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Ronald Reagan Library

Collection: Executive Secretariat, National Security Council:
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File Folder: U.S.S.R.: General Secretary Chernenko -8491175-8491234 **Date:** 5/17/99
Box 39 (page 2 of 2)

DOCUMENT AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
NSC System II #8491234			
13. Letter	Reagan to Chernenko, (first page only), 1 p.	12/17/84	P1/F1/P3/F3
14. Memo	Robert McFarlane to Reagan, re:Reply to Chernenko Letter on Nicaragua, 1 p.	12/17/84	P1/F1/P3/F3
15. Memo	Shultz to Reagan, re: Reply to Chernenko Letter on Nicaragua, 1 p.	12/3/84	P1/F1/P3/F3
16. Memo	<i>R 899-051 # 295 7/25/00</i> Jack Matlock to McFarlane, re: Reply to Chernenko Letter on Nicaragua, 1 p.	12/7/84	P1/F1/P3/F3
17. Routing Slip	Poindexter to McFarlane, note on routing slip, 2 p.	n.d.	P1/F1/P3/F3
18. Draft Letter	Reagan to Chernenko, 2 p. <i>L 899-051 # 291 7/25/00</i>	n.d.	P1/F1/P3/F3

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P-1 National security classified information [(a)(1) of the PRA].
- P-2 Relating to appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA].
- P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA].
- P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA].
- P-5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA].
- P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA].

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

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- F-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA].
- F-2 Release could disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA].
- F-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA].
- F-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA].
- F-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA].
- F-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA].
- F-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA].
- F-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA].

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RECEIVED 03 DEC 84 21

TO PRESIDENT

FROM SHULTZ, G

my sheet

DOCDATE 03 DEC 84

KEYWORDS: USSR

NICARAGUA

CHERNENKO, KONSTANTI

HS

SUBJECT: REPLY TO CHERNENKO LTR OF NICARAGUA

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO FOR PRES

DUE: 05 DEC 84 STATUS S

FILES SII

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

MATLOCK

NORTH

COMMENTS

RLF# 8432940

LOG 8491167

NSCIFID

(B / *R*)

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<i>Pes</i>	<i>P DEC 17 1984</i>	<i>Signature</i>		<i>VP</i>
	<i>DEC 17 1984</i>	<i>Pres spf ltr</i>		
<i>STATB</i>	<i>C DEC 17 1984</i>	<i>for dispatch</i>		<i>Jim</i>
<i>STATE</i>	<i>C DEC 21 1984</i>	<i>Pres spf revised ltr / dispatch</i>		
DISPATCH	<i>ed P sheet DEC 17 1984</i>	<i>ed D sheet</i>		

W/ATTCH FILE _____ (C)

DEC 21 1984

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL DISTRIBUTION RECORD

Log Number 91234

Date DEC 21 1984

Subject: REVISED FIRST PAGE

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_____ Adm. Poindexter	_____ Mr. Fortier	_____ Mr. Manfredi	_____ Mr. Robinson	_____ Mr. Weiss
_____ Sit. Room	_____ Mr. Helm	_____ Mr. Martin	_____ Gen. Russell	_____ Mr. Wettering
_____ Mr. Bailey	_____ Mr. Kemp	_____ Mr. Matlock	_____ Col. Rye	_____ Exec. Secretary
_____ Mr. Brazil	_____ Mr. Kraemer	_____ Mr. McMinn	_____ Mr. Sapia-Bosch	_____ NSC Secretariat
_____ Mr. Beal	_____ Mr. Laux	_____ Mr. Morris	_____ Mr. Sigur	_____ NSC Registry
_____ Ltc. Childress	_____ Mr. C. Lehman	_____ Col. Myer	_____ Capt. Sims	_____ NSC Admin.
_____ Ltc. Cobb	_____ Mr. R. Lehman	_____ Mr. North	_____ Mr. Shull	_____ NSC MSG Center
_____ Mr. De Graffenreid	_____ Mr. Levine	_____ Mr. Pollock	_____ Mr. Sommer	
_____ Ms. Dobriansky	_____ Col. Lilac	_____ Mr. Poe	_____ Mr. Teicher	

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THE DIRECTOR, FEMA 500 C Street				
DIRECTOR, DMSPA Room 3E813, Pentagon				

