

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

## MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with Violeta Chamorro of Nicaragua on  
July 31, 1992 (Ø)

PARTICIPANTS: The President  
Violeta Chamorro, President of Nicaragua  
Interpreter: Stephanie Van Reigersberg  
Notetaker: William Pryce/Robert Morley

DATE, TIME July 31, 1992, 2:38 - 2:49pm DST  
AND PLACE: Air Force One

President Bush: Violeta, como esta? (U)

President Chamorro: I am fine, working too much now. How are  
you, dear friend? (U)

(The conversation was interrupted here briefly because of a  
problem with communications.)

President Bush: Violeta, are you there? Can you hear me? (U)

President Chamorro: Yes, I can hear you again. I am fine. And  
you? (U)

President Bush: Fine. I heard you were in town and wanted to  
see you. I'm sorry I couldn't. First, I want to talk about your  
family, and Marco, and then we can talk a little business. How  
is Marco? (U)

President Chamorro: Thank you for asking. Marco is fine. It is  
a miracle. He is here with us and looks so good. We are  
grateful that you asked. Now we can talk about my country. (U)

President Bush: Ok, but what I really want to do is to hear from  
you about what is happening in your country; what your problems  
are. (Ø)

President Chamorro: I just wanted to tell you that I went to  
Charlottesville to meet with the governors and Presidents of  
Central America, and took advantage of that trip to bring Foreign  
Minister Leal and Minister Lacayo to meet with Senators and  
discuss what they are doing, and then report to Secretary Baker.  
Leal and Lacayo did talk to Secretary Baker. I could not go,  
because I had a medical checkup. I assure you, everything is all  
right. I'm just fine. Leal and Lacayo made the following point  
to Secretary Baker: Please help us with Senator Helms. He is  
doing a tremendous amount of damage to Nicaragua with his hold on  
assistance, which is a commitment by the United States.  
Secretary Baker promised to talk to Senator Helms and convince

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him to lift the hold if possible. If it is not lifted, there could be a real collapse at any minute. Things are going well, slowly, but well, and to have things on hold now is a shame. I also want you to know that what Senator Helms wants is being done, not overnight, but it is being done. All of this weighs heavily on me. We are working to resolve the problems. Anything you can do to help would be good. If we could have this thing done by the first of September, it would be a miracle, it would calm everyone down. (Ø)

President Bush: Secretary Baker gave me a report. He said he raised the two issues, property claims and the police thing. He said Lacayo gave good assurances. This will help us work on Senator Helms, and to get the Senate to free up the funds. (Ø)

President Chamorro: Of course, it is being done, it will be done. The problems will be resolved as soon as possible. (Ø)

President Bush: We want it out of the way. With these assurances, which Jim told me were most helpful, we will both try to see what we can do. I think Dodd was in this too. Is that right? (Ø)

President Chamorro: Yes, and I talked with Senator Lugar, and Senator Katzenbaum is also in this. And it seems Dodd is in favor now of giving us the assistance. This should help us even more. (Ø)

President Bush: That's good. The more people that are in favor, helping us, the better chance we have to convince the Senators to liberate the funds. (Ø)

President Chamorro: I am talking to them a lot, even trying to get them to fall in love with me. (Ø)

President Bush: That should be easy. If you could do it with a President, why not with them? (Ø)

President Chamorro: Listen, I wanted to wish you a lot of luck. Remember when I said you would win, and that we would finish our terms together? I still feel that way. (Ø)

President Bush: Yes, I remember. This has been a rough year, but we will win. After my convention in Houston, we will take the offensive and get our record on the table. Good luck from me and the American people. (Ø)

President Chamorro: Thank you so much for calling. You have a busy schedule. Remember, we are both working for peace, democracy, and prosperity. (Ø)

President Bush: Good luck. (U)

President Chamorro: Good by, my dear Mr. President. (U)

-- End of Conversation --

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