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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Meeting with United Nations Secretary  
General Perez de Cuellar (U)

PARTICIPANTS: Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President  
for National Security Affairs  
John Wolf, Deputy Assistant Secretary of  
State for International Organizations  
Nancy Bearg Dyke, Director, International  
Programs and Public Diplomacy, NSC  
(Notetaker)

Javier Perez de Cuellar, UN Secretary General  
Ronald I. Spiers, Under Secretary General for  
Political and General Assembly Affairs and  
Secretariat Services  
Alvaro de Soto, Executive Assistant to the  
Secretary General  
John L. Washburn, Director in the Executive  
Office of the Secretary General (Notetaker)

DATE, TIME June 6, 1990, 3:30 p.m. - 4:10 p.m.  
AND PLACE: Willard Hotel

Exchange of greetings. (U)

General Scowcroft: How were your Hill meetings in general? (U)

Secretary General Perez de Cuellar: Useful with good questions,  
though two were cancelled. I hope to see Dole and Mitchell  
tonight. (U)

General Scowcroft: I am sure the Senators and Congressmen are  
responsive but in their priorities, it is easily deferred (the  
arrears). (U)

Secretary General Perez de Cuellar: I gave Cambodia as an  
example of an expected dire need for reserve funding. (U)

General Scowcroft: We are planning on the UN in several  
instances. (U)

Secretary General Perez de Cuellar: Yes, we could have the  
Western Sahara, Cambodia, Afghanistan, and El Salvador all at the  
same time as new requirements. And we do not have a single penny  
of reserve. (U)

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General Scowcroft: Maybe, if it is of direct interest to the US, we can go up to the Hill for a supplemental. I would be delighted if you can get to that point. It would mean success. The President is determined to pay the arrearages but I don't know when it will happen. (U)

Mr. Spiers: Sarbanes says the President should say it on the Hill. (U)

General Scowcroft: Okay. Is there any subject you wish to raise? (U)

Secretary General Perez de Cuellar: Afghanistan. Is the status of Najibullah the only remaining problem between you and the Soviets? (S)

General Scowcroft: It is the main one. (U)

Discussion followed about options for Najibullah and the possibility of a shura or a role for the king. (S)

Secretary General Perez de Cuellar: Many mujahadin are against the king. How to set up a situation which the leaders will accept is a big problem. (S)

General Scowcroft: The Pakistanis are giving most of their aid to Hekmatyar, but we do not like him. Masoud is the closest to a national leader we think we should support. We are definitely not at a solution yet. (S)

Secretary General Perez de Cuellar: Cambodia. The news from Tokyo (meeting of Cambodian groups) is bad because Pol Pot is not a part of the agreement. I cannot provide security if all do not agree. (S)

Mr. Spiers: On the Zionism is Racism resolution, how much of a head of steam is built up here? Moynihan wants to repeal it. (S)

General Scowcroft: The Israelis raise it every time as an objection to the UN. The President mentioned it to Gorbachev. (S)

Secretary General de Cuellar: It is necessary to not try too early to repeal it and be defeated. It is actually dead but the Israelis have kept it alive. I will be the first to vote for a resolution against it but we must be careful that the resolution will not lose. (S)

Mr. de Soto: It is linked to other issues too. If we raise it, the Arabs will say the Israelis demonstrate what is in the resolution in the Occupied Territories. (S)

General Scowcroft: If it can be done quietly, it is better than with much fanfare. (S)

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Mrs. Dyke: The Israelis do not want us to go forward if we might lose, as even an improved margin will reconfirm the resolution. (Ø)

Secretary General Perez de Cuellar: It can be a mistake to revive this. (Ø)

General Scowcroft: That is my view too. It is an irritant but not worth spending any time on. (Ø)

Secretary General Perez de Cuellar: Havel raised it. I explained as I have to you. Eastern Europe is changing -- establishing relations with Israel. As I told Vice President Quayle, I am willing to help but there is no tradition of directly repealing a UNGA resolution. (Ø)

Mr. de Soto: It is better to rephrase, reinterpret. (Ø)

Mr. Spiers: Our concern was that you would start down a path and get backlash from the Congress against the UN. (Ø)

General Scowcroft: No, there is no sign of that. It would be foolish to pursue it unless we knew we had the votes to do it quietly. (Ø)

General Scowcroft: I hope you know we support your sending Goulding to Israel. (Ø)

Secretary General Perez de Cuellar: They do not want Goulding, though he is an impeccable man. (Ø)

General Scowcroft: We would work hard to get an emissary accepted by Israel. (Ø)

Secretary General Perez de Cuellar: Yes, I want to send a man. It will be a humanitarian mission. In 10 days, I could send a mission quietly, but two weeks ago in Geneva, the Israelis told me Goulding is unacceptable. Aimé is my man on the Middle East. (Ø)

Mr. Wolf: There is some pressure to go to the UNGA. (Ø)

Mr. Spiers: Yes, the Arabs are thinking about asking for a UNGA session 18 June. (Ø)

Secretary General Perez de Cuellar: Maybe, I can advance my announcement. They respect Aimé. (Ø)

Mr. Spiers: After President Bush mentioned Goulding in his press conference, Terzi called to complain. (Ø)

Secretary General Perez de Cuellar: If the Israelis give me the green light, everyone will agree. I need the green light. (Ø)

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General Scowcroft: We are prepared to help. (Ø)

General Scowcroft: Rafsanjani. I understand he made some comments today at a press conference. (U)

Secretary General Perez de Cuellar: Yes, he is asking me to go to Tehran. Tomorrow I will see the Ambassador of Iraq. If the trip works out, it can be important. I will keep you informed. (Ø)

Secretary General Perez de Cuellar: Middle East. My great frustration is that we are not moving. If you accepted, the UN Security Council could begin quietly discussing it. (Ø)

General Scowcroft: We are reaching a moment of truth on our own peace process. If Shamir is not prepared to go forward in about two weeks, we will look for something else. (Ø)

Secretary General Perez de Cuellar: What are the chances for Shamir? (Ø)

General Scowcroft: The experts think yes. The question deep down is if Shamir wants election reform. A coalition government is in both their interests. (Ø)

Secretary General Perez de Cuellar: Shamir is courageous. (Ø)

General Scowcroft: But he seems to feel any alternative is worse than where he is now. (Ø)

Secretary General Perez de Cuellar: You work on Israel quietly and give me the green light. You can tell Israel that Perez de Cuellar met with Netanyahu(?) and it is no problem to give a visa to Mr. Blanchard accompanied by Mr. Aimé to the area, for me as UNSYG. (Ø)

After the formal meeting, John Wolf gave the UN Secretary General the attached non-paper on Ethiopia and mentioned its main points. (Ø)

-- End of Conversation --

Attachment

Tab A Non-paper/Talking Points on Ethiopia

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