



Jo K
CFO

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

6 January 1984

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for your letter of 20 December about the new Constitution and the forthcoming presidential elections.

Her Majesty's Government welcome the approval by the Constituent Assembly of the new Political Constitution, and the announcement that Presidential elections will be held on 25 March 1984.

I have the honour to convey to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

A. J. COLES

His Excellency Alfonso Moises Beatriz

CF

RESTRICTED



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

5 January 1984

Dear John,

El Salvador

*Typ letter pl.
No 5/1*

As you asked in your letter of 21 December, I enclose a draft reply for your signature on behalf of the Prime Minister to the Salvadorean Ambassador.

The new Political Constitution was agreed by the Salvadorean Constituent Assembly on 15 December only after five months of bitter debate. Its most important articles set the framework for land reform, and for the holding of elections (planned for 25 March this year). On paper at least, the approval of the Constitution is a step in the right direction. But the actual impact of the Constitution will depend on the effectiveness with which these articles are implemented; both the elections and the land reform programme are opposed by the extremes of the political spectrum on the left and the right.

We have, therefore, proposed a fairly low key welcome in replying to the Ambassador. Lady Young has written in similar terms in response to a letter to the Foreign Secretary.

Yours ever,

Peter Ricketts

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

RESTRICTED

DRAFT: ~~XXXXXX~~/letter/~~XXXXXX~~/despatch/~~XXXXXX~~

TYPE: Draft/~~XXXXXX~~

FROM:

Reference

PS/Prime Minister

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO:

Your Reference

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

H E Alfonso Moisés Beatriz
 Embassy of El Salvador
 Flat 9
 62 Welbeck Street
 LONDON W1

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

Your Excellency,

CAVEAT.....

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for your letter of 20 December about the new Constitution and the forthcoming presidential elections.

Her Righty

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Handwritten signature
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Enclosures—flag(s).....

El Salvador - Internal Site. Dec 81.

15 JAN 1984

