MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with Guillermo Endara, President-elect of Panama (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Guillermo Endara, President-elect of Panama
Notetaker: William Pryce

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: June 7, 1989, 6:42-6:44 P.M. EDT South Grounds

The President telephoned President-elect Endara concerning the death of his wife.

The President initiated the call and began by telling President-elect Endara how sorry he was about the death of Endara's wife. Endara said that the death had been sad and sudden and thanked the President for his expression of sympathy. (U)

The President then asked about Endara's health and Endara replied that he had been taking care of himself and was perfectly all right. (U)

The President said "wonderful" and asked whether there was anything new on the political scene, commenting that the line they were using was probably not a very good one to talk about it. (K)

President-elect Endara replied saying that there was not much new, that they had been following the OAS action regarding General Noriega, and that there was some disappointment in Panama regarding the delay (in the due date for the OAS' Commission's report on its new efforts to achieve a transfer of power to a democratic government.) Endara said that a month and a half seemed like a long time, but added that they were taking a philosophical view of the matter, and making the best of the situation. They hoped that the extra time would allow things to be done well. (K)

The President said that we still want to see the will of the people fulfilled in Panama and that meant Endara becoming President. He added that he wasn't sure what we could do about this but we were available for suggestions. He then repeated he had just wanted to pay his respects to Endara and his family on their terrible loss. (K)

President-elect Endara thanked the President who ended the conversation by saying that they would stay in touch and wishing Endara good luck. (U)