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Press Guidance on First Meeting between
Presidents Ford and Lopez

The two Presidents met for ____ minutes in a discussion of global, hemispheric and bilateral matters. Also present were Secretary Kissinger, General Scowcroft and Sr. Felipe Lopez, who is President Lopez' son and private secretary. The conversation was frank and cordial and conducted in a businesslike atmosphere. The Presidents felt that there were a number of subjects which they wanted to discuss further and decided to meet again tomorrow morning at 11:30. We will have a fuller briefing to give you at the end of that meeting.

Q: Gen. Torrijos said on Tuesday that he was giving a message to President Lopez to take to President Ford. Was the message delivered and were the Panama Canal negotiations discussed?

A: I'll have to check on that.

(or, if confirmed after checking)

Yes, President Lopez did deliver a message from Gen. Torrijos and the negotiations were discussed during the meeting. You know Colombia and the U.S. have a treaty, the Urrutia-Thomson Treaty, I believe it is called, under which we assured Colombia free passage of ships and freight through the Canal. So Colombia has a particular interest in the matter.

Q: .What will the Presidents discuss? Why was the Colombian President invited?

A: We have a long tradition of friendly relations with this democratic nation in South America. The President wanted to meet President Lopez and looks forward to the opportunity to discuss matters of mutual interest with him. I expect the two Presidents will wish to review matters relating to hemispheric and world affairs as well as to our bilateral relationship in general.

Q; When was the last time a Latin American chief of state made a State Visit to Washington?

A: The last State Visit by a Latin American chief of state was that of President Echeverria of Mexico in June of 1972. President Ford met with Prime Minister Eric Williams of Trinidad and Tobago at the White House in February when the Prime Minister was in the United States on a private visit. As you know, the President also conferred at the border with Mexican President Echeverria in October 1974 but this will be the first State Visit to Washington since the visit of Echeverria in 1972.

background NOTES

Colombia

department of state * august 1975

OFFICIAL NAME: Republic of Colombia

GEOGRAPHY

Colombia, located in the northwest corner of South America, is bordered

by Venezuela, Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, and Panama. It is the fourth largest country on the continent and has a coastline of more than 900 miles on

the Pacific Ocean and 1,100 miles on the Caribbean Sea.

The Andes Mountains enter Colombia in the southwest and fan out into three distinct ranges which run through the country from southwest to north and northeast. Colombia has three main topographical regions: (1) flat coastal areas broken by the high Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta mountain range; (2) central highlands; and (3) sparsely settled eastern plains (the *llanos*) drained by the tributaries of the Orinoco and Amazon Rivers.

The climate varies from tropical heat on the coast and the eastern plains to cool, springlike weather with frequent light rains in the highlands. The two dry seasons in the highlands are from December to February and from June to August. Bogotá is 8,630 feet above sea level. Average daily high temperature is between 64° and 68° F; its low ranges between 48° and 51° F.

PROFILE

Geography

AREA: 440,000 sq. mi. (about as large as Tex., Okla., and N. Mex. combined). CAPITAL: Bogotá (pop. 2.8 million). OTHER CITIES: Medellín (1.1 million), Cali (920,000), Barranquilla (700,000).

People

POPULATION: 23.8 million (1974 est.). ANNUAL GROWTH RATE: 2.8%. DENSITY: 53 per sq. mi. ETHNIC GROUPS: 58% mestizo, 20% Caucasian, 14% Mulatto, 4% Negro, 3% Negro-Indian, 1% Indian. RELIGIONS: 95% Roman Catholic; about 90,000 Protestants and 12,000 Jews. LANGUAGE: Spanish. LITERACY: 73%. LIFE EXPECTANCY: 61 yrs.

Government

TYPE: Republic. INDEPENDENCE: July 20, 1810. DATE OF CONSTITUTION: 1886 (amended).

BRANCHES: *Executive*—President (Chief of State and Head of Government). *Legislative*—bicameral Congress. *Judicial*—Supreme Court.

POLITICAL PARTIES: Liberal Party (L), Conservative Party (C), National Popular Alliance (ANAPO). SUFFRAGE: Universal over 21. POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS: 22 Departments, 5 Territorial Districts, 4 Special Districts, 1 Federal District.

FLAG: Top half yellow, bottom half blue stripe and red stripe of equal widths.

Economy

GNP: \$10.59 billion (1974 est.). ANNUAL GROWTH RATE: 6.2% (1974). PER CAPITA INCOME: \$445. PER CAPITA GROWTH RATE: 3.5%.

AGRICULTURE: *Land* 20%. *Labor* 45%. *Products*—coffee, bananas, rice, corn, sugarcane, plantains, cotton, tobacco.

INDUSTRY: *Labor* 14%. *Products*—textiles, processed food, clothing and footwear, beverages, chemicals, metal products, cement.

NATURAL RESOURCES: Petroleum, natural gas, coal, iron ore, nickel, gold, copper, emeralds.

TRADE: *Exports*—\$1.499 billion (1974 est.): coffee, agricultural products, apparel, chemicals, metals. *Partners*—U.S. 30.4%, F.R.G. 11.2%, Japan, Andean Pact countries. *Imports*—\$1.789 billion (1974 est.): machinery, electrical equipment, chemical products, metals and metal products, transportation equipment. *Partners*—U.S. 42.3%, F.R.G. 9%, Japan 7.8%, Andean Pact countries.

OFFICIAL EXCHANGE RATE: 30.6 pesos=US\$1 (May 1975).

ECONOMIC AID RECEIVED: *Total*—\$1.513 billion (FY1962-74): international development agencies loans and grants. *U.S. only*—\$1.382 billion (FY1962-74): see chart on p. 7.

MEMBERSHIP IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: U.N. and most of its specialized agencies, Organization of American States (OAS), International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Latin American Free Trade Association (LAFTA), Andean Pact, International Coffee Organization.

PEOPLE

Colombia is the fourth most populous nation in Latin America after Brazil, Mexico, and Argentina. A large population of dependent young people burdens Colombia's educational and health facilities. Moreover, movement from rural to urban areas has been heavy, and the trend continues. Persons living in urban areas increased from 40 percent of the total population in 1951 to about 63 percent in 1973. The nine eastern departments and territories, with 54 percent of Colombia's area, have less than 3 percent of the population at a density of two persons per square mile. The



country has 23 cities with 100,000 or more inhabitants.

The diversity of ethnic origins results from the intermixture of indigenous Indians, Spanish colonists, and Negro slaves brought from Africa. Today only about 1 percent of the people can be identified as fully Indian on the basis of language and customs. Few foreigners have immigrated to Colombia. In 1974 over 12,000 U.S. citizens were living in Colombia.

HISTORY

In 1549 the area now known as Colombia was established as a Spanish colony with the capital at Bogotá. In 1717 Bogotá became the capital of the Viceroyalty of New Granada, which included what is today Venezuela, Ecuador, and Panama. Thus the city became one of the principal administrative centers of the Spanish possessions in the New World, along with Lima and Mexico City. On July 20, 1810, the citizens of Bogotá created the first representative council in defiance of Spanish authority. Total independence was proclaimed in 1813. In 1819 the Republic of Greater Colombia was formed.

The Republic

After defeat of the Spanish Army, the Republic included all the territory of the former Viceroyalty. Simón Bolívar was elected first President and Francisco de Paula Santander Vice President of Greater Colombia. In 1822 the United States became one of the first countries to recognize the new Republic and to establish a resident diplomatic mission. In 1830 Ecuador and Venezuela withdrew from the Republic and became independent states. Panama remained part of Colombia until 1903.

Two political parties, the Liberals and the Conservatives, dominate Colombian politics. The parties grew out of conflicts between the followers of Bolívar and Santander. Bolívar's supporters, who later formed the nucleus of the Conservative Party, advocated a strong centralized government, a close alliance between the government and the Catholic Church, and a limited franchise. Santander's followers, forerunners of the Liberals,

wanted decentralized government, state rather than church control over education and other civil matters, and a broadened suffrage. Those were the principal topics of political debate throughout the 19th and early 20th centuries, although today they are no longer active issues. The Conservatives succeeded in establishing a highly centralized government. The Liberals eventually won universal adult suffrage and a large measure of separation of church and state, although the Catholic Church retains some important powers, e.g., the right to give religious instruction in all public schools.

Colombia, unlike many Latin American countries, established early a solid tradition of civilian government and regular free elections to decide between competing parties. The military has seized power only three times in Colombian history—in 1830, 1854, and 1953. On the first two occasions the military dictator was overthrown and civilian rule restored in less than a year. Colombia has also had only one full-fledged civilian dictatorship (1884-94). Elected Liberal administrations were in power from 1860 to 1884 and from 1930 to 1946. Conservatives held office from 1884 to 1930 and 1946 to 1953.

