

# Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Digital Library Collections

---

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

---

**Collection:** Blackwell, Morton: Files  
**Folder Title:** White House Outreach  
Working Group on Central America  
(7 of 18)  
**Box:** 57

---

To see more digitized collections visit:  
<https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digital-library>

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library inventories visit:  
<https://reaganlibrary.gov/document-collection>

Contact a reference archivist at: [reagan.library@nara.gov](mailto:reagan.library@nara.gov)

Citation Guidelines: <https://reaganlibrary.gov/citing>

National Archives Catalogue: <https://catalog.archives.gov/>

# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

## Ronald Reagan Library

**Collection Name** BLACKWELL, MORTON: FILES

**Withdrawer**

KDB 8/5/2009

**File Folder** WHITE HOUSE OUTREACH WORKING GROUP ON  
CENTRAL AMERICA (7)

**FOIA**

F08-0004/01

**Box Number** 9076 9090A

KRAUSE

9th 9/28/10

2

DOC NO	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
1	LIST	RE SUGGESTED INVITEES	2	ND	B6

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

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

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

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
December 13, 1983

OUTREACH WORKING GROUP ON CENTRAL AMERICA

DATE: Wednesday, December 14, 1983  
LOCATION: Room #450 - OEOB  
TIME: 2:30 p.m.

I. PURPOSE:

To brief certain individuals from the private sector on matters relating to Central America and the Administration's policies.

II. BACKGROUND:

This is the 30th in a series of meetings of the White House Outreach Working Group on Central America chaired by Faith Whittlesey.

III. PARTICIPANTS:

Assistant Secretary of State Elliott Abrams  
Dr. Constantine C. Menges, National Security Council

IV. PRESS PLAN:

None

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS:

2:28 p.m. - Faith Whittlesey arrives in the Holding Room of ROOM #450

2:30 p.m. - Faith Whittlesey opens meeting

2:38 p.m. - Faith Whittlesey introduces Assistant Secretary of State Elliott Abrams

3:35 p.m. - Faith Whittlesey introduces Dr. Constantine Menges

VI. ATTACHMENTS:

1. Agenda
2. Introduction for speaker
3. Talking points

## TALKING POINTS

- On behalf of President and Mrs. Reagan, I want to again welcome you to the White House Complex and the thirtieth in our series of briefings on Central America.
  
- Last week, we all stood for a moment remembering in silent prayer Sean Luketina (Loo-key-tina) who had been so gravely injured during the Grenadian rescue mission. Many of you will recall that when Mr. Robin Luketing (Loo-key-tina) Sean's father, spoke to us he called on us to remember that "freedom isn't free," and we know that Sean has paid dearly for our freedom. On Monday, when the President was speaking to the 1983 Convention of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society he reminded the assembled audience that, "The price of freedom is high, but never more costly than the loss of freedom. . . Each generation must do what ever is necessary to preserve it and pass it on to the next or it will be lost forever."
  
- The President also told the Medal of Honor Society that "Peace with freedom is the highest aspiration of the American people. We negotiate for peace. We sacrifice for it. We will never surrender for it. Our commitment for arms reduction is unshakable. We will not give up our search for peaceful solutions in the Middle East or Central America or elsewhere."

- Since last week, Sean's condition has worsened and he now is not expected to live. Sean has given his all to preserve our freedom. Preserving that freedom is now up to us.
  
