THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

May 16, 1989

At 3:52 p.m. the President called Guillermo Endara, the true victor in Panama's recent elections. The President expressed his sympathy for the vicious assault which Mr. Endara and his fellow leaders of the democratic forces in Panama suffered at the hands of Noriega-regime thugs, and his pleasure at Mr. Endara's recuperation from his injuries.

The President made clear his solidarity with the Panamanian people's cause and his confidence that the legitimate electoral victory which Noriega has stolen would be restored to him and his colleagues. He expressed satisfaction at the wave of outrage which has swept the hemisphere in the wake of Noriega's effort to steal the election, by force and fraud.

Mr. Endara thanked the President, both for himself and for the Panamanian people. He stated that the Panamanian people had gone to the elections with the faith that their victory will be recognized by hemispheric leaders.

3715

ACTION

Natl Sec Advisor has seen

MEMORANDUM FOR BRENT SCOWCROFT

FROM: DAVID A. PACELLI DAV

SUBJECT: White House Statement on the President's Telephone Call to Guillermo Endara

The President's telephone call to Endara was very successful. Attached at Tab I is a press statement for your approval. APO Popadiuk concurs.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you approve the statement at Tab I.

Approve

Disapprove

Attachment

Tab I Press Statement