Despite Colombia's commitment to democratic institutions, its history has not been free from periods of violent conflict. Two civil wars growing out of bitter rivalry between the Conservative and Liberal Parties were particularly tragic. The War of a Thousand Days (1899-1902) is estimated to have cost 100,000 lives. During La Violencia ("the violence") of the 1940's and 1950's, some 100,000 to 200,000 people were killed.

A military coup in 1953 brought to power Gen. Gustavo Rojas Pinilla. Initially, Rojas enjoyed wide popular support, partly for his success in reducing La Violencia. But when he did not promptly restore democratic government, the military, with the backing of both political parties, overthrew him in 1957 and a provisional government took office.

The National Front

In July 1957 the last Conservative President, Laureano Gomez (1950-53),

TRAVEL NOTES

Climate and Clothing—Climatic variations depend on altitude. Knits and lightweight wools are useful for Bogotá.

Customs—Visitors need a passport, a smallpox immunization certificate, and, depending on the length of visit, a tourist card, which can be obtained from the nearest Colombian Consulate.

Health—Medical facilities are satisfactory; many doctors have been trained in the U.S. and speak English. Common medicines are available. Water is safe in the large cities; food should be well prepared.

Telecommunications—Long-distance telephone and telegraph service is available.

Transportation—Flights to Bogotá's El Dorado International Airport are easily arranged from the U.S., Europe, and Latin America. Local air service is excellent; trains serve the densely populated areas; and buses provide service throughout the country. Taxis provide the most reliable public transportation in the cities.

and the last Liberal President, Alberto Lleras Camargo (1945-46), issued the "Declaration of Sitges" in which they proposed the formation of a "National Front" under which the Liberal and Conservative Parties would govern jointly. Through regular elections the Presidency would alternate between the parties every 4 years. The parties would also have parity in all other elective and appointive offices.

Colombian voters approved a series of constitutional amendments necessary to put these proposals into effect, and in 1958 the provisional government relinquished power to Lleras Camargo, who had been elected the first President of the National Front government with 80 percent of the vote. As called for in the National Front agreement, a Conservative, Guillermo Leon Valencia, was nominated to succeed Lleras Camargo in 1962, and he won with 62 percent of the vote. Another Liberal, Lleras Camargo's distant cousin Carlos Lleras Restrepo, was elected President in 1966 with 71 percent of the vote.

The first three National Front Presidents brought an end to La Violencia

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Pamphlets on various aspects of Colombian life and the regions of Colombia (including a monthly newsletter, *Colombia Today*) are available without charge from the Colombian Information Service, 140 East 57th Street, New York, New York 10022.

elected in 1970. Pastrana won the Presidency with 40.3 percent of the vote, defeating three other candidates. His closest contender was Gen. Gustavo Rojas Pinilla, the candidate of the National Popular Alliance (ANAPO), a populist opposition party. President Pastrana continued the Lleras administration's emphasis on social objectives and economic development with high priority given to generating employment, primarily by stimulating urban construction.

Departmental and municipal council elections in April 1972 resulted in a victory for Colombia's traditional parties and a defeat for ANAPO, now permitted under National Front rules to run as a separate party. (Prior to that election ANAPO had run as a faction of the Liberal or Conservative Party.) The Liberals received 46 percent of the total vote; the Conservatives won 31 percent; and ANAPO, 19 percent.

The parity arrangement for other offices has been phased out in stages. Parity in departmental legislatures and city councils ended in 1970 and in the Congress in 1974. Parity in the appointment of the Cabinet, governors, and mayors will prevail until 1978.

GOVERNMENT

The Constitution adopted in 1886 has been amended frequently and substantially. It guarantees freedom of religion, speech, assembly, and other basic rights. The national government has separate executive, legislative, and judicial branches. The President is elected for a 4-year term and may not serve consecutive terms. The extensive powers which he may exercise include appointing Cabinet Ministers and departmental and territorial governors without congressional confirmation.

There is no Vice President as such. Every 2 years Congress elects a "designate" of the same political affiliation as the President who becomes Acting President in the event of the President's absence from the country, ill health, death, or resignation. If the President's inability to serve is permanent, the Acting President must call new elections within 3 months. The designate has no duties and receives no

and the blind partisanship which had afflicted both parties. They committed Colombia to the far-reaching social and economic reforms proposed in the Charter of the Alliance for Progress and, with assistance from the United States and the international lending agencies, made major strides in economic development. In December 1968, after 2 years of effort, President Lleras Restrepo won ratification by Congress of important constitutional

reforms. These abolished the requirement of a two-thirds majority in Congress for passage of major legislation, increased the powers of the executive branch in economic and development matters, and provided for a carefully measured transition from the National Front to traditional two-party competition.

The last President under the National Front alternating system was Misael Pastrana, a Conservative,

salary; he may hold other public or private positions while serving as designate. If Congress fails to elect a designate, the Foreign Minister becomes Acting President should the President be unable to serve.

Colombia's bicameral Congress consists of a 118-member Senate and a 210-member Chamber of Representatives, all elected on the basis of proportional representation. Members are elected at the same time as the President but may be reelected indefinitely. Should a member of Congress be absent temporarily or permanently, his seat is taken by an alternate who is elected the same time as the member. Congress meets annually from July 20 through December 16; and the President may call it into special session at other times.

Judicial power is exercised by a 20-member Supreme Court of Justice and subordinate courts. Half of the justices of the Supreme Court are elected by the Senate and half by the Chamber of Representatives from lists submitted by the President. The justices serve 5-year terms and may be elected indefinitely. Lower court judges are elected by the Supreme Court.

The country is divided into 22 Departments, the federal district of Bogotá, five *intendencias*, and four *comisariás* (territories of lesser rank not having local legislatures). Governors and mayors, who are appointed by the President, are considered agents of the national government, although their powers are somewhat limited by the elected departmental legislatures and city councils. The latter two bodies are elected to 2-year terms.

Principal Government Officials

President—Alfonso Lopez Michelsen (L)

Ministers

Foreign Relations—Indalecio Lievano Aguirre (L)

Finance—Rodrigo Botero Montoya (L)

Labor—Maria Elena De Crovo (L)

Education—Hernando Duran Dussan (L)

Justice—Samuel Hoyos Arango (C)

Health—Haroldo Calvo Nunez (L)

Government—Cornelio Reyes (C)

Economic Development—Jorge Ramirez Ocampo (C)

Agriculture—Rafael Pardo Buelvas (C)
Public Works—Humberto Salcedo Collantes (C)

Communications—Jaime Garcia Parra (C)

Mines and Energy—Juan Jose Turbay (L)

Defense—Gen. Abraham Varon Valencia (P)

Bogotá Mayor—Alfonso Palacio Ruda
Ambassador to the U.S.—Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala

Ambassador to the U.N.—Aurelio Caicedo Ayerbe

Colombia maintains an Embassy in the U.S. at 2118 Leroy Place, NW., Washington, D.C. 20008.

POLITICAL CONDITIONS

The April 1974 elections marked a return to normal competition for the Presidency as candidates from all parties were permitted to run. Alfonso Lopez Michelsen, the Liberal Party candidate, won with 55 percent of the vote, and the Liberals gained a large working majority in both houses of the Colombian Congress. Lopez' nearest rival, Conservative Alvaro Gomez, received 31 percent of the vote; and ANAPO candidate Maria Eugenia Rojas, daughter of Gen. Rojas Pinilla, received about 9 percent. Two other candidates, a Marxist and a Christian Democrat, received 2 percent and 0.1 percent respectively.

President Lopez was inaugurated on August 7, 1974. The son of a former President, Alfonso Lopez Pumarejo, President Lopez has taught and practiced administrative law and has been a journalist. He has served as a Senator, as Governor of the Department of Cesar, and as Minister of Foreign Relations under President Carlos Lleras from 1968 to 1970.

The Lopez government has concentrated on policies aimed at solving Colombia's broad economic problems—inflation, unemployment, and income distribution—and has taken decisive action to restructure Colombia's tax system, to end a variety of government subsidies, and to cut government spending.

ECONOMY

Colombia's growth rate in 1974 was slightly lower than in 1973, but a healthy rate of growth continued for

the seventh year. Industrial growth for 1974 is estimated at 7.2 percent, and the labor-intensive construction sector grew by an estimated 11.6 percent. Agriculture showed a growth rate increase from 4.7 percent in 1973 to 5.6 percent in 1974. High coffee prices and a rapid expansion of non-traditional exports gave Colombia a favorable foreign exchange reserve position in 1971-73. In 1974 some weakening in the balance of payments occurred due to sharply increased imports, a reduced inflow of foreign capital, and a downturn in coffee prices. The major problem facing the Colombian economy has been inflation, which reached a level of 25 percent in 1974.

