



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

26 September 1983

JD
JLB
C. F. L.
Dear Senor Duarte,

Thank you for your letter of 1 September about the presentation of proposals for the development of Central America to European Community aid donors.

We have followed with interest the Special Meeting in Brussels on Economic Development in Central America. I share your hope that it may contribute to better understanding of Central American problems among donor countries. I also hope that trade and private investment will be encouraged to play their part in the development of the region. But I am sure you will agree that the first priority in countries such as your own must be to restore peace and stability without which the necessary climate of confidence will be absent. This is vital in itself, but will also contribute to the further strengthening of democracy and help to set the region on a new path.

It was a great pleasure to meet you during your recent visit to London and to learn at first hand about the problems of your country and of your hopes for the future.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

His Excellency Senor Ing. Jose Napoleon Duarte



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

23 September 1983

Please type

AR 2/2

Dear John, El Salvador

Your letter of 13 September asked for advice on the form and content of a reply to Ing. Duarte's letter to the Prime Minister of 1 September. Since the Prime Minister received Ing. Duarte on 19 July we consider that a personal reply from her would be appropriate. I enclose a draft.

As we do not give aid to El Salvador at present and are cautious about increasing either bilateral or multilateral aid to other Central American countries the draft is couched in deliberately non-committal terms.

I suggest we should forward the Prime Minister's reply to Senor Duarte through HM Ambassador at Tegucigalpa who is also accredited to El Salvador. The next bag for Tegucigalpa leaves the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on Monday 26 September.

Yours ever
J E Holmes

(J E Holmes)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

DRAFT: ~~minute/letter/teleletter/despatch/note~~

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM:

Reference

Prime Minister

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO:

Your Reference

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

His Excellency Senor Ing. Jose
Napoleon Duarte
SAN SALVADOR

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

Thank you for your letter of 1 September about the presentation of proposals for the development of Central America to ~~donors of the~~ European Community *aid donors.*

CAVEAT.....

We have followed with interest the Special Meeting in Brussels on Economic Development in Central America. I share your hope that it may contribute to better understanding of Central American problems among donor countries. I also hope that trade and private investment will be encouraged by the proposed measures to play their part in the development of the region although I am sure you will agree that the first priority in countries such as your own must be to restore peace and stability without which the necessary climate of confidence will be absent. This is vital in itself but will also contribute to the further strengthening of democracy and help to set the region on a new path.

Enclosures—flag(s).....

~~Perhaps I may add that~~ It was a great pleasure to meet you during your recent visit to London and to learn at first hand about the problems of your country and of your hopes for the future.

for 23/7

A SHIVAJI
Dec 82

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