DECLASSIFIED

White House Guidelines, August 28, 1997
Date 5/6/95

DATE, TIME & SIGN THIS RECEIPT & RETURN TO: BT MERCHANT, SITUATION ROOM, WHITE HOUSE

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL DISTRIBUTION RECORD

Log Number 91234

Date DEC 21 1984

Subject: REVISED FIRST PAGE

CLASSIFICATION: TOP SECRET SECRET CONFIDENTIAL UNCLASSIFIED

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_____ Mr. McFarlane	_____ Mr. Fontaine	_____ Ltc. Linhard	_____ Ms. Reger	_____ Mr. Tyson
_____ Adm. Poindexter	_____ Mr. Fortier	_____ Mr. Manfredi	_____ Mr. Robinson	_____ Mr. Weiss
_____ Sit. Room	_____ Mr. Helm	_____ Mr. Martin	_____ Gen. Russell	_____ Mr. Wettering
_____ Mr. Bailey	_____ Mr. Kemp	_____ Mr. Matlock	_____ Col. Rye	_____ Exec. Secretary
_____ Mr. Brazil	_____ Mr. Kraemer	_____ Mr. McMinn	_____ Mr. Sapia-Bosch	_____ NSC Secretariat
_____ Mr. Beal	_____ Mr. Laux	_____ Mr. Morris	_____ Mr. Sigur	_____ NSC Registry
_____ Ltc. Childress	_____ Mr. C. Lehman	_____ Col. Myer	_____ Capt. Sims	_____ NSC Admin.
_____ Ltc. Cobb	_____ Mr. R. Lehman	_____ Mr. North	_____ Mr. Shull	_____ NSC MSG Center
_____ Mr. De Graffenreid	_____ Mr. Levine	_____ Mr. Pollock	_____ Mr. Sommer	
_____ Ms. Dobriansky	_____ Col. Lilac	_____ Mr. Poe	_____ Mr. Teicher	

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By dlh Date 5/6/95

DATE, TIME & SIGN THIS RECEIPT & RETURN TO: BT MERCHANT, SITUATION ROOM, WHITE HOUSE

REFERRAL

DATE: 21 DEC 84

MEMORANDUM FOR: MICHELE BOVA

STATE EXECUTIVE SECRTRIAT

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: TO: CHERNENKO, KONSTANTI

SOURCE: PRESIDENT

DATE: 21 DEC 84

KEYWORDS: NICARAGUA

SUBJ: RLPLACEMENT PAGE 1 OF PRES LTR

REQUIRED ACTION: FOR DISPATCH

DUE DATE: 21 DEC 84

COMMENTS:



FOR ROBERT M. KIMMITT

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

----- FOR NSC USE ONLY -----

FOR INFO

F

O B C B

91234

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

12/21/84

Michele Bova:

Attached is a
replacement first page for
the President's letter to Chernenko
on Nicaragua. It supersedes
the earlier first page and has
been changed to accommodate
Mike Armacost's suggestions.

Bob Kinnitt

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 21, 1984

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In response to your letter of November 16, I want you to know that I, too, believe that an escalation of tension serves no one's interest and that such an escalation, if continued, would inevitably affect relations between our two countries.

Our policy toward Nicaragua is clear. We will not sit by idly while the Sandinista regime, aided by the Soviet Union, Cuba, and other states which maintain close relations with your country, provides materials and other support to insurgent and terrorist groups in the region. Neither can we and other countries whose interests are affected fail to be concerned by the massive and destabilizing amount of weaponry which Nicaragua itself has acquired or by the presence of large numbers of foreign military advisors. It is particularly clear that recent arms shipments to Nicaragua have exacerbated an already tense situation. The supply of advanced weaponry or large quantities of weapons gives Nicaragua a substantial offensive potential against its neighbors and constitutes a threat to peace in the area.

A subject of grave concern to us in recent weeks has, of course, been the question of combat aircraft for Nicaragua. As we have informed the Soviet Union on several occasions, the acquisition by Nicaragua of jet fighter aircraft would be unacceptable to the United States. I was therefore pleased to see from your letter that malicious designs involving shipment of Soviet combat aircraft to Nicaragua are not part of Soviet policy, and welcome this clarification as a useful step forward in our relations.