Trade

Colombia is, after Brazil, the world's second largest producer and exporter of coffee—a mild, rich product which is regarded as one of the world's best coffees and normally receives a premium price on the world market. Colombia sells about 40 percent of its coffee to the United States, which is about 12 percent of U.S. coffee imports. Until recently coffee accounted for about 50 percent of Colombia's foreign exchange receipts. Colombia's export earnings are highly vulnerable to conditions in the coffee market. In order to provide for stable coffee prices, Colombia supports reactivation of the International Coffee Agreement, whose economic provisions expired in 1973.

Export diversification is one of Colombia's principal policy objectives. During the last several years so-called "minor" exports expanded at a rapid rate and surpassed coffee in foreign exchange earnings for the first time in 1973 and by a wider margin in 1974.

Petroleum exports were suspended in 1974 due to declining production, and Colombia has begun to import crude oil and gasoline. These imports will not soon constitute a serious burden on the balance of payments, but the impact could be considerable in a few years unless new oil reserves are found in Colombia and developed quickly.

Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Industry

The economy is still predominantly

gricultural, but manufacturing has increased in importance with the strong encouragement and support of the national government. Agriculture contributes about 30 percent of the gross domestic product and employs nearly half of the labor force. Due to the diverse climate and topography of Colombia, a variety of crops can be grown. Cacao, sugar cane, coconuts, bananas, plantains, rice, tobacco, cassava, and most of the nation's cattle are produced in the hot regions (0 to 3,280 feet above sea level). The temperate regions (3,280-6,562 feet above sea level) are better suited for coffee, corn, and vegetables, and fruits such as citrus, pears, pineapples, and tomatoes. The cold regions (6,562-9,842 feet above sea level) produce wheat, barley, potatoes, cold climate vegetables, dairy cattle, and poultry. All of these regions yield forest products of a wide variety ranging from tropical hardwoods in the hot country to pine and eucalyptus in the colder areas. Vegetation is sparse in the highest region (above 9,842 feet).

Proven oil reserves in Colombia are about 628 million barrels. There are about 18 billion tons of known coal reserves, the largest in Latin America. Colombia produces 90 percent of the world's supply of emeralds and is an important producer of gold and platinum. Other mineral resources include iron ore, nickel, phosphate rock, limestone, gypsum, and salt.

Colombia is the most industrialized member of the six-nation Andean Pact. It has four major industrial centers located in four distinct geographical regions: the Atlantic coast, centered in Barranquilla; the southwest, in Cali; the northwest, in Medellín; and the center, in Bogotá.

Foreign Investment

Foreign investment in Colombia at the end of 1973 was estimated at about \$1 billion. Some \$727 million was from the United States and of that about \$277 million was in petroleum. Feasibility studies for two large mining ventures, both involving U.S. investors, have been underway for some time. When full-scale development begins of the Cerro Matoso nickel deposit and the Cerrejon coal deposit, hundreds of

millions of dollars in investment will be required. Eventually, large investments will also be needed for the natural gas field discovered on and offshore the Guajira Peninsula.

The outlook for foreign investment has been complicated by Colombia's adherence to the Andean Pact's Foreign Investment Code. However, the Colombian Government welcomes foreign investment under the terms of Colombia's own investment priorities, particularly in sectors where Colombian capital does not suffice.

The international lending agencies have been important sources of aid for Colombia. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) chairs the Consultative Group on Colombia, an organization of five international agencies, 10 West European countries, Japan, Canada, the United States, and Colombia itself, which meets regularly to consult on the members' aid programs and the economic progress being made by Colombia. Loans extended in fiscal years 1962-74 totaled \$881.3 million from the IBRD, \$549.8 million from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), \$19.5 million from the International Development Association (IDA), and \$22 million from the International Finance Corporation (IFC). Grants from the United Nations amounted to \$40.2 million. Loans from foreign governments, other than the United States, are estimated at \$150 million (1960-73).

FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Colombian Government has said that it seeks friendly diplomatic and commercial relations with all countries, regardless of their ideologies or political or economic systems. Colombia has played an important role in the United Nations and the Organization of American States (OAS) and their subsidiary agencies since their founding. It was the only Latin American country to contribute troops to the U.S. Forces in the Korean war. Former President Alberto Lleras Camargo was the first Secretary General of the OAS (1948-54). Colombia has also been active in the effort to improve conditions of international trade for the developing

countries through the International Coffee Organization, which it helped found, the U.N. Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Latin American Free Trade Association (LAFTA), and the Inter-American Economic and Social Council.

Colombia took the lead in the negotiations which led to the signing at Bogotá on May 26, 1969, of an agreement to gradually create an Andean Common Market, a sub-regional grouping within LAFTA. The other members are Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, and Venezuela. The reduction of trade barriers among the Andean countries and the coordination of their economic policies as a result of the 1969 agreement are expected to have important long-term effects of major benefit to the peoples of the region.

The Lopez government has maintained and strengthened Colombia's traditionally active role in international forums. Colombia has recently played a key role in efforts to restructure the Organization of American States and in the resolution of important hemispheric issues within the regional organization. Colombia has no major bilateral problems with any country. Talks with Venezuela over resolution of a longstanding territorial limits question in the border area and the Gulf of Venezuela continue.

U.S.-COLOMBIA RELATIONS

Colombia has long maintained close and friendly relations with the United States. President Alberto Lleras Camargo visited the United States in 1960; President John F. Kennedy paid a state visit to Colombia in 1961; and President Carlos Lleras Restrepo made a state visit in June 1969.

The record of U.S.-Colombian relations has been one of constructive cooperation. A 3-year multifiber textile agreement signed on May 28, 1975, resolved a trade matter of importance to both countries. In 1972 the United States and Colombia signed a treaty by which the United States renounced all claims of sovereignty to three cays in the Caribbean in return for U.S. fishing rights in the area.

In recent years the flow of illicit narcotics, especially cocaine, from

Colombia to the United States has grown and both governments are concerned. The joint efforts of the U.S. and Colombian Governments to combat this traffic have increased, but much more needs to be done.

For several years the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) program in Colombia was the largest in Latin America. During fiscal years 1962-74, U.S. aid to Colombia, in millions of dollars, was:

	<u>Loans</u>	<u>Grants</u>
AID	\$ 894.0	\$ 60.3
P.L. 480 (Food for Peace)	58.8	146.4
Export-Import Bank	136.4	-
Peace Corps	-	37.1
Social Progress Trust Fund	49.0	-
Total	\$1,138.2	\$ 243.8
Total Loans and Grants		\$1,382.0

AID and Peace Corps grants represent primarily the value of services rendered by AID technical advisers to the Colombian Government and by Peace Corps volunteers. Public Law 480 grants represent the value of U.S. surplus agricultural commodities

which have been given to charitable organizations for distribution to the needy. P.L. 480 loans have been provided to enable Colombia to purchase U.S. surplus agricultural commodities. The pesos generated from the local sales of the commodities have been used for development projects, primarily in the agricultural sector. The major part of AID assistance has been in the form of "program" and "sector" loans. During the 1960's, program loans financed imported goods for development programs and private sector growth. The Colombian peso "counterpart funds" generated by the sale of AID dollars for such imports were invested by the Government of Colombia through its national budget in public works and services—such as schools, roads, water supplies, hospitals, and supervised credit for small farmers. Beginning in 1968 emphasis was given to sector loans designed to provide additional resources and impetus to Colombian development programs in the agricultural, educational, urban/regional, and health sectors.

Since 1974 the AID program has shifted toward project loans aimed chiefly at improving income distribution and the quality of life of the poorer sector of the population with a focus on nutrition, education, and

small farm production. Colombia has also received \$101.8 million in U.S. loans and grants for military equipment and training.

Principal U.S. Officials

Ambassador—Viron P. Vaky
Deputy Chief of Mission—Robert E. White
Director, U.S. AID Mission—Philip Schwab (acting)
Political Counselor—Donald Johnston
Economic Counselor—Melvin E. Sinn
Chief, Consular Section—Virginia Weyres
Defense and Army Attache—Col. William H. Vail
Air Attache—Lt. Col. Michael Mills
Agricultural Attache—Alfred Persi
Scientific Attache—Dr. Willard F. Shadel
Public Affairs Officer (USIS)—Robert L. Chatten
Chief, Administrative Section—Verne Larson
Commercial Attache—Stephen Gibson
Peace Corps Director—Jose Manuel Villalobos
Consul, Medellín—James Ford Cooper
Consul, Cali—James E. Kerr, Jr.

The U.S. Embassy in Colombia is located at Calle 37, No. 8-40, Bogotá; the AID Mission is located at Edificio Bavaria, Carrera 10, No. 28-49, Bogotá.

