health, but he was willing to do so.

The President said, "Barbara and I are thinking of you," and that he was glad to get a chance to speak to Duarte.

President Duarte thanked the President.

The President and President Duarte exchanged goodbyes and the conversation ended.

Notetakers observation: President Duarte did not seem very communicative in this conversation.

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