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NLS F99-051 #287

BY AMF, NARA, DATE 10/16/00

National Security Council
The White House

System #

II

Package #

91234

84 DEC 21 5:00

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Paul Thompson	_____	_____	_____
Bob Kimmitt	<u>1</u>	<u>K</u>	_____
John Poindexter	_____	_____	_____
Tom Shull	_____	_____	_____
Wilma Hall	_____	_____	_____
Bud McFarlane	_____	_____	_____
Bob Kimmitt	_____	_____	_____
NSC Secretariat	<u>2</u>	<u>OK</u>	<u>D/ASAP</u>
Situation Room	_____	_____	<u>ma courier</u>
			<u>to state</u>

I = Information A = Action R = Retain D = Dispatch N = No further Action

cc: VP Meese Baker Deaver Other _____

COMMENTS

Should be seen by: _____

(Date/Time)

keep copy in file.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Bob,

12/21

This is a revised
first page of the President's
letter to Chernenko on
Nicaragua. I have been
working with Mike and
Bud on slight modifications.

Please send this first
page to State to substitute
for the one they have.

J

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 21, 1984

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In response to your letter of November 16, I want you to know that I, too, believe that an escalation of tension serves no one's interest and that such an escalation, if continued, would inevitably affect relations between our two countries.

Our policy toward Nicaragua is clear. We will not sit by idly while the Sandinista regime, aided by the Soviet Union, Cuba, and other states which maintain close relations with your country, provides materials and other support to insurgent and terrorist groups in the region. Neither can we and other countries whose interests are affected fail to be concerned by the massive and destabilizing amount of weaponry which Nicaragua itself has acquired or by the presence of large numbers of foreign military advisors. It is particularly clear that recent arms shipments to Nicaragua have exacerbated an already tense situation. The supply of advanced weaponry or large quantities of weapons gives Nicaragua a substantial offensive potential against its neighbors and constitutes a threat to peace in the area.

A subject of grave concern to us in recent weeks has, of course, been the question of combat aircraft for Nicaragua. As we have informed the Soviet Union on several occasions, the acquisition by Nicaragua of jet fighter aircraft would be unacceptable to the United States. I was therefore pleased to see from your letter that malicious designs involving shipment of Soviet combat aircraft to Nicaragua are not part of Soviet policy, and welcome this clarification as a useful step forward in our relations.

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MLS F99-051 #288

BY smf NARA, DATE 10/16/00

Dona —
Correction

CONFIDENTIAL

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

12/20

Mike Armacost,

Here are two versions.

The difference is the phrase
at the end of 2nd. paragraph.

We will go along with
either version.

Please let me know and
I will send to you the
correct original.

John

Larg P. L

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White House Guidelines, August 28, 1997

By dlb NARA, Date 5/6/99

8491234

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NLS F99-051 # 292

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

BY smf, NARA, DATE 10/14/00

December 17, 1984

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In response to your letter of November 16, I want you to know that I, too, believe that an escalation of tension serves no one's interest and that such an escalation, if continued, would inevitably affect relations between our two countries.

Our policy toward Nicaragua is clear. We will not sit by idly while the Sandinista regime, aided by the Soviet Union, Cuba, and other states which maintain close relations with your country, provides material and other support to insurgent and terrorist groups in the region. Neither can we and other countries whose interests are affected fail to be concerned by the massive and destabilizing amount of weaponry which Nicaragua itself has acquired or by the presence of large numbers of foreign military advisors. It is particularly clear that recent arms shipments to Nicaragua ~~have exacerbated~~ an already tense situation. **see insert below

A subject of grave concern to us in recent weeks has, of course, been the question of combat aircraft for Nicaragua. As we have informed the Soviet Union on several occasions, the acquisition by Nicaragua of jet fighter aircraft ~~(or jet aircraft that can be converted for combat use)~~ ^{jet} would be unacceptable to the United States. I was therefore pleased to see from your letter that malicious designs involving shipment of Soviet combat aircraft to Nicaragua are not part of Soviet policy, and welcome this clarification as a useful step forward in our relations.

