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Collection Name SCHARFEN, JONATHAN: FILES

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File Folder SOVIET ACTIVE MEASURES

FOIA

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ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of	Doc Date	Restrictions
114228	CABLE	DUBLIN 05771 R 11/2/2012 M430/2	2	12/2/1987	B1
114231	CABLE	STATE 126879 R 11/2/2012 M430/2	2	12/3/1987	B1

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C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

a memo from File
JONATHAN R. SCHARFEN "Soviet
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USIA FOR P/G; EU AND AR

STATE FOR INR/IC

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, NU, EI

✓ SUBJECT: POSSIBLE FORGED U.S. DOCUMENT

REF: (A) STATE 126879; (B) DUBLIN 1649

1. (C) ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING A PURPORTED NSC MEETING, TO WHICH STATE RESPONDED (REF A), HAVE RESURFACED. "DISARM", A SMALL JOURNAL WHICH TERMS ITSELF "IRELAND'S ANTI-NUCLEAR MAGAZINE", LED ITS WINTER 1987 ISSUE WITH A STORY ON THE ALLEGED TRANS-SHIPMENT OF ARMS TO IRAN THROUGH SHANNON AIRPORT. THE STORY WEAVES IN AMBASSADOR HECKLER BY CLAIMING THAT AN NSC MEETING WHICH SHE ATTENDED WAS A KEY STEP IN SETTING ADMINISTRATION POLICY TOWARD NICARAGUA AND - IMPLICITLY - IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE IRAN/CONTRA AFFAIR. THE ARTICLE'S KEY PARAGRAPHS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT:

2. (U) MARGARET HECKLER, RONALD REAGAN'S WOMAN IN IRELAND, IS NO STRANGER TO CIA TACTICS AS WAS REVEALED BY A DOCUMENT WHICH WAS PUBLISHED IN "NICARAGUA NEWSBRIEF" IN JULY.

3. (U) THE NEWSLETTER OF THE IRISH NICARAGUAN SUPPORT GROUP, OBTAINED AN NSC DOCUMENT THROUGH U.S. JOURNALISTS AND DISAFFECTED STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS. THE DOCUMENT, MARKED "SECRET/SENSITIVE NSC" CONTAINED DETAILS OF U.S. POLICY ON CENTRAL AMERICA DISCUSSED AT AN NSC MEETING OVER TWO AND A HALF YEARS AGO.

4. (U) THE POLICY DOCUMENT LISTS THE PARTICIPANTS AT THE MEETING: INCLUDED ARE RONALD REAGAN, GEORGE SCHULTZ (SIC), CASPER WEINBERGER, WILLIAM CASEY OF THE CIA, ADMIRAL JOHN POINDEXTER, ROBERT MACFARLANE AND THE THEN SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, MARGARET HECKLER.

5. (U) THE DOCUMENT OUTLINED HOW A STATE DEPARTMENT CAMPAIGN WOULD BE LAUNCHED TO DISCREDIT THE FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS WON BY THE FSLN IN NICARAGUA. AMONG THE TARGETS FOR U.S. PRESSURE WERE MEMBER PARTIES OF THE SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL, SET UP WITH CIA FUNDS IN THE 1950S ACCORDING TO FORMER CIA AGENT PHILIP AGEE, OF WHICH THE IRISH LABOUR PARTY IS A MEMBER.

6. (U) THE NSC DOCUMENT STATES "WE WILL FOLLOW UP THE VATICAN, THE RECENT STATEMENT CONDEMNING PERSECUTION OF THE CHURCH IN NICARAGUA", THE DOCUMENT GOES ON TO STATE THAT EMBASSIES IN PARTICULAR COUNTRIES "EUROPEAN ONES ESPECIALLY" WOULD BE ASKED TO "APPROACH KEY CONTACTS TO REVIEW OUR VIEWS ON THE ELECTIONS IN NICARAGUA. MEDIA CONTACTS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO WRITE EDITORIAL QUESTIONING THE VALIDITY OF THE ELECTIONS".

