

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

July 15, 1991

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR WILLIAM F. SITTMANN

SIGNED

THROUGH: WILLIAM T. PRYCE *WTP*

FROM: ROBERT MORLEY *RM*

SUBJECT: Telcon with Carlos Salinas, President of Mexico on July 12, 1991

Attached at Tab A is a telephone conversation between the President and President Carlos Salinas of Mexico.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum at Tab I forwarding a copy of the Telephone Conversation to the State Department for the use of Assistant Secretary Aronson and Ambassador Negroponte.

Attachments

- Tab I Memorandum to Agency Counterpart
- Tab A Telephone Conversation

DECLASSIFIED
White House Guidelines
E.O. 12958, SEC 3.4 (B) September 11, 2006
By W NARA, Date 7/14/07

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5300

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with President Salinas of Mexico (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Carlos Salinas, President of Mexico
Notetaker: William Pryce/Robert Morley

DATE, TIME July 12, 1991, 6:43 - 6:51 P.M. EDT
AND PLACE: Kennebunkport, Maine

The President: Hello, Carlos. (U)

President Salinas: Hello, George (U)

The President: How are you? (U)

President Salinas: Okay. (U)

The President: I'm leaving on a trip to Europe tomorrow and wanted to talk to you before I left. I think the meeting will go okay. I saw Kaifu today and that meeting went well. (U)

We are trying to make progress on arms control. I had a call from Jim Baker. He thinks there is some progress but I don't know if we will get enough to have a meeting at the end of the month. We'll see. (U)

I'm calling you because you have your own meeting coming up. I don't want to appear to be ignoring the countries so important to us in this hemisphere because of business elsewhere. I just want to reiterate some things where I know you understand how we feel, but I thought I would mention them to you. (U)

Last week you went to Europe yourself, didn't you? (U)

President Salinas: Yes, I went to Germany, Czechoslovakia, Italy and the Soviet Union. (U)

The President: How did it go? (U)

President Salinas: It went fine. I had a response from all of them. (U)

The President: Did you see Gorbachev? (U)

President Salinas: Yes. He is in a positive mood for London. He said he is at the end of the line. His options are over. He hopes he will get a good response for his problems. (U)

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The President: I hope that he will too. The problem is that his problems are so big, his finances are so bad, that it will be tough. But we want to encourage him, to give him respect. We don't want him to be put down. But we want him to come home with something. I think he has made real reform. (Ø)

But I called to talk about the Guadalajara summit. It is a great opportunity for discussions on important issues. I had a good visit with President Cristiani and I know he talked to you as well. We are strong for him but he hasn't got much to show for his efforts. I think Freddie intends to make more reforms, but he has to show something in return. The big thing is that he has to get a cease-fire and incorporate the FMLN back into civilian life. (Ø)

I don't think we have much of a direct role to play -- you and CAP have more influence on events. I hope you and CAP and the so-called friends will use your influence. (Ø)

President Salinas: We are planning to put strong pressure on the FMLN, we want to show the FMLN that we are behind the proposal Cristiani has made. (Ø)

The President: Great. I know it will make a difference. I knew you would help. We think Cristiani has made a really good effort. (Ø)

President Salinas: Perez de Cuellar will be there also. He will make a difference. It will show that we are supporting a cease-fire. (Ø)

The President: Good. I'm glad the Secretary General will be there. I know that de Soto has tried, but I don't think he has been forceful enough. His approach hasn't been a forceful one. (Ø)

President Salinas: I personally believe Cristiani deserves credit and will get support. (Ø)

The President: I'm glad to hear that. One other thing. My friend Fidel will be there. I hope there will be pressure for him to reform. We would have instantly better relations if he did. (Ø)

President Salinas: That would be good. (U)

The President: If Castro would do something, then we could do something. But without change on his side, I can't do anything. I have my own political problems here. I had a talk with CAP. He said "Why don't you give Castro something"? I'm not going to do that. We can't do much to get him to change. I think that if there is pressure from everyone it would be helpful. What is needed is pressure from people who have better relations with him. We have great affection for the Cuban people and want

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better relations with Cuba. After all, there are more Cubans in Miami than there are in Cuba. (S)

President Salinas: Not quite. CAP called and told me he talked to Castro for seven hours, trying to persuade Castro with some good ideas. Castro was not very forthcoming. (S)

The President: If you could put pressure on him, do it in a way that will get results. I guess he's pretty locked in. (S)

President Salinas: Don't worry. He will have lots of peer pressure at Guadalajara. (S)

The President: Good. I'm glad to hear that. I knew I could count on you. I'll talk to you when I get back. Do you have any plans to come here informally anytime soon? We should talk soon. (S)

President Salinas: No, I don't think so. I'll let you know. Best wishes for your trip and the meeting in London. (S)

The President: Thanks. And my best wishes for you at your meeting. Good luck. (U)

President Salinas: Thanks. (U)

The President: Best to your family. Over and out. (U)

--- End of Conversation ---

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