

# Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet (George Bush Library)

Document No. and Type	Subject/Title of Document	Date	Restriction	Class.
13. Memcon	Re: Meeting with President Mario Soares of Portugal (3 pp.)	6/26/89	(b)(1)	S

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**File Location:** Presidential Meetings - Memorandum of Conversations 6/1/89 - 7/12/89

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<b>FOIA/SYS Case #:</b> 2009-0275-S	<b>Appeal Case #:</b>
<b>Re-review Case #:</b>	<b>Appeal Disposition:</b>
<b>P-2/P-5 Review Case #:</b>	<b>Disposition Date:</b>
<b>AR Case #:</b> 2000-0429-F(82)	<b>MR Case #:</b>
<b>AR Disposition:</b> Released in Part	<b>MR Disposition:</b>
<b>AR Disposition Date:</b> 8/21/2009	<b>MR Disposition Date:</b>

### RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

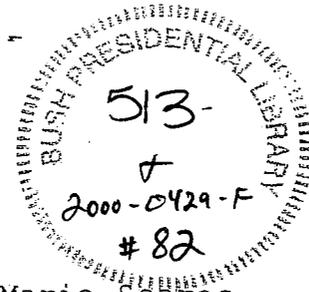
- P-1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P-2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P-5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Removed as a personal record misfile.

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

- (b)(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- (b)(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- (b)(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- (b)(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- (b)(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- (b)(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- (b)(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- (b)(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

## MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Meeting with President Mario Soares  
of Portugal (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President  
Lawrence Eagleburger, Acting Secretary  
of State  
Robert M. Gates, Deputy Assistant to the  
President for National Security Affairs  
James Dobbins, Acting Assistant Secretary  
of State for European and Canadian Affairs  
Adrian A. Basora, Director for European  
Economic Affairs, NSC (Notetaker)

Mario Soares, President  
Joao Bastos, Ambassador of Portugal  
to the US  
Joao Nunes Barata, Chief of Cabinet of the  
Office of the President

DATE, TIME June 26, 1989, 5:05 - 5:40pm EDT  
AND PLACE: The Oval Office

The President opened by expressing his appreciation for Portugal's close alliance with the US, particularly on NATO issues. (S)

President Soares responded that Portugal was geographically the closest European neighbor of the US and so it was appropriate that it should be our closest friend. (S)

The President turned to Central America, noted Soares' strong commitment to democracy, and mentioned the remarkable change in European assessments of the Sandinistas. He stressed the importance of having the Central Americans pressure the Sandinistas for a free election. (S)

President Soares agreed and said it was essential that something happen in Nicaragua. Given the reforms in Eastern Europe and elsewhere, Central America was one of the few places in the world where there had been no change, and the time was now propitious. (S)

The President pointed out that if Noriega is permitted to get away with stealing an election and beating people it will be hard to get the Sandinistas to conclude that they must reform. (S)

~~SECRET~~

Declassify on: OADR

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PER E.O. 12958, AS AMENDED  
2000-0429-F  
8/21/09 KW

President Soares responded that Noriega should be condemned and said that the Sandinistas were in a weak position. (S)

The President appreciated Soares' position and said he would welcome his ideas over the coming months. (S)

President Soares turned the conversation to China, saying Portugal was concerned because of its responsibilities for Macao. He summarized the Portuguese role there and the differences with Hong Kong, particularly regarding local democratic institutions. It was impossible for Portugal to control the large inflow of Chinese into Macao; this was a problem for the Chinese government. Portugal had an ongoing dialogue with Canton and Beijing on this and had to be careful in its public posture given its special responsibilities in Macao. One interesting indicator was that Taiwanese investment had continued to flow into Macao despite recent events. (S)

The President replied that it sounded as if Portugal was handling the situation well. (S)

President Soares said there would be pressure at the Madrid EC Summit to adopt a harder line. (S)

The President said it would be easy to raise the rhetorical level and to crack down on the economic front, but he did not want to hurt the very people who had benefitted from the reform process in China. There was great public emotion in the US, and the President felt it himself, but it was important to remain calm while strongly criticizing excesses so as not to hurt the Chinese people or discourage resumption of the reform process. (S)

President Soares agreed. In a brief reference to Argentina, he added that Menem was in fact better than his press image and had put together a solid, broad-based cabinet. (S)

The President, turning to Angola, praised the persistence of ex-Assistant Secretary Crocker under criticism and said that Savimbi's decision to accept reconciliation with Dos Santos seemed like the right solution. However, he was interested in Soares' view. (S)

President Soares recalled that in Tokyo he had congratulated the President (b) (1) but he had not expected such rapid positive movement as had occurred since then. The Zaire meeting had been a surprise, as had been the sudden change of (b) (1)

(b) (1)

Hopefully it would work now. If so there could be an economic recovery in which Portuguese

knowledge of Angola and US investment interest might combine to help the process. (S)

(b)(1)

The President then asked Soares' views of Savimbi. (S)

President Soares described Savimbi as a great African tribal chief, an able military leader and an educated man with long political experience and high standing among African leaders. He also had good relations with the Catholic Church, which would play an important role. There were also other moderating forces within UNITA. (S)

President Soares ended by saying he hoped to see the President in Portugal. (U)

The President responded that he had enjoyed his last visit there greatly and would like to go again, but it would not be possible on his upcoming trip to Europe. (U)