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September 9, 1975

SCHEDULE ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE
STATE VISIT OF COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT LOPEZ MICHELSEN

We have previously announced (on February 21) that the President of Colombia, Alfonso Lopez Michelsen, has accepted President Ford's invitation to make a State visit to the United States this year. I would now like to announce that President Lopez will arrive in Washington on September 25.

* * * *

Q. What will the Presidents discuss? Why was the Colombian President invited?

A. Because of our long tradition of friendly relations with Colombia, the President has wanted to meet President Lopez.

I expect the two Presidents will wish to review matters relating to our bilateral relations in particular, as well as to general

hemispheric and global issues. *Economic matters, Panama Canal, US involvement in L.A. affairs.*

Q. When was the last time a Latin American chief of state made a State Visit to Washington?

A. The last State Visit by a Latin American chief of state was that of President Echeverria of Mexico in June of 1972.

President Ford met with Prime Minister Eric Williams of Trinidad and Tobago at the White House in February when

the Prime Minister was in the United States on a private visit. As you know, the President also conferred at the border with Mexican President Echeverria in October, 1974, but this will be the first State Visit to Washington since the visit of Echeverria in 1972.

Q. Has President Lopez ever been here before?

A. He has visited the U.S. on many occasions since he was a student at Georgetown University. In 1969, as the Colombian Foreign Minister, he represented his Government at the funeral of President Eisenhower and accompanied former Colombian President Carlos Lleras on his State Visit here. He has also attended OAS sessions here.

Q. Will President Lopez travel elsewhere in the U.S.?

A. We understand he plans to travel to New York after the Washington visit, but I have no details on that. He will spend the night of September 24 in Williamsburg before proceeding to Washington. *State Dinner*

Q. Who will President Lopez see besides President Ford?
Who will be accompanying President Lopez?

A. The State Department will issue a press release on the
composition of the Colombian official party and President
Lopez's schedule about a week before the visit. We don't
have all the details yet.

* * * *

September 26, 1975

LOPEZ MEETING

FYI: President Ford will meet again today with Colombian President Alfonso Lopez Michelson at 11:30 a. m. for about 30 minutes. A read-out will be provided around 12:15 p. m. They plan to discuss bilateral and hemispheric issues. If asked whether they will discuss the Panama Canal negotiations say you haven't seen the agenda. but you know they did discuss the negotiations yesterday. Colombia has a particular interest in the Canal zone, since there is a Colombian-U. S. Treaty. the Urrutia-Thomson Treaty. under which we assure Colombia free passage of ships and freight through the Canal.

Revised:
9/23/75
9:15 a.m.

Mr Nessen

(INCLEMENT WEATHER)
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

ARRIVAL CEREMONY FOR HIS EXCELLENCY ALFONSO
LOPEZ MICHELSEN, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
COLOMBIA, AND MRS. LOPEZ

Thursday - September 25, 1975

10:30 A.M.

From: Terry O'Donnell ^{TO}

SEQUENCE

10:25 a.m.

You depart Oval Office en route Blue Room to join Mrs. Ford.

You and Mrs. Ford depart Blue Room via the Grand Hall where there will be a crowd to await the arrival of President and Mrs. Lopez at the North Portico.

NOTE: The Press area will be to your right. Secretary and Mrs. Kissinger and General and Mrs. Jones will be standing behind you on your left.

10:30 a.m.

President and Mrs. Lopez arrive and are introduced to you by Chief of Protocol Henry Catto, Jr. You, in turn, introduce President and Mrs. Lopez to the following:

Secretary and Mrs. Henry A. Kissinger
General and Mrs. David C. Jones

PRESS POOL COVERAGE

You and Mrs. Ford, and President and Mrs. Lopez, remain outside for photographs while the Official Party is escorted into the East Room.

PRESS POOL COVERAGE

10:35 a.m.

With President Lopez on your right, and with the First Ladies following, Mrs. Lopez on Mrs. Ford's right, you proceed through the Grand Hall to the East Room and directly to the platform along the East Wall.

Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Lopez will be escorted to standing positions adjacent to the platform.

NOTE: You will stand at a designated position facing the audience with President Lopez on your right and the podium on your left.

10:36 a.m.

As soon as you and President Lopez are in place, Ruffles and Flourishes will be sounded and the National Anthems played.

10:40 a.m.

Immediately following the U.S. Anthem, you proceed to the podium and deliver welcoming remarks. LIVE TELEVISION COVERAGE
VIA SATELLITE TO COLOMBIA
FULL PRESS COVERAGE

NOTE: You should invite President Lopez to stand next to you adjacent to the podium while you deliver remarks.

10:45 a.m.

Immediately following your remarks, President Lopez responds.

10:50 a.m.

Following President Lopez's remarks, you and President Lopez exit the East Room followed by the First Ladies, and proceed to the Blue Room where you form a receiving line as follows and greet members of the Official Party and the Welcoming Party:

The President
President Lopez
Mrs. Ford
Mrs. Lopez
Secretary Kissinger
Mrs. Kissinger
General Jones
Mrs. Jones

11:00 a.m.

Following a brief visit, you, President Lopez and Secretary Kissinger depart en route the Oval Office for private meeting.

NOTE: Mrs. Ford will have coffee with members of the Official Party and the Welcoming Party in the Blue Room.

11:05 a.m.

Your meeting with President Lopez begins.

PRESS COVERAGE:

There will be full Press Coverage of the Arrival Ceremony in the East Room.
LIVE TELEVISION COVERAGE VIA SATELLITE TO COLOMBIA

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

DINNER IN HONOR OF
HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA
AND MRS. LOPEZ

September 25, 1975

8:00 p. m.

Dress: Black tie ... long dresses for the ladies

Arrival:

- 8:00 p. m. ... at North Portico Entrance ... President and Mrs. Lopez and Ambassador and Mrs. Catto
- You and Mrs. Ford will greet
- Photo coverage of greeting

Yellow Oval Room:

- Vice President and Mrs. Rockefeller; Secretary and Mrs. Kissinger; American Ambassador and Mrs. Vaky; Foreign Ambassador and Mrs. Turbay; Mr. and Mrs. Felipe Lopez and Mr. and Mrs. Alfonso Lopez, Jr. (sons and daughters-in-law of President and Mrs. Lopez) will assemble just prior to the 8:00 p. m. arrival of President and Mrs. Lopez and Ambassador and Mrs. Catto.
- Color Guard will request permission to remove Colors at approximately 8:10 p. m. ... all guests except President and Mrs. Lopez will depart at this time.

Grand Entrance:

- Approximately 8:12 p. m. ... descend Grand Staircase preceded by Color Guard.
- Pause at foot of staircase for official photograph (President Lopez to your right ... Mrs. Lopez to your left ... then Mrs. Ford).

- Color Guard reforms and procession moves to red carpet facing East Room ... pause for Ruffles and Flourishes and announcement ... take receiving line positions (President Lopez to your right ... then Mrs. Ford ... then Mrs. Lopez).
- Follow Color Guard into East Room when "Hail to the Chief" is played.

Receiving Line:

- Take position just inside door of East Room ... Ambassador Catto will present your guests.
- After receiving line, follow guests into State Dining Room.

Dinner:

- Round tables
- Strolling Strings will play during dessert
- No press coverage of dinner; toasts will be piped to the press ... transcripts will be released to the press ... there will be mini-camera coverage of the toasts with a small photo pool.

After-Dinner:

- 10:00 p.m. ... guests proceed to the parlors for demitasse, liqueurs, and cigars. You and Mrs. Ford will escort President and Mrs. Lopez to the Blue Room where you will visit informally with your guests.
- No press coverage in the Blue Room
- 10:05 p.m. ... after-dinner guests will be escorted to the State Floor. You, Mrs. Ford, President and Mrs. Lopez (President Lopez to your right ... then Mrs. Ford ... then Mrs. Lopez) will receive the after-dinner guests from a position in the Grand Hall between the Blue Room and Green Room doors ... a Military Social Aide will present your guests ... guests will proceed to the East Room and take their seats.

Entertainment:

- After the guests are seated, you will enter the East Room through the center door and seat Mrs. Ford, President and Mrs. Lopez.
- You will proceed to the stage which will be located along the center of the east wall and introduce Roberta Peters.

NOTE: Suggested remarks (Tab A).

- At the conclusion of the performance, you and Mrs. Ford will escort President and Mrs. Lopez to the stage to thank Roberta Peters.

NOTE: There will be press coverage of the entertainment. Photo and mini-camera coverage will be only of the last part of the program and of your thanking Roberta Peters.

- After you have thanked Roberta Peters, you and Mrs. Ford will escort President and Mrs. Lopez to the Grand Foyer for dancing.