**INSERT: The ~~continued~~ supply of advanced weaponry or large quantities of weapons which ~~could~~ give Nicaragua a substantial offensive potential against its neighbors, ~~would undermine the peace process.~~

and
constitute a threat
to peace in the area,
(which must be terminated)

I agree with you that the Nicaraguan people, as all people, must be given the opportunity to live in peace and exercise their inalienable rights. The Sandinista junta, therefore, owes it to its citizens and to the international community to fulfill the commitments which it undertook in its July 12, 1979, statement to the Organization of American States. It is unrealistic to expect other interested states to have full confidence in Nicaragua's intentions until those commitments are observed.

I wish to reaffirm to you my strong conviction that the Nicaragua problem should be resolved in the context of a negotiated settlement. The Contadora group of nations has defined the problems of the region and has made substantial progress in developing a treaty to meet these concerns. I applaud these efforts and give them my unqualified support. In the period ahead, we should know whether they will succeed. Much will depend on Nicaragua's willingness to moderate its behavior of the past five years. I am sure that you join me in the hope that the Contadora effort will bear fruit. It is clearly in both our interests to see reduction, rather than escalation of tensions in Central America.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ronald Reagan". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

His Excellency
Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko
Chairman of the Presidium of the
Supreme Soviet of the Union of
Soviet Socialist Republics
Moscow

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL DISTRIBUTION RECORD

Log Number 91234

Date DEC 17 1984

Subject: PRES LTR TO CHERNENKO

CLASSIFICATION: TOP SECRET SECRET CONFIDENTIAL UNCLASSIFIED

INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION

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<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. McFarlane	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Fontaine	<input type="checkbox"/> Ltc. Linhard	<input type="checkbox"/> Ms. Reger	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Tyson
<input type="checkbox"/> Adm. Poindexter	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Fortier	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Manfredi	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Robinson	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Weiss
<input type="checkbox"/> Sit. Room	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Helm	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Martin	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen. Russell	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Wattering
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Bailey	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Kemp	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Matlock	<input type="checkbox"/> Col. Rye	<input type="checkbox"/> Exec. Secretary
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Brazil	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Kraemer	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. McMinn	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Sapia-Bosch	<input type="checkbox"/> NSC Secretariat
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Beal	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Laux	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Morris	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Sigur	<input type="checkbox"/> NSC Registry
<input type="checkbox"/> Ltc. Childress	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. C. Lehman	<input type="checkbox"/> Col. Myer	<input type="checkbox"/> Capt. Sims	<input type="checkbox"/> NSC Admin.
<input type="checkbox"/> Ltc. Cobb	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. R. Lehman	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. North	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Shull	<input type="checkbox"/> NSC MSG Center
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. De Graffenreid	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Levine	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Pollock	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Sommer	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ms. Dobriansky	<input type="checkbox"/> Col. Lilac	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Poe	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Teicher	

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EXTERNAL DISTRIBUTION:	# CYS	Date	Time	Received/Signed For By:
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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL DISTRIBUTION RECORD

Log Number 91234

Date DEC 17 1984

Subject: PRES LTR TO CHERNENKO

CLASSIFICATION: TOP SECRET SECRET CONFIDENTIAL UNCLASSIFIED

INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION

_____ Judge Clark	_____ Cmdr. Dur	_____ Mr. Lord	_____ Mr. Raymond	_____ Cmdr. Thompson
_____ Mr. McFarlane	_____ Mr. Fontaine	_____ Ltc. Linhard	_____ Ms. Reger	_____ Mr. Tyson
_____ Adm. Poindexter	_____ Mr. Fortier	_____ Mr. Manfredi	_____ Mr. Robinson	_____ Mr. Weiss
_____ Sit. Room	_____ Mr. Helm	_____ Mr. Martin	_____ Gen. Russell	_____ Mr. Wettering
_____ Mr. Bailey	_____ Mr. Kemp	_____ Mr. Matlock	_____ Col. Rye	_____ Exec. Secretary
_____ Mr. Brazil	_____ Mr. Kraemer	_____ Mr. McMinn	_____ Mr. Sapia-Bosch	_____ NSC Secretariat
_____ Mr. Beal	_____ Mr. Laux	_____ Mr. Morris	_____ Mr. Sigur	_____ NSC Registry
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_____ Ltc. Cobb	_____ Mr. R. Lehman	_____ Mr. North	_____ Mr. Shull	_____ NSC MSG Center
_____ Mr. De Graffenreid	_____ Mr. Levine	_____ Mr. Pollock	_____ Mr. Sommer	
_____ Ms. Dobriansky	_____ Col. Lilac	_____ Mr. Poe	_____ Mr. Teicher	