- A few weeks ago, I told you of a number of resolutions and initiatives which had been introduced into various state legislatures condemning the President's actions in the Grenadian rescue mission. Well, let me share with you the text of a Resolution which was adopted by the New Orleans City Council:  
  
"Whereas, stability, peace and freedom in the Caribbean Basin are vital to the national security of the United States and the economic growth and prosperity of our neighbors in that area; and  
  
"Whereas, the security of that region and the lives of American citizens were recently threatened by a violent coup on the Island of Grenada which resulted in a fanatical Marxist Government with close ties to Cuba and the Soviet Union; and  
  
"Whereas, at the request of neighboring governments and in an effort to protect Americans who were under a 24-hour curfew American Marines and Army Paratroopers

have been sent by President Reagan to restore order and democracy on Grenada; and

"Whereas, it is the sense of the City Council that the use of American Forces in this instance is wise and prudent and in the best interests of America and its neighbors in the Caribbean; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS, that it supports President Reagan in his decision to protect American lives and preserve order in the Caribbean Basin Area by ousting a pro-Cuban, pro-Soviet Government on the Island of Grenada, freeing the Governor-General from prison, and restoring democracy to the Island of Grenada." Dated November 3, 1983.

- Perhaps because New Orleans is geographically closer to Castro's Cuba than are the folks in Seattle, Washington, where Initiative #28 "Should Seattle petition Congress to make more Federal funds available to cities by eliminating expenditures for war in Central America" passed by a margin of 54% to 46%, they have a deeper appreciation of the very real danger which is posed by a communist take-over in Central America. They understand what Senator Jeremiah Denton was talking about when he said, "For a long time, I have feared that we would be like the man who hopes that if he feeds his

brothers to the crocodile the crocodile will eat him last. The media are full of comparisons of Vietnam and El Salvador. Much of the comparison is ill-informed. Some is ill-advised, but it is right in one essential respect: the crocodile now is not in faraway Southeast Asia, but on our doorstep in Central America." At the time he made those remarks, Senator Denton was chairing the hearings on "The Role of Cuba in International Terrorism and Subversion."

- It is up to each of us who attend these White House briefings on Central America to take the information that we receive here and impart it to others. We must get the facts of the situation in Central America out to the American people. We must strip away the disinformation which daily flows from some of our media because we know that when the American people are given the facts, they make the right decisions.
  
- We know that the price of freedom is high. Sean Luketina knows the price of freedom is high. The Medal of Honor winners whom President Reagan addressed on Monday know that the price of freedom is high, but as the President reminded us, "never more costly than the loss of freedom. And freedom, we must always remember, is never more than one generation away from extinction."

- I know that many of you expressed an interest in receiving a copy of Ambassador Negroponete's talk of last week, and I am delighted to inform you that he has given us a copy of his speech which we will distribute. For those of you who were not present at that meeting, reading it will give you an opportunity to share the information the Ambassador gave us.
  
- I hope that each of you has completed one of our small Registration Forms. That is how we are able to communicate with you outside of these meetings. If you have not filled one out, I urge you to do so today and turn it in to Joyce Thomann or Morton Blackwell of my staff before you leave the building.
  
- Before I introduce Secretary Abrams, I would like to open the floor to our audience so that we may hear about the activities in which you have been engaged regarding Central America.

OPEN TO FLOOR

- INTRODUCE SECRETARY ABRAMS.



NOV 15 1983



The Council  
City of New Orleans

JOSEPH I. GIARRUSSO  
COUNCILMAN AT LARGE

November 9, 1983

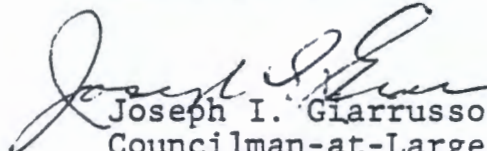
Mr. George Pratt Shultz  
Secretary of State  
2201 "C" Street  
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Mr. Shultz:

At the Council meeting of October 27, 1983, the City Council of New Orleans adopted the attached resolution: R-83-440.

The City Council supports President Reagan in his decision to protect American lives and preserve order in the Caribbean Basin Area by ousting a pro-Cuban, pro-Soviet Government on the Island of Grenada, freeing the Governor-General from prison, and restoring democracy to the Island of Grenada.