Departure:

- You and Mrs. Ford, Ambassador and Mrs. Catto escort President and Mrs. Lopez to the North Portico.
- You and Mrs. Ford may wish to return for dancing or return to the Family Quarters.
- There will be champagne, mixed drinks and dancing for the guests who remain.

NOTES:

- The dinner and after-dinner guest lists are attached (Tab B).
- A suggested toast is attached (Tab C).
- Military Social Aides will be present.
- White House photographer will be present.
- A military band will be playing on the South Balcony as your dinner guests arrive.
- A small military string ensemble will be playing in the Diplomatic Reception Room as the dinner and after-dinner guests arrive.

Pat Howard

GUEST LIST FOR THE DINNER TO BE GIVEN BY THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. FORD IN HONOR OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA AND MRS. LOPEZ ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1975 AT EIGHT O'CLOCK, THE WHITE HOUSE

His Excellency The President of the Republic of Colombia
and Mrs. Lopez

His Excellency The Ambassador of the Republic of Colombia
and Mrs. Turbay

His Excellency Rodrigo Botero Montoya and Mrs. Botero
Minister of Finance

His Excellency Rafael Pardo Buelvas and Mrs. Pardo
Minister of Agriculture

His Excellency Jorge Ramirez Ocampo and Mrs. Ramirez
Minister of Economic Development

His Excellency Humberto Salcedo Collantes and Mrs. Salcedo
Minister of Public Works

The Honorable Luis Prieto Ocampo
Mayor of Bogota

The Honorable Alfredo Carvajal Sinisterra
Mayor of Cali

Mr. Felipe Lopez Caballero and Mrs. Lopez
Private Secretary to the President

The Vice President and Mrs. Rockefeller

The Secretary of State and Mrs. Kissinger

Mr. Justice Marshall and Mrs. Marshall

The Attorney General and Mrs. Levi

The Honorable Jennings Randolph, United States Senate,
and Mrs. Randolph (West Virginia)

The Honorable John G. Tower, United States Senate,
and Mrs. Tower (Texas)

The Honorable Robert J. Dole, United States Senate (Kansas)

The Honorable John H. Glenn, Jr., United States Senate,
and Mrs. Glenn (Ohio)

The Governor of South Carolina and Mrs. Edwards

The Honorable Richard H. Ichord, House of Representatives,
and Mrs. Ichord (Missouri)

The Honorable Robert G. Stephens, Jr., House of Representatives,
and Mrs. Stephens (Georgia)

The Honorable James H. Quillen, House of Representatives,
and Mrs. Quillen (Tennessee)

The Honorable Chalmers P. Wylie, House of Representatives,
and Mrs. Wylie (Ohio)

General Louis H. Wilson, Jr., Commandant of the Marine Corps,
and Mrs. Wilson

Mr. and Mrs. John Havlicek, Weston, Massachusetts

Mr. Havlicek is player with the Boston Celtics basketball team

Dr. and Mrs. Samuel P. Huntington, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dr. Huntington is The Frank G. Thomson Professor of Government
at the Center for International Affairs, Harvard University

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Jarriel, Potomac, Maryland

Mr. Jarriel is White House correspondent, American Broadcasting
Company

Mr. and Mrs. Curtis H. Judge, Larchmont, New York

Mr. Judge is President, Lorillard, a Division of Loew's Theatres, Inc.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert W. Kaline, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

Mr. Kaline is ^{former} player with the Detroit Tigers baseball team

Mr. and Mrs. Dean Killion, Oregon City, Oregon

Mr. Killion is President, Oregon AFL-CIO

Mr. and Mrs. David Kraslow, Silver Spring, Maryland

Mr. Kraslow is White House correspondent, Cox Newspapers

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Lebeck, Hinsdale, Illinois

Mr. Lebeck is President, Chicago Board of Trade

Mr. and Mrs. Arlon G. Ley, Grand Rapids, Michigan

The Honorable Sol M. Linowitz and Mrs. Linowitz, Washington, D. C.

Mr. Linowitz is a Senior Partner with the law firm of
Coudert Brothers and Chairman of the Commission on
U.S. - Latin American Relations

Mr. and Mrs. Alfonso Lopez, New York, New York

Mr. Lopez is son of President and Mrs. Lopez

Mr. and Mrs. John C. McGoff, Williamston, Michigan

Mr. McGoff is President, PANAX Corporation

Mr. and Mrs. David Mehney, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah Milbank, Jr., Greenwich, Connecticut

Mr. Milbank is Chairman, Republican National Finance Committee

The Honorable Clarence M. Mitchell, Jr., and Mrs. Mitchell, Baltimore, Md.

Mr. Mitchell is Washington Bureau Chief, NAACP and Representative
of the USA to the 7th Special Session and to the 30th Session of the
General Assembly of the United Nations

The Honorable Richard B. Ogilvie and Mrs. Ogilvie, Chicago, Illinois

Mr. Ogilvie is a partner with the law firm of Isham, Lincoln and Beale

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin H. Schur, New York, New York

Mr. Schur is President, J. Aron & Company, Inc.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick D. Seeley, New York, New York

Mr. Seeley is President, Colombian-American Association, Inc.

The Honorable Hobart Taylor, Jr., and Mrs. Taylor, Washington, D. C.

Mr. Taylor is a partner with the law firm of Dawson, Riddell,
Taylor, Davis and Holroyd

Miss Barbara Walters, New York, New York

Guest of His Excellency Dr. Alejandro Orfila

(plus 2 foreign press)

His Excellency Dr. Alejandro Orfila

Secretary General of the Organization of American States

The Honorable Robert S. McNamara, President, International Bank
for Reconstruction and Development, and Mrs. McNamara

His Excellency Dr. Antonio Ortiz Mena

President, Inter-American Development Bank

The Honorable Viron P. Vaky, American Ambassador to Colombia,
and Mrs. Vaky

The Chief of Protocol and Mrs. Catto

The Honorable Ronald H. Nessen, Press Secretary to the President,
and Mrs. Nessen

The Honorable John E. Murphy, Acting Administrator, Agency for
International Development, and Mrs. Murphy

The Honorable William D. Rogers, Assistant Secretary of State for
Inter-American Affairs, and Mrs. Rogers

Lieutenant General Brent Scowcroft, USAF, Deputy Assistant to the
President for National Security Affairs, and Mrs. Scowcroft

Mr. Stephen Low, Senior Staff Member, National Security Council,
and Mrs. Low

Mr. and Mrs. Rudy P. Abramson, Reston, Virginia

Mr. Abramson is White House correspondent, Los Angeles Times

Dr. and Mrs. James H. Billington

Dr. Billington is Director, Woodrow Wilson International Center
for Scholars

Dr. and Mrs. Irving Burgues, Lakewood, New Jersey

Dr. Burgues is owner, Burgues porcelains

Mr. and Mrs. Cason J. Callaway, Jr., Columbus, Georgia

Mr. Callaway is President, Callaway Enterprises, Inc.

Mr. John E. Canaday, New York, New York

Art critic, author, historian

Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Collier, Alexandria, Virginia

Mr. Collier is a Senior Partner with the law firm of Collier,
Shannon, Rill and Edwards

Mr. and Mrs. Bertram Fields, Scarsdale, New York

Mrs. Fields is singer, Roberta Peters

Mr. and Mrs. Henry R. Geyelin, New York, New York

Mr. Geyelin is President, Council of the Americas

Mr. and Mrs. Maurice F. Granville, Jr., New York, New York

Mr. Granville is Chairman, Texaco, Inc.

Mr. and Mrs. Chaim Gross, New York, New York

Mr. Gross is a sculptor and teacher of sculpture at the art school
of the Educational Alliance

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Haerle, Moraga, California

Mr. Haerle is Republican State Chairman for California

Miss Elizabeth Hanford, Washington, D. C.

Guest of Senator Robert Dole

GUEST LIST FOR ENTERTAINMENT FOLLOWING THE DINNER IN HONOR OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA AND MRS. LOPEZ ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1975 AT TEN O'CLOCK, THE WHITE HOUSE:

Mr. and Mrs. Kermit Ables

Mr. Ables--Funeral Director, Annapolis, Maryland
Brigadier General Lawrence E. Adams, USA, and Mrs. Adams
Gen. Adams--former Head of WHCA

Miss Charlotte Kay Ballard

Office of the Vice President

Mr. and Mrs. John S. Batchelder

Mr. Batchelder--WMAL-TV

Miss Elizabeth P. Benson

Director of the Center for pre-Columbian Art, Dumbarton Oaks

Dr. and Mrs. Junius Bird

Dr. Bird--Curator Emeritus, American Museum of Natural History,
New York, New York (South American archeology)

Miss Mary C. Bourke

Office of Dr. Goldwin, White House

Mrs. Joseph M. Bowman (Cissie)

Guest of Mr. T. Edward Braswell, Jr.