EXTERNAL DISTRIBUTION:

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THE DIRECTOR, FEMA 500 C Street,				
DIRECTOR, DMSPA Room 3E813, Pentagon				

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By *dlh* Date August 28, 1997
NAHA

DATE, TIME & SIGN THIS RECEIPT & RETURN TO: BT MERCHANT, SITUATION ROOM, WHITE HOUSE

REFERRAL

DATE: 17 DEC 84

MEMORANDUM FOR: CHARLES HILL

DEPT OF STATE

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: TO: CHERNENKO, KONSTANTI

SOURCE: PRESIDENT

DATE: 17 DEC 84

KEYWORDS: USSR

NICARAGUA

CHERNENKO, KONSTANTI

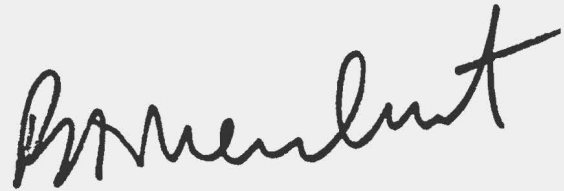
HS

SUBJ: PRESIDENTIAL REPLY TO CHERNENKO LTR

REQUIRED ACTION: FOR DISPATCH

DUEDATE: 17 DEC 84

COMMENTS: FOR IMMEDIATE DISPATCH



FOR ROBERT M. KIMMITT

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

----- FOR NSC USE ONLY -----

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National Security Council
The White House

System # II
Package # 91234

84 DEC 17 P 3: 32

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Paul Thompson			
Bob Kimmitt	<u>1</u>	<u>K</u>	<u>A</u>
John Poindexter			
Tom Shull			
Wilma Hall			
Bud McFarlane			
Bob Kimmitt			
NSC Secretariat	<u>2</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>D</u>
Situation Room			

DEC 17 1984

I = Information A = Action R = Retain D = Dispatch N = No further Action

cc: VP Meese Baker Deaver Other _____

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Do not LDX
Send in sealed,
eyes only envelope
to Charlie Hill ASAP
by Commes.

34 7/2. 4

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WITHDRAWAL SHEET AT THE FRONT OF THIS FOLDER.

B

National Security Council
The White House

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System #

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Package #

91234

1474

64 DEC 11 AM 11:27

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Paul Thompson	<u>1</u>	<u>8</u>	
Bob Kimmitt	<u>2</u>	<u>K</u>	
John Poindexter	<u>3</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	
Tom Shull			
Wilma Hall	<u>4</u>		
Bud McFarlane	<u>5</u>	<u>m</u>	<u>A</u>
Bob Kimmitt			
NSC Secretariat	<u>6</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>D</u>
Situation Room			

DEC 12 1984

I = Information **A = Action** R = Retain D = Dispatch N = No further Action

cc: VP Meese Baker Deaver Other _____

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(Date/Time)

64 DEC 11 AM 11:55

National Security Council
The White House

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System #

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Package #

91234

RECEIVED

84 DEC 10 P 5:48

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Paul Thompson	<u>1</u>	<u>✓</u>	
Bob Kimmitt			
John Poindexter			
Tom Shull			
Wilma Hall			
Bud McFarlane			
Bob Kimmitt			
NSC Secretariat			
Situation Room			
<u>Metlock</u>	<u>2</u>		<u>Redo</u>

I = Information A = Action R = Retain D = Dispatch N = No further Action

cc: VP Meese Baker Deaver Other _____

COMMENTS Should be seen by: _____
(Date/Time)

*pls add punctuation to A
done
2*

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

SYSTEM II
91234

84 NOV 2 P 3: 33

December 3, 1984

~~SECRET~~/SENSITIVE

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: George P. Shultz *GPS*

SUBJECT: Reply to Chernenko Letter on Nicaragua

We need to reply to Soviet Chairman Chernenko's November 16 letter to you on Nicaragua. Chernenko states his "growing concern" about developments in the region, and warns that increased tensions in Central America will have an impact on the course of US-Soviet relations. The letter avoids a hostile tone, but is highly, if indirectly, critical of United States policy toward Nicaragua. Chernenko also professes Soviet support for peaceful resolution of problems in the region, and specifically commends the Contadora process. The subject of combat aircraft for Nicaragua is addressed circuitously: the Soviet text gives no guarantees against shipment of aircraft, but disclaims any "malicious designs" on the part of the USSR.

