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PRIME MINISTER

Meeting with Vice-President of Nicaragua

Vice-President Ramirez calls on you at 1030 tomorrow. He will be accompanied by the Ambassador.

His purpose is to gain understanding and sympathy for the Sandinista regime. You will want to leave him in no doubt that our view of them will be coloured by the extent to which they establish a pluralist democracy, and that we are far from impressed by progress so far. (The attached despatch by our Ambassador about the elections has a lot of useful ammunition.) You will also want to take him up on Nicaraguan support for subversion in El Salvador, their slavish adherence to the Soviet and Cuban line on international issues and their distended armed forces.

You will probably want to send President Reagan a short message after the meeting giving an account of what you said. The Americans are rather twitchy about Nicaraguan efforts to pick up support in Europe.

Card attached.

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C.D. Powell

6 February 1985

At the back of the folder is an account of Sir G. Howe's talk with him yesterday. Ramirez speaks at the Oxford Union tonight.

CDP 7/2.