



Department of State TELEGRAM

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DECLASSIFIED • E.O. 12958 Sec. 3.6
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MR. 04-13 #14, dt ltr 4/19/04

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By dsl NARA, Date 9/1/04

E.O. 11652: GDS-2

TAGS: FINR, MX

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA'S GESTURE OF CONCILIATION.....

REF: STATE 62479

1. YESTERDAY EVENING
..... REQUESTED URGENTLY TO CALL ON ME AT
HOME. IN ADDITION TO HANDLING.....
..... IS ECHEVERRIA'S
"HOMBRE DE CONFIANZA" USED FREQUENTLY
FOR PRIVATE MESSAGES TO US.

2. SAID THAT WHILE HE WAS ALSO VISITING
..... HE WAS COMING TO ME ON SPECIFIC
REQUEST OF PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA IN ORDER TO GIVE HIS OFFICIAL
AND PERSONAL ASSURANCES OF HIS FRIENDSHIP FOR THE US AND HIS
ESTEEM FOR ME PERSONALLY. WHILE ECHEVERRIA REGRETTED NEED TO
ALLUDE TO CIA "THIS WAS POLITICAL NECESSITY, DESPITE HIS
RECOGNITION THAT THERE WAS NO REPEAT NO CIA INVOLVEMENT,
TO HAVE ACCUSED RIOTING STUDENTS OF BEING COMMUNIST
OR ANY SUCH INSPIRATION WOULD HAVE
MERELY BEEN TO SANCTIFY THEM IN THEIR OWN EYES, IT
WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN A REPROBATION IN THE EYES OF HIS
LEFTIST CRITICS INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY.

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6. WITH THE ABOVE I REITERATED TO EXPRESSIONS OF OUR FRIENDSHIP, PROVED BY OUR ACTIONS FOR PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA PERSONALLY AND FOR OUR NEIGHBOR REPUBLIC OF MEXICO. I REVIEWED THE MANY MATTERS ON WHICH WE HAD ACTED IN A COOPERATIVE FASHION AND HAD STRIVEN TO MEET MEXICAN ASPIRATIONS BOTH ON A BILATERAL PLANE AND ON MULTI-LATERAL MATTERS. I TOLD HIM OF OUR FIRM RESOLUTION TO CONTINUE STRIVING TO DO SO BUT STRESSING THAT WE ARE CONCERNED THAT CONFRONTATION LANGUAGE WAS CREATING AN UNHEALTHFUL ATMOSPHERE IN MEXICO AND MADE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR BOTH GOVERNMENTS TO CARRY OUT THE RELATIONSHIPS OF COOPERATION FOR WHICH WE WERE WORKING.

7. SAID HE WOULD FAITHFULLY TRANSMIT MY WORDS TO THE PRESIDENT. HE IMPLIED, HOWEVER, THAT ECHEVERRIA AND HIS CLOSE COLLABORATORS SEEMED TO FEEL THAT THE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST THE CIA HAD BEEN NOT ONLY A USEFUL BUT A NECESSARY TACTIC WHICH WOULD PAY DIVIDENDS AND SPOKE OF PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA'S ADMIRATION AND PERSONAL FRIENDSHIP FOR THE US. I STRESSED TO HIM THAT THERE WAS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PRIVATE FRIENDSHIP AND PUBLIC CONFRONTATION. I DID NOT EXPECT MEXICO NOW TO BECOME "A RUNNING DOG" BUT THAT I WOULD THINK THAT A BETTER BALANCE WOULD BE STRUCK IF THE PRESIDENT WOULD FIND IT POSSIBLE TO MAKE SOME PUBLIC EXPRESSIONS OF WARMTH AND FRIENDSHIP IN REGARD TO THE US EVEN IF NOT DIRECTLY CONNECTED TO THE CIA ALLEGATIONS. I SUGGESTED THAT AS THE PRESIDENT WOULD ADDRESS THE FINAL SESSION OF THE FORTHCOMING JOINT INTER-PARLIAMENTARY MEETING THIS MIGHT BE AN OCCASION FOR SOME PUBLIC EXPRESSIONS OF WARMTH WHICH MIGHT BE HELPFUL.

8. IN CLOSING, I TOLD HIM THAT I RECOGNIZE FULLY WELL THAT WE ARE ABOUT TO ENTER INTO PERIOD OF TENSIONS

7. REPLIED THAT WE ARE WELL INTO THAT) AND THAT IT BEHOVED BOTH SIDES TO BE CAUTIOUS AND DISCREET

..... I HAD WARNED ALL MY STAFF INCLUDING THE VARIOUS AGENCIES HERE OF THE NEED FOR CAUTION AND HOPED THAT THE



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MEXICAN SIDE WOULD OBSERVE SIMILAR DISCRETION.

9. COMMENT: I AM WRITING THIS IN HASTE AND THIS IS NO
MOMENT TO ANALYZE VALIDITY OF MEXICAN REASONING, BUT
OTHER CABLES HAVE BEEN DOING SO AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO
SO. THIS IS MERELY A TELEGRAPHIC MEMORANDUM
OF CONVERSATION.
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