

Date

ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP

May 19

TO: (Name, office symbol, room number, Building, Agency/Post)		Initials	Date
1.	Elliott Abrams <i>EA</i>		
2.	Gary Matthews		
3.	Charles Fairbanks		
4.	George Lister		
5.			
Action	File	Note and Return	
Approval	For Clearance	For Conversation	
As Requested	For Correction	Prepare Reply	
Circulate	For Your Information	See Me	
Comment	Investigate	Signate	
Coordination	Justify		

REMARKS

Lost Opportunities.

Answer D, Yes

☆

DO NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, disposes, clearances, and similar actions

FROM: (Name, org. symbol, Agency/Post)	Room No.—Bldg.
G. Lister	Phone No.

5041-102

• GPO : 1961 O - 361-529 (144)

OPTIONAL FORM 41 (Rev. 7-76)
 Prescribed by GSA
 FPMR 41 CFR 101-11.206

May 19, 1963

To: Elliott Abrams

Subject: Lost Opportunities

I thought yesterday's conversation with Napoleon Duarte went very well. He was certainly pleased and appreciative. We helped him and ourselves.

Duarte's reference to past U.S. indifference to El Salvador was a polite understatement. I recall 1972, when Duarte and Ungo won the election fairly and then were prevented from taking office by a military coup. There was no chance of our doing anything about the coup but I went next door to the ARA Acting Assistant Secretary and suggested we urge the Army to release Duarte into exile. The Acting went over to the window, gazed out at Arlington, and then finally said it really wasn't our business. I pointed out that Duarte and Ungo were democrats. The Acting then agreed we should send a cable. I believe that it was at least partly because of our pressure that Duarte was sent off, to Venezuela.

Wouldn't it be good now if Duarte and Ungo had just won an honest, peaceful election? And wouldn't we back them solidly if the Army tried a coup?

George Lister

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