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| 27. Telcon | Re: Telephone Conversation with President Arias of Costa Rica (3 pp.) | 11/28/89 | (b)(1) | C |

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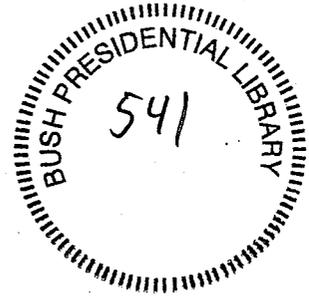
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RESTRICTION CODES

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| <p>Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]</p> <p>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]</p> <p>C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.</p> <p>PRM. Removed as a personal record misfile.</p> | <p>Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]</p> <p>(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</p> |
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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON



MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with President Arias of Costa Rica (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Oscar Sanchez Arias
Notetaker: David A. Pacelli

DATE, TIME: November 28, 1989, 10:05 - 10:15 am, EST
AND PLACE: The Oval Office - Arias' Presidential Office

President Arias telephoned the President to talk about the situation in El Salvador.

The President: Hello, Mr. President, how are you? (U)

President Arias: Fine, fine. (U)

The President: How are you sir? (U)

President Arias: Very sad with the developments here in Central America and what is happening in El Salvador. (Ø)

The President: I am sure. (U)

President Arias: I wanted to talk to you before you go to see Gorbachev. I'm sure you will talk about Central America, Nicaragua, etc. (Ø)

The President: Yes sir. (U)

President Arias: But I wanted to encourage you to be very strong with Gorbachev because it is Fidel Castro who is the one behind all this more than anyone else. Unless the Soviets decide to put an end to this, he will go on with all this export of the revolution in Central America. I think that the Soviets have to hear from you and the Free World that they cannot go along with support to Fidel Castro if he keeps on trying to export the revolution in El Salvador. And I tell you this is something that Fidel does not deny. (Ø)

The President: Yes, he doesn't deny it. (Ø)

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President Arias: On the contrary, he boasts about it. When I went to the inauguration of Carlos Andres Perez, I talked to Fidel about his aid to the FMLN. (S)

The President: Yes. (U)

President Arias: He said that he had a moral responsibility to these guys. (S)

The President: Uh huh. (U)

President Arias: And this is something that he doesn't hide. (S)

The President: I think you have raised a good point and this will be raised strongly, directly, and positively with Gorbachev. I think he is expecting this. They have asked for evidence about Nicaraguan complicity in this and I plan to bring up the whole thing. (S)

President Arias: That would be a good thing. (U)

The President: I appreciate your call and I would like to be able to say that you called me because he respects you as well. (S)

President Arias: Yes, you can say that I called. Fidel Castro has said to many people, to Felipe Gonzalez, to Carlos Andres Perez as well as to me, of his support for the FMLN. It is well known that he is behind this offensive, and without Fidel Castro the FMLN wouldn't do such a thing. I know them, Mr. President, and talked to them many times. [REDACTED] (S)

The President: You mean the FMLN? (S)

(b)(1)

President Arias: Yes, the FMLN. And they have been encouraged by Fidel. (S)

The President: I think this is a very timely phone call and I appreciate it. We all are concerned with the SA-7 delivery and the arms that were discovered in the American woman's house. It looks bad. A man in your position carries weight and is well respected. It would be good if I were able to say you called and I will make that point to Gorbachev. (S)

President Arias: Of course, Mr. President, you could mention this to him. Well, I wish you the best of luck. (S)

The President: Thank you very much. There is increasing interest in this meeting with Gorbachev. And it is not going to be any different from how I described it to you. It will be a good meeting, timely, and not only will we be discussing Eastern Europe, but you can be sure that at the top of our agenda will be

democracy and peace in Central America. And maybe because of the economic pressure--just maybe--I will find Mr. Gorbachev more receptive to demands on the part of our side than he has been in the past. (C)

President Arias: I called the Soviet Ambassador only two days ago. As usual, he said that they had nothing to do with this offensive. This might be true, but I think Fidel Castro is behind it and the Soviets still support Castro. If they stop sending oil to Cuba for their economy, I am sure Fidel Castro would stop exporting his revolution. The Soviets wash their hands and say that it is not their fault. It is very easy for them to say they have not been able to persuade Fidel to stop. But it is their responsibility. (C)

The President: That is very true. Well, I appreciate your phone call. I guarantee it will be related as directly and forcefully as it can be. Thank you for your confidence in calling me. (C)

President Arias: Thank you, Mr. President. (U)

The President: I still love that visit to San Jose. Despite all the controversy, there were many good things about that visit. I think the most moving thing for me was how at the last event--the warmth of the people for you--and how they showed their love for democracy. I am just proud to have been a part of the presentations there. (C)

President Arias: Thank you. It was very good to have you. The Costa Rican people will never forget it. (C)

The President: Good luck and my love to your wife. (U)

President Arias: Thank you sir and my best to yours too. (U)