with the groundwork we have done within the last few days, we have sufficient basis for an extremely fruitful work ahead of us, and one that will benefit our two countries. Thank you very much for your hospitality also. Thank You.

/Reuters <u>P. Majendie</u> / Where will Mexico be going - to the bank to negotiate the next four billion dollars for re-scheduling its debt. I believe negotiations are due to start some time in the near future, do you have a date when they will start?

> For. Secy: Well, I may remind you that I am the Minister for Foreign Affairs, not the Minister for Finance. As you know, Mexico has gone through a process of re-financing of the debt it has. My understanding is, it has been - settled in every respect, but since __ that is not my jurisdiction, I think I will just say that.

<u>P. Majendie</u> Do you think it will pose problems for Mexico to have to continue the austerity measures that they have at the moment? Like restricting imports, so do you have a trade surplus at the moment, by restricting imports Do you think this can pose major problems for your country?

For. Secy: I am certain it will not.

E. Stewart (CP)I wonder if you discussed the situation in El Salvador in any way. I recall that Mr. Pépin, when he was in New York, a few weeks ago, spoke at least of the possibility of some role, some Canadian role, in El Salvador at the request of the Contadora Group, and I was wondering - at the possible request of the Contadora Group - and I was wondering if you discussed that in any way?

We examined the situation in Central America. For. Secy: I was able to provide Mr. MacEachen with the views of the Contadora Group. We of course had a previous conversation on this topic as a matter of fact, we did that in March, here in Ottawa. We met again in September, in New York, and on these three occasions I provided Mr. MacEachen with our own interpretation of the facts and the diplomatic efforts the Contadora Group is undertaking, in order to find a peaceful solution to the crisis in Central America. We believe that we have made some progress in this respect. At the end of September, we informed the Secretary-General of the U.N. of the agreement that five Central American Governments under the auspices of the Contadora Group had reached its so-called document of objectives, which has the basic principles for a settlement in Central America regard this as a very important step forward. We think that if this set of principles is fully respected, there is a good possibility