

September 24, 1976

## Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President met with President-elect Lopez Portillo for one hour today in the Oval Office. Deputy Secretary of State Charles Robinson, Mexican Ambassador Jose Juan de Olloqui, U.S. Ambassador to Mexico Joseph John Jova, Brent Scowcroft and Jose Ramon, the son of the President-elect, sat in on the meeting.

This is the first time the two men have met. The meeting continues an established tradition of meetings between the U.S. President and the Mexican President-elect.

The meeting was a very warm and cordial one. The President and the President-elect agreed that there are special ties between the United States and Mexico and that the efforts of the two governments will be devoted to maintaining and enhancing the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries.

The discussion focused on the U.S. -Mexican relationship in general. They touched upon some bilateral questions -- such as narcotics cooperation, bilateral trade, the ongoing discussions of a possible agreement allowing prisoners to serve out their sentences in their country of origin, and illegal immigrant workers. They also exchanged views on matters relating to hemispheric and international affairs.

The President and Mrs. Ford will host a small informal dinner for President-elect and Mrs. Lopez Portillo this evening. The Lopez Portillo's three children, who accompanied them to Washington, will be present as will Secretary Kissinger and Jack Ford.

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