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## 10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

4 April 1985

## EL SALVADOR

The Prime Minister has agreed that the message to President Duarte attached to your letter of 3 April, should be sent as drafted. She has noted that delivery will be delayed until the election results are confirmed.

MARK ADDISON

Peter Ricketts Esq Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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Agree menage?

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

3 April, 1985

Jos Charles,

you in

El Salvador: Message of Congratulation to President Duarte

The El Salvador National Assembly and municipal elections took place on 31 March. President Duarte's Christian Democrat Party (PDC) are unofficially estimated to have won a majority with 32 or 33 seats (compared with their previous 24) against the 22 seats of the far-right ARENA Party in alliance with the National Conciliation Party (PCN).

Our Ambassador reports that voting was orderly and free from any sign of interference at the polls. These elections consolidate three years of democratic development in El Salvador.

We recommend that the Prime Minister send a short message of congratulation to President Duarte on his party's victory as she did when he won the Presidential election in June 1984. I enclose a draft.

The result is as yet unofficial. The Electoral National Council announcement is expected within the week. I suggest that the Embassy should delay the delivery of the message until the results are confirmed.

Te ever,

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq 10 Downing Street JOHN THE CONTRACTOR

Classification and Caveats Precedence/Deskby RESTRICTED PRIORITY ZCZC ZCZC 2 GRS GRS CLASS RESTRICTED 4 CAVEATS DESKBY 5 FM FCO 6 FM FCO APRIL 85 PRE/ADD 7 TO PRIORITY TEGUCIGALPA TELEGRAM NUMBER TEL NO 8 YOUR TELNO 63: NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS 9 10 1. Please deliver the following message from the Prime 11 Minister to President Duarte. You should delay delivery until 12 the election results are officially confirmed. 13 BEGINS 14 Warm congratulations on your Party's victory in the National 15 Assembly elections. Following this further demonstration of 16 the consolidation of democracy in El Salvador, I wish you 17 and your Government every success in tackling the many 18 challenges that still remain. You will continue to have 19 our support in your efforts to secure democratic progress and 20 stability, both in El Salvador and in the region. 21 22 171 HOWE 23 11 NNNN 24 25

| NNNN ends<br>telegram                      | BLANK                  | Catchword  |
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| Drafted by (Block capitals) PETER RICKETTS |                        | MCAD PS PS/Lady Young PS/Mr Renton Sir W Harding Mr David Thomas   |
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