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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

14 December 1983

Vean Sens, Zuante-,

Thank you for sending me a message on 24 November about the forthcoming Presidential elections in El Salvador. We share your desire to see democracy upheld and reinforced in El Salvador.

As I said in my letter to you of 26 September one of the first priorities in countries such as El Salvador must be to restore peace and stability. To this end the British Government, in common with her European partners, will continue to explore ways of playing a constructive role in the efforts being made to promote peace, stability and democratic freedom in Central America.

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His Excellency Senor Ing. Jose Napoleon Duarte

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office London SWIA 2AH

12 December 1983

Dear John,

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A. d. c. 9/12.

El Salvador

Your letter of 28 November asked for a draft reply to the message of 24 November from ex-President Duarte to the Prime Minister, for signature by either the Prime Minister or the Private Secretary as appropriate. We consider a reply from the Prime Minister would be appropriate since the Prime Minister has met him personally, and wrote to him on 26 September. I enclose a draft reply.

Sr Duarte, leader of the Christian Democrat Party, is so far the only candidate to have announced his intention to stand in the Presidential elections to be held on 25 March 1984. The reply to Sr Duarte refers to this announcement, but avoids any apparent endorsement of his candidature.

You ene. Rela Richalts

(P F Ricketts) Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq 10 Downing Street

DSR 11 (Revised) minute/letter/teleletter/despatch/note TYPE: Draft/Final 1+ DRAFT: FROM: Reference Prime Minister DEPARTMENT: TEL. NO: SECURITY CLASSIFICATION TO: Your Reference Top Secret His Excellency Secret Copies to: Senor Ingenierø Don Jose Napoleon Confidential Restricted Unclassified SUBJECT: PRIVACY MARKING Thank you for sending me a message on 24 NovemberIn Confidence about the forthcoming Presidential elections in CAVEAT..... El Salvador. We share your desire to see democracy upheld and reinforced in El Salvador. As I said in my letter to you of 26 September one of the first priorities in countries such as El Salvador must be to restore peace and stability. To this end the British Government, in common with her European partners, will continue to explore ways of playing a constructive role in the efforts being made to promote peace, stability and democratic freedom in Central America. Enclosures-flag(s).....

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