Mr. T. Edward Braswell

Chief Counsel, Senate Armed Services Committee

Mr. and Mrs. David Brody

Mr. Brody--Director, Anti-Defamation League

Miss Mary E. Brownell

Staff Member, National Security Council

Reverend and Mrs. Carl Brumback

Mrs. Brumback-Peggie--Visitor's Office, White House

Miss Maureen Bunyan

Anchorwoman, WTOP-TV

Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Butler

Mr. Butler--Staff Member, National Security Council

Miss Alicia Caballero

Special Assistant to Mrs. Lopez (Colombia)

Mr. and Mrs. John T. Calkins

Mr. Calkins--Assistant to Counsellor Hartmann

Mr. James Calloway

Senate Appropriations Committee

Mr. Arthur J. Collingsworth

Director of Youth for Understanding, Ann Arbor, Michigan

The Honorable Alfonso Davila and Mrs. Davila

Mr. Davila--Minister, Embassy of Colombia

Dr. and Mrs. Jorge Del Canto

Dr. Del Canto--Director, Western Hemisphere Department, Inter-
national Monetary Fund

Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Devine
Mr. Devine--Director, North Coast/Bureau of Inter-American Affairs,
Department of State

Mr. Clifford Evans
RKO General Broadcasting

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas M. Evans
Pool donors, New York, New York

Mr. Scott Ferguson
Escort of Miss Kathleen Huldrum

Mr. Don Fulsom
UPI Audio

Mr. and Mrs. James Goodby
Mr. Goodby--Deputy Director, Bureau of Politico-Military Affairs,
Department of State

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert C. Greenway
Pool donors, Washington, D. C.

Mr. and Mrs. Darryl Heikes
Mr. Heikes--UPI photographer

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Helman
Mr. Helman--Deputy Director, NATO and Atlantic Political-Military
Affairs, Department of State

Miss Lois Herrmann
Guest of Mr. Michael Hornblow

Mr. and Mrs. James Hicks
Mr. Hicks--Executive Editor, N. Y. Amsterdam News

Mr. Hal Holbrook
Actor, "Mark Twain Tonight!" at JFK Center

Mr. Michael Hornblow
Staff Member, National Security Council

Mr. John Horton
Escort of Miss Alexis Smith

Captain Jonathan T. Howe, USN, and Mrs. Howe
Captain Howe--Military Assistant to the Vice President

Miss Kathleen M. Huldrum
Office of the Vice President

Mr. and Mrs. Henry P. Johnson
Mr. Johnson--Deputy Director, North Coast/Bureau of Inter-American
Affairs, Department of State

Mrs. Dawn Patterson Jones
Daughter and guest of Mr. Bradley Patterson

Miss Marcilla Juarez
Guest of Mrs. James Calloway

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Kleine
Mr. Kleine--Assistant Administrator for Latin America, AID

Captain Christopher S. Lardis, USN
Guest of Miss Charlotte Kay Ballard

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Locklin
Mr. Locklin--Administrative Assistant to Senator John Sparkman
The Honorable Jaime Lopez-Reyes and Mrs. Lopez
Mr. Lopez-Reyes--Minister-Counselor, Embassy of Colombia
Mr. George Loud
Escort of Miss Mary Bourke
Mr. and Mrs. William H. Luers
Mr. Luers--Deputy Assistant Secretary for Inter-American Affairs,
Department of State
The Honorable Garth Marston and Mrs. Marston
Mr. Marston--Member, Federal Home Loan Bank Board
Mr. Davy McCall
Escort of Miss Elizabeth P. Benson
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth McLean
Mr. McLean--Staff Director, Senate Banking Committee
Mr. and Mrs. Barry Meyer
Mr. Meyer--Chief Counsel Seante Public Works Committee
Mr. and Mrs. Moses Newson
Mr. Newson--Editor, Baltimore Afro-American
Mr. Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.
Assistant Director for Operations, White House
Mr. and Mrs. Leonard L. Patterson
Mrs. Patterson-Margaret--Mrs. Ford's Correspondence Office
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Pezzullo
Mr. Pezzullo--Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional
Relations
Mr. and Mrs. Dean Pohlenz
Mr. Pohlenz--Administrative Assistant to Senator Roman Hruska
Mr. and Mrs. I. Lee Potter
Mr. Potter--Corning Glass Company, Washington, D.C.
Miss Pamela Powell
Director for Youth Affairs, White House
Mrs. Alma Rivas
Secretary to Mrs. Lopez (Colombia)
Mr. and Mrs. John Rudy
Mr. Rudy--Assistant to the Chairman, Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
Mr. and Mrs. Hewson A. Ryan
Mr. Ryan--Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American
Affairs
Mr. and Mrs. Julio Mario Santomingo
Mr. Santomingo--President, Santomingo Group, Bogota and New York
Mr. and Mrs. William G. Simpson
Mr. Simpson--Legislative Assistant to Senator James Eastland
Miss Alexis Smith
Actress, "Summer Brave" at JFK Center

Dr. and Mrs. Laszlo Tauber

Dr. Tauber--Physician, Jefferson Memorial Hospital, Alexandria, Va.

His Excellency Ernesto Torres

Chief of Protocol (Colombia)

Mr. Charles Waddell

Escort of Miss Mary Brownell

Dr. and Mrs. Richard Weigle

Dr. Weigle--President of St. John's College, Annapolis

Miss Barbara Wheeler

Guest of Mr. Don Fulsom

Mr. John Wustman

Piano accompanist for Roberta Peters

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEETING WITH COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT

Alfonso LOPEZ Michelsen


Thursday, September 25, 1975

11:00 a.m. (one hour)

Friday, September 26, 1975

11:30 a.m. (thirty minutes)

The Oval Office

From: Henry A. Kissinger I. PURPOSE

- Demonstrate the importance we attach to our relations with Colombia and Latin America.
- Reinforce Colombia's democratic traditions and moderate stance in Hemispheric and world affairs.
- Assure President Lopez of our understanding of his desire to continue friendly relations while also maintaining an independence from U.S. policies.
- Solicit his views and discuss, in a candid, businesslike atmosphere, matters of bilateral and Hemispheric concern.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS ARRANGEMENTSA. Background

President Lopez (LOW-peez) wants a frank, businesslike meeting; something to which he can point as evidence of a mature relationship between equals and a demonstration of Colombia's friendly, but independent, relationship with the U.S. To dramatize this concept he has proposed that we take the occasion to announce a phase-out of the bilateral assistance relationship between the two countries. Over the past fourteen years U.S. aid has amounted to nearly a billion dollars and played a major role in Colombia's recent economic progress and growth. The success of the meeting will

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.5

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~NSC Memo, 11/24/98, State Dept. Guidelines
By 4/HMM, NARA, Date 11/30/00

depend on how well we project an image of taking President Lopez seriously and treating the Colombians on a basis of equality. Our success in creating such an atmosphere will be more important than any specific substantive matters which are discussed.

In August 1974 Lopez began serving the four-year term to which he was overwhelmingly elected. In office, he and his programs have enjoyed the broad political support of his own majority Liberal Party as well as of the opposition Conservative Party. Political violence and common crime, however, continue to plague Colombia. The President declared a nationwide "state of siege" in June. Nevertheless, kidnapping and violence by leftist terrorist organizations have continued. A U.S. citizen executive with Sears, kidnapped in August, is still being held. Colombia's economy is still heavily dependent on agriculture, with coffee its most important export product. Its industrial sector is growing, however, and the country is largely self-sufficient in energy. Though Colombia has enjoyed marked economic progress in recent years, it remains poor and is faced with difficult problems of inflation, unemployment and maldistribution of income.

Though President Lopez will want to concentrate on issues of general concern to Latin America, he is also likely to raise a number of bilateral matters. The following are among the topics he can be expected to bring up: the Panama Canal treaty negotiations; the OPEC exclusion clause of our Trade Act on behalf of Ecuador and Venezuela; U.S.-Colombian trade; international coffee negotiations; the Darien Gap Highway; and the Quita Sueno treaty ratification. We will want to use the occasion to lay the foundation for a sympathetic understanding of our position on the Canal negotiations and to emphasize U.S.-Colombian and U.S.-Latin American cooperation on Hemispheric and global issues. Background on specific issues is as follows:

1. U.S.-Colombian cooperation in the Hemisphere. Democratic, progressive, with a tradition of inter-American statesmanship, Colombia is in a unique position to contribute to understanding between the U.S. and Latin America. It does not, however, wish to be regarded in the Hemisphere as a "chosen instrument" of our policy. We can express in public forums our recognition of its independent role, but appreciation for the constructive role it plays would be more welcome if stated privately.