Sincerely yours,

  
Joseph I. Giarrusso  
Councilman-at-Large

JIG/dpr

RESOLUTION  
(CLYING OVER)  
NO. R-83-440

CITY HALL, OCTOBER 27, 1983

BY: COUNCILMEN GIARRUSSO, WAGNER AND SINGLETON

WHEREAS, stability, peace and freedom in the Caribbean Basin area are vital to the national security of the United States and the economic growth and prosperity of our neighbors in that area; and

WHEREAS, the security of that region and the lives of American citizens were recently threatened by a violent coup on the Island of Grenada which resulted in a fanatical Marxist Government with close ties to Cuba and the Soviet Union; and

WHEREAS, at the request of neighboring governments and in an effort to protect Americans who were under a 24 hour curfew American Marines and Army Paratroopers have been sent by President Reagan to restore order and democracy on Grenada; and

WHEREAS, it is the sense of the City Council that the use of American Forces in this instance is wise and prudent and in the best interests of America and its neighbors in the Caribbean; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS, That it supports President Reagan in his decision to protect American lives and preserve order in the Caribbean Basin Area by ousting a pro-Cuban, pro-Soviet Government on the Island of Grenada, freeing the Governor-General from prison, and restoring democracy to the Island of Grenada.

November 3, 1983.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS READ IN FULL, AND THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 12, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: FAITH WHITTLESEY  
THROUGH: Jack Courtemanche  
FROM: Morton C. Blackwell *MB*  
SUBJECT: Anniversary of the Cuban Revolution

Attached to refresh your memory is a copy of your memorandum to Bob McFarlane with your handwritten note to Bob Reilly and me.

At our working group meeting today, Donald Mathes, Senior Policy Officer for USIA inquired about the status of the effort. As we approach the 25th anniversary of Castro's takeover of Cuba and the massive propaganda effort we know will emanate from that quarter, this project takes on more urgency.

Do we know what progress has been made to date?

MCB:jet

1 Attachment a/s

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 29, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT C. McFARLANE

FROM: FAITH RYAN WHITTLESEY *FRW*

SUBJECT: Anniversary of the Cuban Revolution

An idea surfaced at the Monday afternoon Central America meeting to commemorate the 25th year since Castro's takeover on January 2, 1959, by having the President speak directly to the people of Cuba, just as he spoke directly to the Soviet peoples from VOA. Though Radio Marti will not have begun to broadcast at that time, the President could announce a starting date by saying: "You may be receiving the voice of freedom only faintly now, but it will be growing stronger, not only as the broadcast signal of Radio Marti grows stronger, but as those who hope for freedom and long for truth realize that the oppression of the Marxist state must inevitably crumble before man's free spirit and the sovereignty of God."

The President could also take this opportunity to tell the Cubans the high cost of empire as they serve as Soviet surrogates in Angola, Ethiopia and Mozambique, and how they are being used as tools in Soviet global strategy. He could use the occasion also to deplore the loss of basic human freedoms in Cuba since Castro's victory 25 years ago.

*To: Bob Reilly (Marston)*  
*From: FRW*  
*NSC says*  
*they agree w/ this*  
*idea + will act*  
*on it; please*  
*inform Monday;*  
*making copy*

*12/2*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 5, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: FAITH WHITTLESEY

THROUGH: Jack Courtemanche

FROM: Morton C. Blackwell

SUBJECT: Regional Outreach Briefings on Central America

On Friday afternoon, December 2, I met with Otto Reich and others of his State Department colleagues regarding our planning for White House outreach briefings in selected major United States' cities. We left in agreement on the following points:

1. The State Department Public Affairs Office would arrange for co-sponsorship in each city. Co-sponsors would be groups such as the World Affairs Council, the Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis, Rotary, etc. The idea is to find sponsors that would not be identified with either end of the political spectrum but towards the center.
2. The invitations would be from the White House and, depending upon the speakers, would read something like: "The White House Office of Public Liaison, the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Department of Defense and the Agency for International Development, in cooperation with the Pittsburgh World Affairs Council and the Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce cordially invite you to attend a briefing on United States policy in Central America."
3. The list of invitees would be initially provided by the local sponsoring organization. The list would be submitted to the White House to make sure that the major opinion leaders in each locality are included. This would include the prominent educators, clergy, union leaders, business leaders, and local editors, publishers, and broadcasters. The idea here is for the invitation list to reach out beyond those normally invited to foreign policy briefings.

