

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:  
Ken Wollack (202) 328-3136  
Rob Henderson (202) 783-2280

PRESIDENTS CARTER AND FORD TO CO-LEAD INTERNATIONAL DELEGATION  
TO PANAMA ELECTIONS

WASHINGTON, DC, MAY 2, 1989 -- Former Presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford, representing the Council of Freely Elected Heads of Government, a hemispheric-wide organization of national leaders, will co-lead an international delegation to Panama's general elections on May 7, 1989.

The two former presidents will co-lead the multinational delegation being organized by the National Republican and Democratic Institutes for International Affairs, political development institutes affiliated with the two U.S. political parties. The delegation will include political party leaders, legislators and election experts from Latin America, Europe, Asia and North America. Former Belize Prime Minister George Price and Shadow Foreign Minister John Spender of Australia will also serve as delegation co-leaders.

The mission is planning to watch the voting, counting and tabulation of results throughout Panama and report its findings to the international community. As in previous missions organized by NDI and NRIIA, the delegates will be guided by impartial standards and will not take sides in the elections. The delegation will not attempt to supervise the elections or interfere in Panamanian affairs. NRIIA and NDI recognize that the ultimate judgment about the electoral process will be made by the Panamanian people.

National Democratic Institute  
for International Affairs  
1717 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Suite 605  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
(202) 328-3136 Telex 5106015068NDIIA

National Republican Institute  
for International Affairs  
601 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Suite 615  
Washington, D.C. 20004  
(202) 783-2280 Telex 5106000161NRIIA