

DEPARTMENT OF STATE INTERNAL USE ONLY

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: August 12, 1971

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SUBJECT: Latin American Situations  
PLACE: Sans Souci Restaurant, Washington, D.C.  
DATE: August 10, 1971

OLC

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Ralph W. Richardson, Deputy Director, INR/RAR  
Mr. Ryszard Krystosik, First Secretary, Polish Embassy

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Mr. Krystosik and I spent two pleasant hours over lunch, "getting acquainted" and discussing some Latin American affairs.

Mr. Krystosik was especially interested in the following:

1. Chile. He asked how I saw the situation of President Allende.

My response was that the President was a very experienced politician with wide personal popularity who thus far has done the expected skillful job of leading his coalition government.

2. Cuba. He inquired whether the US volleyball team's visit was "significant", and if I knew what inspired Senator Thurmond's statement on Soviet submarines.

On the volleyball matter, I simply repeated the guidance given by Mr. Crimmins at the August 10 ARA staff meeting (no special significance whatsoever, no parallel with "ping pong", simply part of the Olympic elimination process). As for submarines, I said I had no idea what might have inspired the Senator's statement. If there were any problem with the USSR, this would be a matter for the White House, in the context of the reports of the "1962 agreement".

In turn, I sought to draw Mr. Krystosik out on any particularly interesting aspects of the coalition situation in Chile, "from the viewpoint of a socialist and political scientist". Mr. Krystosik countered with a general statement to the effect that Bolivia, Peru and now Chile seemed to indicate a trend to new approaches to Latin American social and economic problems.

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