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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

October 2, 1991

**SIGNED**

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR WILLIAM F. SITTMANN

THROUGH: WILLIAM T. PRYCE *WTP*

FROM: ROBERT B. MORLEY *RM*

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with President Carlos  
Andres Perez of Venezuela, September 30, 1991

**NOTED**

Attached at Tab A is the Memorandum of Telephone Conversation between the President and President Carlos Andres Perez of Venezuela on September 30, 1991. At Tab I is a transmittal memorandum to the State Department forwarding the telcon to Assistant Secretary Aronson and Ambassadors Skol in Venezuela and Adams in Haiti.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum at Tab I transmitting the telcon at Tab A to the State Department.

That the attached Memorandum of Telephone Conversation be filed for the record.

Approve *KSH* Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Attachments

- Tab I Sittmann Memorandum to Pearson
- Tab A Memorandum of Telephone Conversation

DECLASSIFIED  
E.O. 12958, SEC 3.5(B)  
WHITE HOUSE GUIDELINES, AUGUST 28, 1997  
BY *FSZ* NARA, DATE *6/8/01*

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Declassify on: OADR

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with President Carlos Andres Perez of Venezuela on September 30, 1991 (C)

PARTICIPANTS: The President  
 Carlos Andres Perez, President of Venezuela  
 Interpreter: Lillian Nigalioni  
 Notetaker: William T. Pryce/Robert B. Morley

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: September 30, 1991, 9:39 p.m. - 9:48 p.m. DST  
 Air Force One

President Bush: Hello, my friend, this is George Bush calling. How are you? (U)

President Perez: It is a pleasure to hear your voice again. I know you are flying. I am very worried about the situation in Haiti, and about President Aristide. I just heard they have agreed to take him to the airport. Many people fear he may be shot. We don't know who is leading the rebellion. I am coordinating with our Embassy in Haiti to see if we can arrange to pick him up. But, President Bush, I think the situation is very grave. We cannot let the coup succeed, or we will have a repetition of the situation in other countries like in Suriname. The Foreign Ministers are meeting at the OAS tomorrow to discuss the situation. We need to think about what we can do at this time. It is a grave situation. Prime Minister Mulroney called. He is equally worried. I talked with Mitterrand as well. He said he is willing to discuss what can be done to end the coup d'etat. (C)

President Bush: I am concerned because we do not have good information about what is going on. Our Ambassador is consulting with your Ambassador and that is good. (C)

President Perez: Yes, our Ambassadors are in contact. The Ambassadors of Venezuela, the United States, France, and Canada have been working together around the clock. I talk to our Ambassador in Haiti every half hour. (C)

President Bush: I understand there was some talk about a flyby with aircraft, but that doesn't have much appeal if you don't have a next step. We are not ready to follow up. (C)

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PER E.O. 12958,  
AS AMENDED  
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President Perez: agree with you, sir. It would be premature and too likely to precipitate unfortunate things. I don't think it would help. They have been talking about a visit to Haiti by the OAS Secretary General, accompanied by some of the Foreign Ministers. This will be discussed tomorrow; I would agree. Our Foreign Minister left for Washington today to participate in tomorrow's OAS meeting. I have instructed him to accompany the OAS Secretary General to Haiti if necessary. (C)

President Bush: That might make more sense. And getting the OAS together sounds like a good idea. CAP, what do you understand the position of the regular military forces in Haiti to be. What are they doing? (C)

President Perez: It is a very confused situation. The army leadership does not support the coup. We don't know who is leading the rebellious group. We are trying to save Aristide's life. They agreed recently to send him to the airport. I am sending an airplane to bring him to Venezuela. (C)

President Bush: Very good. Have you got an airplane there already? (C)

President Perez: No. We have one available and will send it when the Ambassador has everything arranged. (C)

President Bush: Well, I don't think there is much more we can do tonight. We should talk again tomorrow. The OAS may have something to say. I will be available tomorrow to consult with you again. We need to talk early tomorrow to see what the situation is and what can be done. (C)

President Perez: That is a good idea. Maybe we can talk again about 10:00 a.m.? (C)

President Bush: I think that will be fine. I am not certain. I don't know what my schedule is, but we'll talk again. A big abrazo. (C)

President Perez: Perfect, we'll talk again tomorrow. (U)

President Bush: Okay. Thanks a million. (U)

President Perez: Okay. Until tomorrow. (U)

--- End of Conversation ---

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