Our reply very firmly sets the record straight concerning United States policy toward Nicaragua. Our text also acknowledges Chernenko's comments regarding the impact of tensions in Central America on US-Soviet relations, but turns these comments on linkage back at the USSR by making it clear that responsibility for the escalation of tensions in the region lies with the Soviet Union and Nicaragua.

Concerning possible shipment of combat aircraft to Nicaragua, we took advantage of Chernenko's decision to raise the topic, and put the Soviets on notice that we consider Chernenko's "clarification" a tacit assurance that the USSR will not provide such arms to Nicaragua. The reply also restates our longstanding position that shipment to Nicaragua of jet fighter aircraft would be unacceptable to the United States.

In sum, our text leaves the Soviets in no doubt as to the resolve of US policy toward Nicaragua, while reaffirming our commitment to constructive dialogue with the Soviet Union and our hope for peaceful resolution of Central American problems.

~~SECRET~~/SENSITIVE
DECL: OADR

DECLASSIFIED
NLS #99-051 #295
BY *CAS* NARA, DATE 7/25/00

8491234

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THIS FORM MARKS THE FILE LOCATION OF ITEM NUMBER 16 LISTED ON THE
WITHDRAWAL SHEET AT THE FRONT OF THIS FOLDER.

Bob,

Please provide
guidance based
on our notes.

J

04/11/84

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THIS FORM MARKS THE FILE LOCATION OF ITEM NUMBER _____ LISTED ON THE
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SECRET/SENSITIVE

Dear Mr. Chairman,

In response to your letter of November 16, I want you to know that I
~~allow me to~~ share your concern about events in Nicaragua. I too believe that an escalation of tension serves no one's interest and that such an escalation, if continued, would inevitably affect relations between our two countries.

Our policy toward Nicaragua is clear. We will not sit by idly while the Sandinista regime, aided by the Soviet Union, Cuba, and other states ~~which~~ maintain close relations with your country, provides material and other support to insurgent and terrorist groups in the region. Neither can we and other countries whose interests are affected fail to be concerned by the massive and destabilizing amount of weaponry which Nicaragua itself has acquired or by the presence of large numbers of foreign military advisors. It is particularly clear that recent arms shipments to Nicaragua have exacerbated an already tense situation.

A subject of grave concern to us in recent weeks has of course been the question of combat aircraft for Nicaragua. As we have informed the Soviet Union on several occasions, the acquisition by Nicaragua of jet fighter ^{or jet aircraft that can be converted for combat use} aircraft would be unacceptable to the United States. I was therefore pleased to see from your letter that malicious designs involving shipment of Soviet combat aircraft to Nicaragua are not part of Soviet policy, and welcome this clarification as a useful step forward in our relations.

I agree with you that the Nicaraguan people, as all people, must be given the opportunity to live in peace and exercise their inalienable rights. The Sandinista junta, therefore, owes it to its citizens and to the international community to fulfill the commitments which it undertook in its July 12, 1979 statement to the Organization of American States. It is unrealistic to expect other interested states to have full confidence in Nicaragua's intentions until those commitments are observed.

SECRET/SENSITIVE
DECL: OADR

DECLASSIFIED
NLS F99-051 #298
BY ALS NARA, DATE 7/25/01

I wish to reaffirm to you my strong conviction that the Nicaragua problem should be resolved in the context of a negotiated settlement. The Contadora group of nations has defined the problems of the region and has made substantial progress in developing a treaty to meet these concerns. I applaud these efforts and give them my unqualified support. In the period ahead, we should know whether they will succeed. Much will depend on Nicaragua's willingness to moderate its behavior of the past five years. I am sure that you join me in the hope that the Contadora effort will bear fruit. It is clearly in both our interests to see reduction, rather than escalation of tensions in Central America.

