

1/11/73

~~DRAH~~  
~~@LAM~~  
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~  
JHC  
cc  
Sully



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM

January 11, 1973 ~~FOI-4-2-1~~

TO: ARA - Mr. Charles A. Meyer

THROUGH: ARA - Mr. Robert A. Hurwitch

FROM: ARA/PAN - S. Morey Bell

*[Handwritten initials and arrows]*

*[Handwritten signature]*

Sayre Conversation with Rush

The Ambassador called on the Deputy Secretary-designate to pay respects and tell him a little of our problems in Panama.

Mr. Rush volunteered these views:

1. SOUTHCOM, the principal utility of which seems to be to provide a number of billets, should probably be disestablished, or at least moved. He was interested in Ambassador Sayre's confirmation that this Command is a source of great annoyance to the Panamanians and took note that it raises a serious question of compliance with the neutrality provision of the 1903 Convention.

2. Extraterritoriality (U.S. jurisdiction over Panamanians) is unfashionable these days, and we should get out of it. (He inquired, in a devil's advocate way, whether our jurisdiction over "sabotage" offenses might not be the reason there have been no such offenses, and wondered whether giving up that jurisdiction might not permit, perhaps even provoke, acts of sabotage. The Ambassador said he did not

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~