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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

16 July 1984

Visit of President Duarte of El Salvador

Roger Bone telephoned me on 13 July to say that President Duarte ws unable to accept the Prime Minister's invitation for talks on 20 July but could manage 21 July.

The Prime Minister will in fact be extremely busy on 21 July with preparation for a Parliamentary debate the following week. It will be difficult for her to find more than one hour for President Duarte and any meeting would have to be at Chequers. I should be grateful if you would explore the possibilities of a meeting between 10 and 11 or between 3.30 and 4.30 at Chequers that day. The numbers should be very restricted, ideally to President Duarte plus one, plus an interpreter.

Cf.

Peter Ricketts Esq Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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PRIME MINISTER

VISIT OF PRESIDENT DUARTE

We conveyed your invitation to President Duarte to come to Chequers for a talk on 21 July. He has now, however, decided that he will not be able to visit the UK at all on this particular trip. He was, however, very grateful for your invitation and hopes he will have another chance to meet you before very long.

CDP.

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C D Powell

16 July 1984

PRIME MINISTER

President Duarte

You agreed yesterday to see President
Duarte when he was in Europe if it could be
fitted in to your programme. The only time
he could manage would be on Saturday 21 July.
You will be at Chequers. Agree to see him
at Chequers on that day?

I am told that he understands all the difficulties in setting up a meeting at short notice and would not be surprised if you were unable to see him this time.

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13 July 1984

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

12 July 1984

El Salvador: President Duarte

Thank you for your letter of 11 July in which you suggested that President Duarte should be invited to make a stop-over in London on 19 or 20 July to meet the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister would be ready to invite President Duarte but the days in question are both very difficult. The only real opportunity for a meeting would be at 11.00 am on 20 July. I shall be grateful if you would arrange for an invitation to be conveyed to President Duarte to call on the Prime Minister at that time, making clear that this is the only opportunity which she will have to see him on his present tour.

Charles Powell

Len Appleyard, Esq., Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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