Sincerely,
Ronald Reagan

His Excellency ^{of the}
Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko
Chairman, Presidium of the/Supreme Soviet
Sp. of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Moscow

RECEIVED 03 DEC 84 21

TO PRESIDENT

FROM SHULTZ, G

DOCDATE 03 DEC 84

ARMACOST, M

28 NOV 84

KEYWORDS: USSR

NICARAGUA

CHERNENKO, KONSTANTI

HS

SUBJECT: REPLY TO CHERNENKO LTR ON NICARAGUA

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO FOR PRES

DUE: 05 DEC 84 STATUS S FILES SII

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

MATLOCK

NORTH

COMMENTS



DECLASSIFIED
White House Guidelines, August 28, 1997
By CA NARA Date 9/17/02

REF# 8432940

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ACTION OFFICER (S)	ASSIGNED	ACTION REQUIRED	DUE	COPIES TO

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National Security Council
The White House

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84 NOV 2

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	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Paul Thompson	_____	_____	_____
Bob Kimmitt	<u>1</u>	<u>K</u>	_____
John Poindexter	_____	_____	_____
Tom Shull	_____	_____	_____
Wilma Hall	_____	_____	_____
Bud McFarlane	_____	_____	_____
Bob Kimmitt	_____	_____	_____
NSC Secretariat	<u>2</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Situation Room	_____	_____	_____

I = Information A = Action R = Retain D = Dispatch N = No further Action

cc: VP Meese Baker Deaver Other _____

COMMENTS

Should be seen by: _____
(Date/Time)

Achm Matlock (please
coordinate with North)

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

SYSTEM II
91234

84 NOV 2 P 3: 33

December 3, 1984

~~SECRET/SENSITIVE~~

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: George P. Shultz *GPS*
SUBJECT: Reply to Chernenko Letter on Nicaragua

We need to reply to Soviet Chairman Chernenko's November 16 letter to you on Nicaragua. Chernenko states his "growing concern" about developments in the region, and warns that increased tensions in Central America will have an impact on the course of US-Soviet relations. The letter avoids a hostile tone, but is highly, if indirectly, critical of United States policy toward Nicaragua. Chernenko also professes Soviet support for peaceful resolution of problems in the region, and specifically commends the Contadora process. The subject of combat aircraft for Nicaragua is addressed circuitously: the Soviet text gives no guarantees against shipment of aircraft, but disclaims any "malicious designs" on the part of the USSR.

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In sum, our text leaves the Soviets in no doubt as to the resolve of US policy toward Nicaragua, while reaffirming our commitment to constructive dialogue with the Soviet Union and our hope for peaceful resolution of Central American problems.

~~SECRET/SENSITIVE~~

DECL: OADR

DECLASSIFIED

White House Guidelines, August 28, 1997

By *MS* NARA, Date *11/7/02*

~~SECRET/SENSITIVE~~

Dear Mr. Chairman,

Allow me to share your concern about events in Nicaragua. I too believe that an escalation of tension serves no one's interest and that such an escalation, if continued, would inevitably affect relations between our two countries.

Our policy toward Nicaragua is clear. We will not sit by idly while the Sandinista regime, aided by the Soviet Union, Cuba, and other states, [which maintain close relations with your country,] provides material and other support to insurgent and terrorist groups in the region. Neither can we and other countries whose interests are affected fail to be concerned by the massive and destabilizing amount of weaponry which Nicaragua itself has acquired or by the presence of large numbers of foreign military advisors. It is particularly clear that recent arms shipments to Nicaragua have exacerbated an already tense situation.

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~~SECRET/SENSITIVE~~
DECL: OADR

DECLASSIFIED

White House Guidelines, August 2, 1997
By CP NARA, Date 4/17/02
AUTHORITY NUSPAA-051 #298
CIS 7/25/00

~~SECRET/SENSITIVE~~

- 2 -

I wish to reaffirm to you my strong conviction that the Nicaragua problem should be resolved in the context of a negotiated settlement. The Contadora group of nations has defined the problems of the region and has made substantial progress in developing a treaty to meet these concerns. I applaud these efforts and give them my unqualified support. In the period ahead, we should know whether they will succeed. Much will depend on Nicaragua's willingness to moderate its behavior of the past five years. I am sure that you join me in the hope that the Contadora effort will bear fruit. It is clearly in both our interests to see reduction, rather than escalation of tensions in Central America.

Sincerely,
Ronald Reagan

His Excellency
Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko
Chairman, Presidium of the Supreme Soviet
of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Moscow

~~SECRET/SENSITIVE~~