7. (U) JUST ONE YEAR AFTER THE NSC MEETING, MARGARET HECKLER CAME TO DUBLIN. JUST TWO YEARS AFTER THE NSC MEETING SHANNON AIRPORT WAS BEING USED AS A STAGING POST FOR ILLEGAL CIA ARMS EXPORTS TO IRAN. JUST THREE YEARS LATER, IRISH GOVERNMENT AGENCIES ARE TURNING A BLIND EYE.

END TEXT.

8. (U) STORY REFERS TO "NICARAGUA SUPPORT GROUP BULLETIN" OF SUMMER, 1987 WHICH CONTAINS EXERPTS OF THE CLAIMED DOCUMENT AND REPRODUCES ITS FIRST PAGE ON THE COVER. DOCUMENT IS LABELED "BACKGROUND PAPER FOR NSC MEETING ON CENTRAL AMERICA" OCTOBER 30, 1984". THE DOCUMENT SHOWN BEGINS: "THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA, PARTICULARLY IN EL SALVADOR AND IN REGIONAL PEACE TALKS, IS MOVING IN A DIRECTION FAVORABLE TO U.S. INTERESTS, ALTHOUGH DIFFICULT PROBLEMS REMAIN." IT CONTINUES THAT, IN NICARAGUA: "CONGRESSIONAL FAILURE TO FUND THE ARMED OPPOSITION IS A SERIOUS LOSS, BUT OUR HANDLING OF THE NICARAGUAN ELECTIONS ISSUE AND SANDINISTA MISTAKES HAVE SHIFTED OPINION AGAINST THE SHAM ELECTIONS. WE HAVE TRUMPED THE LATEST NICARAGUAN/MEXICAN EFFORTS TO RUSH SIGNATURE OF AN UNSATISFACTORY CONTADORA AGREEMENT, AND THE AGREEMENT IS NOW WITH THE CORE FOUR, ALTHOUGH THE SITUATION REMAINS FLUID AND REQUIRES CAREFUL MANAGEMENT."

9. (C) "DISARM" ARTICLE, WHILE UNLIKELY TO ATTRACT MUCH ATTENTION, IS AN EFFORT TO LINK THE AMBASSADOR IN A PERSONAL WAY TO CLAIMS BY IRISH NICARAGUA ACTIVISTS THAT SHANNON AIRPORT WAS USED AS A WAY STATION IN THE SECRET SUPPLY OF ARMS TO IRAN. GUIDANCE IN REF A, AFTER AN INITIAL NEWS REPORT ON THE NSC MEETING, QUOTED THE DEPARTMENT'S PRESS SPOKESMAN AS REFUSING "TO DISCUSS ALLEGED SECRET DOCUMENTS". IT GAVE TALKING POINTS ON CENTRAL AMERICA AND ON PARTICIPATION AT NSC MEETINGS BUT DID NOT ADDRESS WHETHER MEMORANDUM WAS GENUINE.

10. (C) ACTION REQUESTED: GIVEN THIS FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE DOCUMENT, REQUEST ACTIVE MEASURES OFFICE LOOK AGAIN AT THIS CASE TO MAKE SURE THERE IS NO FORGERY INVOLVED. POST ALSO REQUESTS P/G TO ADVISE IF JUST-RELEASED CONGRESSIONAL REPORT ON THE IRAN/CONTRA AFFAIR MAKES PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE REPORT, OR TO THE OCTOBER 30 MEETING IN QUESTION. PLEASE ADVISE.

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BY kml NARA DATE 11/2/12

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E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR
TAGS: PREL, EI, NU

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NLRR M430/2 #114231

BY KML NARA DATE 11/2/12

[REDACTED]

REF: DUBLIN 1649

1. (LOU) THE IRISH MP MAY BE REFERRING TO ALLEGATIONS ABOUT A SECRET NSC DOCUMENT WHICH [REDACTED] IN THE [REDACTED] [REDACTED] NOVEMBER, 1983. THE STORY FOLLOWED THE SANDINISTA ACCEPTANCE OF A SEPTEMBER 7 DRAFT OF A CONTADORA AGREEMENT THAT WAS REJECTED BY THE CORE FOUR (COSTA RICA, HONDURAS, EL SALVADOR, AND GUATEMALA). THE SANDINISTAS SOUGHT TO BLAME THE U.S. FOR FAILURE TO REACH AGREEMENT.

