

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Ford
Amb. Raul Querido Varela, Republic of
Cape Verde
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs
Charles A. James, Deputy Assistant Secretary
of State for African Affairs
Hampton Davis, Assistant Chief of Protocol
Jose De Seabra, OPR/LS (interpreter)

DATE AND TIME: Monday, July 19, 1976
2:20 p. m.

PLACE: The Oval Office

SUBJECT: Presentation of Credentials

President: Congratulations on your country's independence and congratulations on your being the first Ambassador to the United States.

Varela: I want to thank you very much for your kind words, and I would like to express my appreciation for being here during your Bicentennial. I was in Boston last week.

President: Thank you very much. We hope you will have equal success.

Varela: What would make me happiest is if, when I leave, our countries could be even closer than now.

President: I agree. We want to be helpful. I know you have had some economic and weather problems and I hope our assistance was helpful.

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DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12068, SEC. 3.5

~~TOP SECRET - MOG (3)~~
CLASSIFIED BY: TERRY A. ROSENBERG

NSC MEMO, 11/24/00, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES *[Signature]*
BY *[Signature]* NARA DATE 7/28/04

Varela: Thank you for your words, Mr. President. In Cape Verde we put great stock in the United States with whom we have many ties, and we want to improve these ties. I felt these ties in Boston when I saw so many people of Cape Verde ancestry and how well they had integrated.

President: There are many in that area who are of Portuguese ancestry. I don't know why they settled there.

Varela: I am just a freshman in diplomacy. But I think diplomacy is carried out with the heart, not just the head.

President: We are pleased to have you here. You will meet many of your colleagues tomorrow night at the White House reception.

Valera: I like Washington and hope to bring my children here to continue their education.

President: Please give my best wishes to your President and your people.

Varela: Our population is equally divided between 300,000 here and 300,000 in Cape Verde. We are probably the only country in the world which can claim that.



Varela (F?)
P/ Amal Retana (Cape Verde)

19 July 76

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P Congrat on your country independence & urgent
on your being a 1st dev to US

RK Want to thank you very much for your kind
words & to express my appreciation for being here
during recent. I was in Boston last week.

P Thank you very much. We hope you
will have great success.

RK What would make me happiest ^{to} if when
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P I agree. We want to be helpful. I know
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P There are many in that area of CV
ancestry. Don't know why they settled there.

RK I am just a freshman in diplomacy. But
I think diplomacy is carried out w/c heart
not just a head.

P We pleased to have you here. You will
meet many of your colleagues tomorrow
night.

RK I look forward to bring my mother

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5

NSC MEMO, 11/24/00, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES

BY: NA NARA DATE 7/28/04



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