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MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with President Alfredo
Cristiani of El Salvador (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
President Cristiani
Notetaker: Robert Morley/James Waurishuk

DATE, TIME August 5, 1991, 4:05 - 4:13 p.m.
AND PLACE: The Oval Office

The President: Hello, Fred, hello? Sr. Presidente, how are you?
(U)

President Cristiani: Hello, how are you, Mr. President? (U)

The President: I'm fine. I'm going off on vacation to
Kennebunkport, but before I go I wanted to touch base with some
of my friends. I continue to be concerned about El Salvador and
how things are going. How did things go at Guadalajara? Did you
talk to Castro? Is there anything that we can be doing to stop
Cuba's support for the FMLN? (C)

President Cristiani: Yes, well I think in Guadalajara things
went well. I did not get to meet with Castro, but Salinas told
me he was able to, and he seemed to be very optimistic about the
meeting, his meeting with Castro. Castro is also in agreement on
bringing about peace. (C)

The President: You mean like cutting off assistance to the FMLN?
We don't have any clout with Castro. But we keep worrying. Do
you think he is going to stop supplying the FMLN? We want to
keep the pressure on him. (C)

President Cristiani: Well, the objective of putting pressure on
Castro is good. I told Salinas it would be good for the peace
process and that the "Four Friends" need to keep the pressure on.
The "Four Friends" were able to get together in Guadalajara
...(Cristiani faded out at this point)...but a pressure cooker
effort is necessary to obtain a cease-fire. (C)

The President: I can hardly hear you, this is a terrible
connection. Are you optimistic about the future? Do you think
things will work out? Is there anything we can do up here to
help get Cuba to cut off their assistance? (C)

President Cristiani: I hope for the best. The most important
thing that happened (at Guadalajara) was that we agreed to get

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the Secretary General personally involved. I think this is the best objective right now. The UN Secretary General's representative will be down here tomorrow for a meeting and I think this will be a worthwhile meeting. Right now we need to speed up the process and increase the pressure on the FMLN to keep them from bringing up new issues during negotiations. It is important to press the Secretary General to keep pressure on the FMLN. (Cristiani fades out during last sentence.) (C)

The President: That's very important. Brent Scowcroft is seeing the Secretary General very soon, and will encourage him in that direction. (C)

President Cristiani: We will push him. We will see how things develop during the next few weeks. (C)

The President: That's what I wanted to know. Brent will take it up with the Secretary General and with (United States Ambassador to the United Nations) Pickering. (C)

President Cristiani: (Portion of Cristiani's statement not understandable, he faded out.)...Salinas was somewhat optimistic when he talked to me last night. (C)

The President: If there is anything I can do, even though I will be on vacation, don't hesitate to call. I was just hoping something had developed with Castro at Guadalajara. (C)

President Cristiani: No, nothing special there, but we'll see how things go (Cristiani fades again). (U)

The President: Yeah, well, good luck. You are fading out, but I think I heard that. All the best to you and your family. (U)

President Cristiani: Thank you for calling me, and the same to you, George. Have a pleasant vacation. Goodbye. (U)

The President: Thanks, and the same to you. (U)

-- End of Conversation --

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