Boston Coalition to Support the Salvadoran Peace Accords May 12, 1992

Present: Sister City representatives from Arlington, Cambridge, Watertown, Somerville, Neighbor to Neighbor, St. Paul's, Mario Davila
David Grosser, chair

Update: Mario reports from the UN as of May 12:

Positives: After 100 days of implementation, the cease fire is still respected. Financing thru COPAZ . Process begun for armed forces into civilian force. Opening of political space for FMLN. Economic forum had first meeting. Friends of Perez de Queller following up on Accords.

Negatives: Government concluded 23 agreements, but 5 have been violated and twisted. COPAZ has completed 12 agreements, not done 11 more. FMLN has completed 16 agreements, not done 3. No crisis yet, due to positive communication.
Nat. Guard and Treasury Police not been dismantled, still in place. Nat. Civilian Police Academy coordinator named. But facilities for Academy does not meet requirements.

Land: Gov't has not dealt with conflicts here
Human Rights: Violations still going on, judicial system not processing cases, no documentation.
Non-compliance: No penalties for violations but pressure put on by friends - Panama, Peru, Spain, Venezuela, etc.
U.S. sent marines for maneuvers, but friends put pressure on to cease this, got canceled May 1st by UN and friends.
Funds: After UN bureacracy snafu settled, funds are coming from other countries for reconciliation and reconstruction.
May is critical month. June will be bad if accords not met, especially the armed forces.

Update on Coalitions's plans:

1. The Ad - changed after input from our groups, 34 signatures were contributed. Cambridge Sister City put up $600, and the rest of us owe $500. When exact cost of ad is known, David will let each group know what they owe. And we will get a copy of the ad.

2. No meeting with congresspeople yet. Dear Colleague letter needs to be introduced into Senate. Mark and Mike Prokosch to work on this issue.

3. Op Ed Piece - not done yet. Chris Keavney to draft a letter to the Editor stressing delays leading to a crisis, US not playing a positive role, the land, security, police issues, the urgency to get things moving. Copy to all groups.

Caravan: Separate committee to work on this, one from each group. Pastors for Peace are real experts in this. The caravan leaving next March 1993 will have 30-40 trucks with medical, office equipment, etc., with lots of Boston area groups to participate. a truck is about $7500, to fill it up about the same.

Caravan Meeting: Wed., June 10, 6:30-8:30, OCBC

Coalition Meeting: Thurs., June 4, 6:30-8:30, in Watertown, prior to Flor de Cana's concert for El Tremedal Coffee house hopefully at church where concert takes place.

Sally Rogers