2. (U) THE DEPARTMENT PRESS SPOKESMAN SAID THE FOLLOWING IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS FROM REPORTERS: QUOTE. I AM NOT GOING TO DISCUSS ALLEGED SECRET DOCUMENTS. THE U.S. POSITIONS ON THE CONTADORA PROCESS AND THE NICARAGUAN

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ELECTIONS ARE A MATTER OF RECORD. WE HAVE CONSISTENTLY SUPPORTED THE CONTADORA PROCESS AS THE BEST WAY TO ACHIEVE VERIFIABLE AND PEACEFUL RESOLUTIONS TO CENTRAL AMERICAN PROBLEMS. SPECIFIC STEPS TAKEN TO ASSURE THAT THE PROCESS MOVES FORWARD, ADDRESSING THE CONCERNS OF THE

COUNTRIES INVOLVED, SHOULD BE AGREED UPON BY THE PARTICIPANTS. OUR CONCERNS IN THE AREAS OF VERIFICATION AND TIMING HAVE BEEN OPENLY STATED. REGARDING THE NICARAGUAN ELECTIONS, WE DO NOT CONSIDER THE PROCESS THAT THE SANDINISTAS WENT THROUGH ON NOVEMBER 4 TO HAVE BEEN A FREE AND FAIR ELECTION. UNQUOTE.

3. (U) THE SEPTEMBER 7, 1984 CONTADORA DRAFT DID NOT PROVIDE FOR ADEQUATE VERIFICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TREATY. SUBSEQUENT DRAFTS THAT HAD VERIFICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION PROVISIONS WERE REJECTED BY THE SANDINISTAS, DEMONSTRATING THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF

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NICARAGUA WAS NOT INTERESTED IN SIGNING A GENUINE AGREEMENT.

4. (U) THE U.S. HAS CONSISTENTLY CALLED ATTENTION TO THE PRE-ELECTION PERIOD WHEN OPPOSITION PARTIES WERE NOT GIVEN ADEQUATE OR FAIR ACCESS TO THE MEDIA AND CAMPAIGN MATERIAL (PAPER, VEHICLES, AND OTHER SUPPLIES) AND WERE NOT PERMITTED TO CAMPAIGN FREELY. ALTHOUGH OPPOSITION PARTIES WON 29 PERCENT OF THE VOTE, OPPOSITION REPRESENTATION IN THE ASSEMBLY WAS NEUTRALIZED BY THE SANDINISTA PRACTICE OF CO-OPTING SOME OPPOSITION DELEGATES WHO WERE THEN QUOTE OPPOSITION UNQUOTE IN NAME ONLY. THE OPPOSITION'S INABILITY TO PREVENT THE PRO-FSIN CHARACTER OF THE CONSTITUTION DRAFTED BY THE ASSEMBLY AND PROMULGATED IN JANUARY, 1987, IS FURTHER PROOF OF THE FRAUDULENT NATURE OF THE 1984 ELECTION.

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5. (C) [REDACTED] TO THE SPECIFIC QUESTION OF ALLEGED ATTENDANCE BY AMBASSADOR HECKLER AT [REDACTED] ON [REDACTED] THE EMBASSY SHOULD NOTE THAT [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL. WE DO NOT COMMENT ON THE CONTENT OF CONFIDENTIAL NSC MEETINGS OR ATTENDANCE BY SPECIFIC INDIVIDUALS. WE LEAVE IT UP TO AMBASSADOR HECKLER TO DECIDE IF SHE WISHES TO MAKE A SPECIFIC DENIAL OF HER ATTENDANCE. THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN UNABLE TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING ATTENDANCE AT THE MEETING. SHULTZ

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