



City of Cambridge

R-2.

IN CITY COUNCIL

March 20, 2000

COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR BRAUDE
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR DECKER
MAYOR GALLUCCIO
VICE MAYOR MAHER
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: CAMBRIDGE has had a long history of connection with the people of El Salvador through our sister city of Cambridge supporting San Jose Las Flores through the war sending delegations and aid, providing a watchful eye and words of concern in the face of violence and attacks and bringing accurate news home about the situation. While the US government spent 1.8 million dollars a day funding the war, our municipal and grassroots efforts paid attention and lent support to the Salvadoran citizens standing up to the repression; and

WHEREAS: In 1992, after 12 years of war, the people of El Salvador were able to secure a peace which brought about the cessation of armed conflict. It also opened a space in the electoral process for the first time to include the FMLN, a coalition of groups which had opposed the government and military during the war and is now a legal political party representing peasant groups, trade unions, and women's organizations; and

WHEREAS: Many of the conditions which led to the war have not been resolved. Access to land and livelihoods for people in the countryside are still very unequally distributed. Criminal delinquency, a by-product of the war, has ravaged the cities leaving El Salvador with the highest crime rates in the West. Unemployment is skyrocketing and the burgeoning of sweatshops has drawn people into the cities without providing living wages. An effort by the Salvadoran government to privatize basic services of health and education is contributing to increased suffering. Our sister city efforts have continued to support Salvadoran communities in their new struggles for land reform, cooperatives, access to housing and education, organizing in the maquiladoras and attention to the special issues facing women and youth; and

WHEREAS: In February of 2000, a delegation of Cambridge residents including Women's Commission director Nancy Ryan, Peace Commission director Cathy Hoffman, School Department teachers and liaisons Rachel Wyon, Kathleen Mallet, Julie Whitman, Hector Risemberg, and CRLS students and graduates Andrew Tai, Cynthia Orellana, Alex Valdez, Erica Sagrams and Kieran Pearson traveled to El Salvador for 10 days; and

WHEREAS: This delegation was warmly received by the community of Las Flores spending 4 days in the community working in the school which extends popular education to all of its 400 youth, meeting with the city council to hear of the progress and difficulties in the community and the women's city council to discuss domestic and family violence efforts, participating in a youth encuentro with more than 70 Las Flores young people, and touring the communities' cooperatives and new sewage treatment plant all of which were accomplished by the work of the community with international solidarity support; and

WHEREAS: The delegation also had the opportunity to meet with maquila workers, striking doctors, the president of the teacher's union ANDES and faculty of the UCA (the Catholic university where the 6 Jesuit priests were murdered in 1989;) and

WHEREAS: The delegation learned first hand about both the increasing problems in El Salvador as well as the strength of peoples' efforts to challenge these hardships; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City of Cambridge extends its support to the local delegates for continuing the connection between Cambridge and San Jose Las Flores and receives the greetings of solidarity and appreciation from the Las Flores city council to Cambridge; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council urges Cambridge residents who are interested in learning more about the current situation to attend a Cambridge Report-back from El Salvador with Slides and Remarks from the newly returned delegation Monday, March 20, 7 PM Longfellow School, 359 Broadway (parking behind 57 Inman Street;) and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council along with members of Congress Michael Capuano and James McGovern, State Representatives Jarrett Barrios and Alice Wolf invites Cambridge residents to honor the 20th anniversary of the assassination of Salvadoran Archbishop Romero by attending a program in his honor Friday, March 24 at 6:30 at the Paulist Center, 5 Park Street in Boston featuring a special showing of the film Enemies of War, (about the 6 Jesuit priests killed in 1989 and the Moakley investigation) a service and remarks from the delegation.

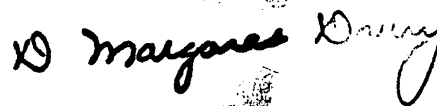
In City Council March 20, 2000.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Margaret Drury".

D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk

R-2 L

From: MDrury@CI.Cambridge.MA.US (D. Margaret Drury)
Organization: City of Cambridge, Massachusetts USA
To: mcosgrove
Date sent: Tue, 7 Mar 2000 15:15:39 -0500
Subject: (Fwd) (Fwd) el salvador resolution and letter
Priority: normal

----- Forwarded Message Follows -----

From: CHoffman@CI.Cambridge.MA.US (Catherine B. Hoffman)
Organization: City of Cambridge, Massachusetts
To: salbano@CI.Cambridge.MA.US (Sandra Albano),
mdrury@CI.Cambridge.MA.US (Margaret Drury)
Date: Tue, 7 Mar 2000 15:05:14 -0500
Subject: (Fwd) el salvador resolution and letter
Priority: normal

Dear margaret and sandra,

Here is a copy of a resolution which I have asked the council to
submit for Monday. Thanks so much,
Cathy

Resolution

WHEREAS: CAMBRIDGE has had a long history of connection with the people of El Salvador through our sister city of Cambridge supporting San Jose Las Flores through the war sending delegations and aid, providing a watchful eye and words of concern in the face of violence and attacks and bringing accurate news home about the situation. While the US government spent 1.8 million dollars a day funding the war, our municipal and grassroots efforts paid attention and lent support to the Salvadoran citizens standing up to the repression. And

WHEREAS: In 1992, after 12 years of war, the people of El Salvador were able to secure a peace which brought about the cessation of armed conflict. It also opened a space in the electoral process for the first time to include the FMLN, a coalition of groups which had opposed the government and military during the war and is now a legal political party representing peasant groups, trade unions, and women's organizations. AND

10 am
3/8/00
KB

WHEREAS: many of the conditions which led to the war have not been resolved. Access to land and livelihoods for people in the countryside are still very unequally distributed. Criminal delinquency, a by-product of the war, has ravaged the cities leaving El Salvador with the highest crime rates in the West. Unemployment is skyrocketing and the burgeoning of sweatshops has drawn people into the cities without providing living wages. An effort by the Salvadoran government to privatize basic services of health and education is contributing to increased suffering. Our sister city efforts have continued to support our communities in their new struggles for land reform, cooperatives, access to housing and education, organizing in the maquiladoras and attention to the special issues facing women and youth. and

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D. Margaret Drury
Cambridge City Clerk
City Hall
795 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge MA 02139
(617)349-4260

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Resolution #2

The 20th anniversary of the
assassination of Salvadoran
Archbishop Romero will hold a
program in his honor on Friday,
March 24th at 6:30 PM at the
Paulist Center, 5 Parks Street in
Boston.

Councillor Born

In City Council March 20, 2000

ORDER ADOPTED