



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

Chamorro

June 2, 1976

To: Harry Shlaudeman

Subject: Koch-Somoza

The attached May 13 memo reported Koch would be meeting Somoza at the Waldorf on May 29. The meeting took place on schedule, lasting about one hour and a half. Murphy was also there. Yesterday one of Koch's staff gave me the following eye-witness account.

^{At} The was much oneupmanship. Koch had heard all about Somoza's "charm", and also that he was sensitive about his personal finances. So Koch began by assuring the General that even his "enemies" gave him credit for charm. A few minutes later the Congressman told Somoza that he was not interested in how he had made all his money but rather just in the human rights situation and the "impact" of U.S. aid. Somoza claimed his enemies told many lies. Koch replied that he was certain of that and the upcoming hearings could help clear it all up. Koch said he would be delighted to ask Chamorro whatever questions Somoza would feed him. The General expressed doubt that Chamorro could come, since it would be illegal for him to leave Nicaragua while involved in "litigation". Koch said he was sure Somoza could easily fix that up. The General said he doubted it and that Chamorro had always hated him because Somoza used to beat him up when they were in fifth grade together. Koch expressed concern that Chamorro's absence might play into the hands of Somoza's enemies. At one point Somoza's son came in and Koch asked whether he was "the future President of Nicaragua". As the meeting ended Koch indicated he was counting on hearing from Somoza about Chamorro, because the Congressman was planning to hold a press conference on Monday.

Koch plans to invite both friendly and uncooperative colleagues to the June 8-9 hearings, including Jack Murphy, Clarence Long (D.-Md.), and David Obey (D.-Wis.). Don Fraser has agreed to their participation.

Koch's long range goal is to become Mayor of New York.

George Lister

cc: Ryan-Luers-Grunwald
AMA/CEN - Mr. Gowen
H - Mr. Pezullo
D/HA - Mr. Palmer
L/HR - Mr. Runyon

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