

fyi



May 23, 1980

Marty Machowsky
The Office of the Honorable **Frederick Boucher**
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Marty:

When Cheryl Morden visited your office yesterday, she suggested that members participating in the upcoming Central America trip Mr. McCurdy is organizing make a point of talking to some of the people we in the churches have found most helpful. Cheryl is in Brazil so I am following up for her. Several of us consulted today and came up with the following list of folks, keeping it to two or three because of the quick nature of your trip.

For Nicaragua: Sister Peggy Healy who has lived in Nicaragua most of the last 8 years and traveled extensively in the Atlantic Coast as well as living in outlying parts of the country. Peggy is the person the Speaker has found so helpful in educating him on Nicaragua. You should be able to reach her through the Maryknoll House in Managua (Telephone: 75995). Since your time is so short, you might want to meet with Peggy and with Father Caesar Jerez, SJ, at the same time. He is vice-rector of the university and formerly was the Central American Provincial for the Jesuits, a position that is rotated. He can be reached at 70649 (Home) or 74042 (Office).

For Guatemala: The Roman Catholic Archbishop, Peinados del Barrio, is a very knowledgeable and open person who will give your delegation a picture of the human rights situation in Guatemala and what he sees going on under the new government with clarity and honesty. The Embassy should be able to set this appointment for you.

The Embassy also can make an appointment through the Coca Cola union in Guatemala City with UNISITRAGUA, the federation of trade unions. Ask to meet with people from both the Coca Cola union and UNISITRAGUA.

Because the trust in the Embassy is not as great for our third recommendation, Reggie Norton of the Washington Office on Latin America will be happy to make this appointment directly for you if you would find that helpful. Or someone speaking Spanish from your office can call directly. Please advise us if you want Reggie to make the call. The person is Nineth de Garcia, a leader in the GAM, the Group of Mutual Support for Relatives of the Disappeared in Guatemala. This would be a very important conversation for the delegation to have. Nineth's phone is 67764.

For Costa Rica: The Peace Center, formed by Costa Rican Quakers, has served as a meeting place for all sorts of Costa Rican groups and monitor of ruling and other parties, newspapers, and CIA activity in the country with the focus of their work being to support Costa Rica's commitment to neutrality. The two people who probably are the

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Executive Director

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Chairperson

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best to see are Rudolfo Silva and Armando Vargas, both members of the ruling party of Costa Rica. Telephone: 21-0302 (direct dial 011-506-21-0302) which is the Peace Center and the way to make an appointment with these men. If they are not available, ask to see Pedro Leon or Abelardo Brenes, president and vice president of the Peace Center board.

We hope your delegation will see at least most of these people while in these countries.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gretchen Eick".

Gretchen Eick
Associate for Policy Advocacy