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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

2801

May 14, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JAMES CONNOR

FROM:

BRENT SCOWCROFT

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SUBJECT:

Telephone Call to Senators Sparkman, Case and Scott on US-Spanish Treaty

Attached is a memorandum for a Presidential phone call to Senators Sparkman, Case and Scott regarding the Senate's advice and consent to ratification of the US-Spanish Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation.

Please note that the calls should be placed before Tuesday, May 18, at which time the Senate Foreign Relations Committee will take action to defer further consideration or report the Treaty to the full Senate.

Max Friedersdorf concurs.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

RECOMMENDED TELEPHONE CALL

TO:

- -- Senator John Sparkman, Chairman, Senate Foreign Relations Committee
- -- Senator Clifford Case, Ranking Minority Member, Senate Foreign Relations Committee
- -- Senator Hugh Scott, Senate Minority Leader

DATE:

Monday - May 17, 1976

RECOMMENDED BY:

Brent Scowcroft and Max Friedersdorf

PURPOSE:

To stress the need for prompt Senate Foreign Relations Committee action on the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation with Spain, underscoring the importance of Senate advice and consent to ratification before King Juan Carlos' visit to the United States in early June.

BACKGROUND:

You submitted the recently negotiated Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation with Spain to the Congress for Senate advice and consent to ratification on February 18, 1976. Since that time, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has considered the treaty on a number of occasions but has yet to take final action. Further committee consideration is scheduled for Tuesday, May 18. Certain Committee members object to the five year authorization provision in the treaty, even though this would be subject to the annual appropriation process.

If the committee does not report the treaty at that time and decides to defer action to perhaps the following week, there will be little time available to assure full Senate advice and consent to ratification prior to King Juan Carlos' arrival in the United States on June 2. These telephone calls will provide you the opportunity to emphasize the importance you attach to the treaty and particularly that the Senate give advice and consent to ratification before the King's arrival.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION: 1.

- 1. The Foreign Relations Committee is considering the U.S.-Spanish Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation.
- 2. I appreciate the fair and balanced examination you have given the treaty in your hearings over the past few months.
- 3. In the meetings scheduled for next week, I hope the Committee will favorably report the treaty so that sufficient time will be available for full Senate consideration before King Juan Carlos' arrival in the United States on June 2 on the occasion of his State Visit.
- 4. Ratification is in the interests of the United States.
- 5. Spain, under Juan Carlos' leadership, has been moving to implement a program of democratization and liberalization. The Prime Minister recently announced a reform plan, including a national referendum on the future of the monarchy and country-wide elections for parliament.
- 6. Ratification of the treaty before the King's visit would permit me to work more effectively with him in encouraging Spain's continued movement toward Western ideals and institutions.
- 7. I look to your leadership to obtain early and favorable Senate action on this treaty which is so important to US. Spanish and Western interests.