2. Trade Act of 1974. Though the Trade Act is of great interest to the Colombians because of its provision for a generalized system of preferences (GSP), they are concerned about two problems. It excludes from GSP a number of products which are of particular interest to them, including textiles, footwear, meat and cut flowers. They are also concerned that provisions of the Trade Act could be applied against them in a coercive or discriminatory fashion. To meet these concerns we have held technical-level discussions with them and propose using your meeting with President Lopez to announce further policy-level trade discussions.

A second problem connected with the Trade Act is the exclusion of Ecuador and Venezuela from participation in GSP as a result of their membership in OPEC. In the interests of Latin American solidarity, President Lopez promised the two countries he would bring the matter up with you. His concern is with the discriminatory nature of the Act. As you know, we have repeatedly stated our support for the Green amendment which would give you discretionary authority to forgive non-embargoing OPEC members. Chances of Congressional passage of the amendment, however, are not good.

3. Panama Canal treaty negotiations. Deputy Secretary Clements and General Brown visited Panama earlier this month. They assured General Torrijos of our seriousness of purpose in pursuing the negotiations but explained to him our problems in concluding an agreement before the end of 1976. They pointed out that outbreaks of violence in the meantime would complicate the problem for us. Shortly thereafter Ambassador Bunker resumed the negotiations, which had been stalled since last March and presented our first-line position based on your instructions.

The Panamanians took advantage of press reports of my remarks in Orlando last week to release details of agreements made to date and Bunker's recent offer. Demonstrations have also occurred. They misinterpreted my comments about our requirements for defense of the Canal as backing away from two of the Principles, signed in 1974, to the effect that there will be a fixed termination date to the new treaty and that Panama will participate in protection and defense of the Canal. Torrijos paid an unexpected visit to Bogota Tuesday and, we understand, asked Lopez to bring a message to you. We can assure Lopez of our continued commitment to the Principles.

President Lopez will be interested in your assessment and views on the negotiations and will reaffirm Latin American support for a new treaty which permits full Panamanian participation in Canal

operation and defense. Colombia has a particular interest in the issue as a result of the Urrutia-Thomson Treaty of 1914 with the U.S., which gives Colombia the right of free passage of its ships and freight through the Canal. Colombia therefore feels that it has a special position in the negotiations and expects to be consulted before any final action is taken with regard to a treaty between the U.S. and Panama. We recognize Colombia's rights under the treaty as valid and will continue to honor them, as long as we are in a position to do so. You will want to assure Lopez we will consult with Colombia when treaty negotiations have reached a point that it would be appropriate and useful.

4. Quita-Sueno Treaty ratification. The United States and Colombia signed an agreement in 1972 under which we renounced claims to three uninhabited reefs in the Caribbean. Nicaragua also claims the Islands. The Administration position is that we are simply renouncing our claim without prejudice to the islands' disposition, but the Senate has moved slowly to consider the matter in the belief that arbitration is desirable. The Senate finally held hearings on the subjects on Tuesday of last week. We do not yet know what action it will take, but President Lopez will be lunching with the Foreign Relations Committee on Thursday, following your first meeting with him.

5. Darien Gap. During the 1969 State Visit of former Colombian President Lleras Restrepo, President Nixon agreed to help complete the Inter-American Highway through Colombia and Panama. Despite Colombian preference for a longer route, bilateral agreements were concluded in 1971 with Colombia and Panama for construction along the Darien Gap route. Further agreements were signed subsequently under which the United States agreed to assist Colombia and Panama in a control program designed to prevent the spread of foot-and-mouth disease northward into Central and North America, which are now free of it. The Colombians have been slow to implement their side of the foot-and-mouth disease program and construction of the road in Colombia has been stalled pending establishment of a viable control program. Simultaneous with your first conversation with President Lopez, members of his party will be meeting in the Cabinet Room with Secretaries Butz and Coleman on this problem.

6. Negotiations for a new international coffee agreement. The last series of meetings of the Council of the International Coffee Organization earlier this summer failed to produce a new draft coffee agreement. Negotiations are due to begin again in

November. We support a new coffee agreement, which we believe would be helpful to both consumers and producers, and are working towards its conclusion in November. The major problem seems to be difficulty among producers in agreeing on export quota shares.

7. Narcotics traffic from Colombia. Most of the cocaine consumed in the U.S. comes from Colombia where the coca leaves, grown in Peru and Bolivia, are processed. In spite of President Lopez' and the Colombian Government's efforts, it has proven difficult to control cocaine smugglers because of corruption, inadequate resources and ideal terrain for illegal operation. An editorial in the New York Times earlier this month, critical of Colombia's efforts, brought a sharp rejoinder from President Lopez on September 12. He publicly charged that U.S. citizens rather than Colombians were responsible for narcotics traffic between the two countries. The problem is growing, and we plan a substantial increase in our narcotics assistance to Colombia this year. Lopez may express an interest in increased cooperation in this field.

8. Re-establishment of a Consulate at Barranquilla. For budgetary reasons our Consulate at Barranquilla was closed in 1971. The Colombians have asked that it be reopened. There are good commercial and consular reasons for reopening it and we have requested \$55,000 to do so in the 1976 State Department Budget Presentation. We plan to use the visit to make a public announcement of this.

9. National City Bank problem. Bill Simon has sent a memo (Tab A) asking that you raise with President Lopez the matter of Colombian regulations which require American banks to divest themselves of majority ownership of banks in Colombia. First National City Bank, the largest U.S. bank in Colombia, operates branches rather than subsidiaries and is therefore resisting the order. However, other U.S. banks are complying with the Colombian regulations. Since the Colombian Finance Minister, Botero, will be meeting with Bill Simon during your meeting with President Lopez, I believe the matter can be satisfactorily handled in that forum. Furthermore, President Lopez will lunch with Henry Wriston, President of First National City, in New York, where the matter can be further discussed. I therefore recommend against your raising the matter with President Lopez.

There are a few small concrete steps that should come out of the visit. The Colombians have been anxious that the serious nature of the discussions be underlined by a communique, and we have agreed to this. A general statement has been worked out between us and is attached at Tab B. The concrete steps which would be announced are: Initiation of policy-level trade talks; the mutual decision to terminate bilateral assistance; and reopening of the Consulate at Barranquilla.

B. Participants

President Lopez, Mr. Felipe Lopez, the President's son and private secretary, Secretary Kissinger, General Scowcroft.

C. Press Arrangements

There will be a photo opportunity at the beginning of your first meeting with President Lopez and following the second call. A press announcement will be made following each meeting, and a communique will be issued after the second meeting.

III. TALKING POINTS

A. General

-- It is good to welcome you to the United States. You know our country well and, I understand, participated as Foreign Minister in the State Visit here by former President Lleras (Yair-us).

-- I have particularly wanted to have worthwhile discussions with you. I hope we can discuss not only our bilateral relations, but Hemispheric and global problems. What we are not able to take up today we can consider tomorrow.

B. Specific Issues

1. U.S. -Colombian Relations

-- Your visit here is of great importance to us because of the high value we place on cooperation and friendship in our relations with Colombia.

- We want to be able to maintain this close relationship through frank and friendly exchanges. At the same time we recognize that there are some issues where we will take different positions because our interests, though often similar, will not always be identical.
- We respect your independence of view and consider your frank expression of it to us to be a mark of friendship.

2. The Trade Act

- We are committed to continue development of an open world trading system of which the Trade Act is a vital part.
- The Act specifically recognizes the needs of developing countries. The generalized system of preferences provision provides opportunities for new exports from these countries.
- We want to consult fully with you on this matter. I believe technical-level talks have already been held and I will be interested in the policy-level discussions scheduled for next month.

3. Phase-out of U.S. bilateral economic aid

- We can both take pride in the cooperative aid program which served its purpose so well and can now be brought to an end.
- We welcome your initiative in proposing this phase-out and share your concern that scarce aid development resources be devoted to the poorer countries.
- We are prepared to continue examining ways to cooperate in facilitating transfers of U.S. technology to Colombia on a self-financing basis.

4. Panama Canal treaty negotiations

- I want to assure you of my firm intention to pursue these negotiations seriously and in good faith. We fully recognize the need to modernize our relationship with Panama over the Canal, based on the Principles signed in 1974.
- However, I think you ought to be aware that we are facing an extremely difficult problem domestically on this issue. We

need two-thirds of the Senate to ratify any treaty and a majority of both Houses to implement it. We already have over one-third of the Senate on record against the treaty and a majority of the House voting to deny funds for continuing the negotiations. While I don't believe either of these are final judgments, we will have to work hard for approval, and it will be important to keep the situation under control in Panama as well as here, in the meantime.

