

# URGENT

June 20, 1979

~~Confidential~~

To: Brandon Grove

Subject: Miguel d'Escoto

This afternoon I talked briefly and informally with Father Miguel d'Escoto, the Maryknoller priest and new Provisional Government "Ambassador". As you know, Miguel and I have been good friends for more than a dozen years and he gave me a call. We talked for about 15 minutes. Some of his major points follow.

1. Miguel hopes he will be allowed to speak at the OAS tomorrow. He estimates he has about 10 or 12 votes on his behalf thus far (the Andeans, plus Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama, Jamaica and Grenada).
2. The big fear among anti-Somoza Nicaraguans is unilateral USG military intervention. Miguel has become even more alarmed since coming here because U.S. liberal contacts have warned him that is a possibility.
3. The USG has been so closely allied with Somoza in the past that it is not really enough for us to follow the example, for instance, of Ecuador. The USG is in the position of a married man who has had a mistress and been found out by his wife. It is not enough for him to stop seeing the mistress. He must disavow her forever.
4. I mentioned that it would be most difficult for the Carter Administration if a Communist dictatorship were to be established in Nicaragua. Miguel replied that he did not give a damn for the Carter Administration's difficulties. A Communist dictatorship would be far worse for the Nica-

raguan people - his concern.

5. Miguel would like to see you and, if possible, Pete.

I hope very much you will see Miguel.

G. Lister

2

cc: Pête Vaky  
Brew Hemenway