- I hope we can count on you as a sympathetic and understanding friend to counsel restraint and moderation. It will take a major effort by both sides to conclude a satisfactory agreement.
- We fully recognize Colombia's rights under the Urrutia-Thomson Treaty and will continue to respect them as long as we are in a position to do so.
- At the appropriate point in the process in our negotiations we will consult with you regarding these rights.

5. Quita Sueno (if raised)

- We hope the hearings just held by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations will be helpful in completing the ratification process which, of course, we continue to support.

6. Darien Gap (if raised)

- I understand the initiation of construction in Colombia has been delayed because of the need to protect the cattle industries to the North of any possible spread of foot-and-mouth disease.
- (If Lopez suggests a reappraisal of the project)
We agree that it would make sense to sit down and take a new look at this project.

7. Illicit narcotics traffic

- We give a very high priority to the interdiction of illegal narcotics trafficking both at home and abroad, and are devoting substantial resources to this effort.

- Narcotics trafficking affects both our nations. It breeds crime and corruption wherever it exists. We recognize that it is a problem involving many U.S. nationals.
- We appreciate the firm commitment of your Government to combatting narcotics traffic and the progress made, and we stand ready to increase our cooperation with Colombia to do more to combat this traffic.

8. The new international economic order

- The initiatives that we outlined at the Seventh Special Session of the General Assembly represent, we believe, a sound approach to a solution of these problems.

Further background, talking points and biographical materials are included in the attached State Department briefing book.



THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

WASHINGTON 20220

SEP 23 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT
THE WHITE HOUSE

SUBJECT: Colombian Threat to U.S. Bank Operations

There is one issue which I hope you would mention to Colombian President Lopez when you see him this week.

Colombian Finance Minister Botero is attempting to force foreign banks to sell a majority ownership to local interests. This pressure now focuses on First National City Bank, which is the largest foreign bank although it has only three percent of the deposits in Colombia.

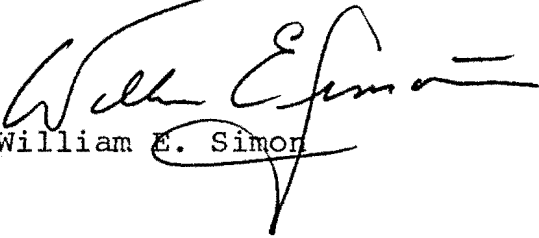
Unfortunately, this issue is much more than the usual nationalistic issue affecting an individual U.S. investor. Most major U.S. banks operate around the world as branches. These branches are an integral part of their domestic operation -- my auditors from the Comptroller of the Currency review their operations in the same way as operations in New York or Chicago. Selling a partial interest would require a complete change in the way our banks do business abroad with major disadvantages and inefficiencies for both them and the host countries. If Citibank gives in to such pressure in one country, it will come under similar pressure in other countries in both Latin America and the Middle East as will other U.S. banks.

Colombia is not among the radical developing countries -- most of which have unchallenged Citibank branch operations -- and this pressure appears to stem from personal views of the Finance Minister which do not have wide support in Colombia.

I believe it is important for U.S. banking interests worldwide for you to explain to the Colombian President, who has said he is indifferent on the issue, the seriousness with which we would view forced implementation of Minister Botero's recommendations. You might suggest that he try to work out a way to permit Citibank branch operations to continue -- perhaps on a cutdown basis if that would be helpful politically. He should be aware that the alternative is clearly for Citibank to close its Colombia branch -- because of the worldwide implications. This would hurt Colombia because Citibank offers Colombian importers and exporters essential worldwide services

not available from Colombian banks. Moreover, the closing of the largest American bank would sour the investment climate and suggest that Colombia is joining the more radical LDCs.

I shall be discussing the matter in greater detail with the Finance Minister.



William E. Simon

PROPOSED JOINT U.S.-COLOMBIA COMMUNIQUE
FOR
THE STATE VISIT OF PRESIDENT LOPEZ OF COLOMBIA

The State Visit of President and Mrs. Alfonso Lopez Michelsen provided an opportunity for serious discussion and exchange of views with respect to international, regional and bilateral topics of interest.

Accompanying the President during the September 25-26 visit to Washington were Minister of Finance Rodrigo Botero, Minister of Agriculture Rafael Pardo, Minister of Economic Development Jorge Ramirez, Minister of Public Works Humberto Salcedo, the Mayors of Bogota and Cali, and the President's two sons, Felipe and Alfonso Lopez. Several of these officials were accompanied by their wives. The visit provided an opportunity to meet with their United States counterparts for discussion of problems of mutual interest. Colombian Ambassador and Mrs. Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala were also members of the official party.

President Lopez, in his conversations with President Ford, Vice President Rockefeller, and Secretary of State Kissinger examined world economic and political issues in detail. They discussed prospects for improved international economic cooperation in light of the achievements of the Seventh Special Session of the UN General Assembly. They discussed the special problems faced by Colombia and other developing

countries in the Hemisphere, which, because they are in a more advanced stage of development and are integrated into the world economy, are also greatly affected by changes in the international economic conditions. They agreed to consult further as the initiatives stemming from the Seventh Special Session unfold.

The Presidents also reviewed global problems of security and opportunities for peace.

Western Hemisphere issues were examined in depth and with equal frankness. President Lopez explained to President Ford the position of Colombia on a number of points. He emphasized his interest and that of Latin America in general in a favorable outcome to the present Panama Canal negotiations. President Ford assured President Lopez of the desire of the United States to pursue the negotiations now underway with Panama in a good faith in an effort to reach an agreement which would normalize our relationship with Panama and accommodate the interests of the both countries in the Canal. President Ford confirmed U.S. recognition of the validity of Colombia's rights in the Canal under the Urrutia-Thomson Treaty, and expressed his determination to consult with Colombia at an appropriate point in the negotiating process regarding the future status of those rights.

The two Presidents and their advisors also discussed the United States Trade Reform Act of 1974. They noted that technical discussions were recently held on the Act in Washington, and anticipated further conversations with regard to the implications of the Act for Colombia and

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for Latin America in general. President Lopez stressed the importance to Latin America of greater access to the United States market.

With regard to ratification of the Quita Sueno Treaty, the two Presidents noted that the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee has just held public hearings, and President Ford assured his visitor of continuing Administration support for early ratification.

Multilateral negotiations looking toward an International Coffee Agreement were discussed by the two Presidents and they agreed as to the importance of continuing efforts in this direction.

The AID program of bilateral assistance to Colombia was also discussed. Its achievements over prior years were noted, and President Lopez made known his belief that as Colombia had become less dependent on external financing, the AID bilateral program could now be brought to an orderly close. Agreement was reached to work out a termination plan for AID assistance although with appropriate provision for future facilitation to Colombia of such aspects of U.S. technology as may be useful.

The visit provided an opportunity for review of the status of completion of the inter-American highway through construction of the Darien Gap segment. Progress toward related control of hoof and mouth disease in northern

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-4-

Colombia was examined, and attendant problems were reviewed.

International narcotics control was also discussed, with both Presidents emphasizing their recognition of the menace posed by international trafficking. The leaders of both countries committed themselves to reinforced joint effort to combat and eradicate this evil.

President Lopez and President Ford also discussed the possible reestablishment of a United States Consulate at Barranquilla on the north coast of Colombia. President Ford stated that funds have been requested for this purpose and that he will pursue the matter as necessary with the Congress.

In conclusion, the two Chiefs of State and their advisors noted the increasing degree of interdependence which characterizes our modern world and agreed that Colombia and the United States --- two democratic nations which share many values and goals --- should seek means of ever greater cooperation on the bilateral, regional and international planes.

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- (ME - KELL - SEN)
1. The President of Colombia, Alfonso Lopez-Michelsen, has accepted President Ford's invitation to visit the United States later in the year at a date to be mutually agreed upon.

Backup Q's and A's

Q: What kind of a visit is this?

A: It is a state visit.

Q: When was the last time a Latin American chief of state visited Washington?

A: June 1972, when President Echeverria of Mexico was here.

Q: Has Lopez-Michelsen ever been here before?

A: He has visited the U.S. on many occasions, from the days when he was a student here. He represented his government at former President Eisenhower's funeral in 1969. Then as Foreign Minister he probably attended OAS sessions here. He was elected President in 1974 and was inaugurated last August. He has therefore not visited here since becoming President.

Q: Why was the Colombian President invited?

A: We have a long tradition of friendly relations with this democratic nation in South America. The President wanted to meet President Lopez-Michelsen and review matters of mutual interest with him.

PRESIDENT FORD'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT LOPEZ

President Ford will meet today at 11:00 this morning with President Alfonso Lopez Michelson of Colombia. The Presidents plan to discuss global, hemispheric and bilateral matters. You will be provided with a readout after the meeting (about 12:15).