4. Target cities. We plan eventually to cover all twenty-four of the cities we have been discussing for some time, but we will start with one pair of cities. Either Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, or Cincinnati and St. Louis, depending upon the availability of appropriate sponsors.
5. Sponsors. For the first pair of cities, we will not shoot for "superstars" such as Secretary of State Shultz, or Secretary of Defense Weinberger, but will go for a reasonably balanced team of three sponsors, one each from the defense area, the diplomacy area and the development area.
6. Funding for the hall will be provided by the local sponsoring organization. Each agency will fund the travel expenses of its personnel. The invitations will be issued by the White House.
7. Scheduling. Otto Reich's office will coordinate this with the State Department Bureau of Public Affairs, in consultation with the White House Office of Public Liaison and other appropriate offices. It was agreed that we would not schedule any cities in the month immediately prior to each respective state's Presidential primary. The first pair of cities would be covered in mid-January, after which we would evaluate this pilot and make appropriate changes in procedures.

All in all, it was a very successful meeting. I expect that we will, by the end of next week, have obtained sponsors, sites, and speakers for the first two cities Outreach Briefing.

MCB:jet

cc: Outreach Working Group Members

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
November 28, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: FAITH WHITTLESEY  
THROUGH: Jack Courtemanche  
FROM: Morton C. Blackwell (Joyce Thomann)  
SUBJECT: Memorandum to Outreach Working Group

I trust the attached is self-explanatory.

If Mrs. Whittlesey would please sign the memorandum (using a black pen) we can get the mailing out by tomorrow at the latest.

:jet

1 Attachment a/s

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 28, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: THE MEMBERS AND GUESTS OF THE WHITE HOUSE  
OUTREACH WORKING GROUP ON CENTRAL AMERICA

FROM: Faith Ryan Whittlesey  
Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison

SUBJECT: Meetings for December

Following is a listing of our principal speakers and room locations for the White House Central American Outreach Meetings for the month of December. As usual, all meetings will begin at 2:30 p.m. (In order to facilitate the clearance process, please arrive at the meeting location no later than 2:15 p.m.)

December 7, - "Honduras - Today and Tomorrow"  
The Honorable John D. Negroponte,  
United States Ambassador to Honduras  
"The Decisions and Deliberations of the O.A.S."  
The Honorable J. William Mendenhof, II,  
U.S. Permanent Representative to the  
Organization of American States

ROOM #474 - OEOB

December 14, - "Human Rights"  
The Honorable Elliott Abrams,  
Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau  
of Human Rights & Humanitarian Affairs

ROOM #450 - OEOB

December 21, - "Central America: Its Economic and Strategic  
Importance to the United States"  
The Honorable Langhorne Motley,  
Assistant Secretary of State for  
Inter-American Affairs

ROOM #450 - OEOB

December 28, - CANCELLED (Due to Christmas/New Years' Holiday)


I am also enclosing copies of the six White House Directs which have been published to date so that you may be certain to have a complete set.

Let me take this opportunity to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with blessings and joy.

Enclosures a/s



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
November 11, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: FAITH WHITTLESEY  
THROUGH: Jack Courtemanche  
FROM: Morton C. Blackwell   
SUBJECT: Regional Briefings on Central America

We received this afternoon the attached material from Patrice Malone who works with Otto Reich.

They asked, if you approve, that you sign the attached and return it promptly to Patrice at the State Department

Their proposal is one which we have worked out jointly. I recommend you sign and return it to Patrice.

MCB:jet

1 Attachment a/s



United States Department of State  
*Office of the Secretary*

November 14, 1983

NOTE TO: MORTON BLACKWELL  
FROM : PATRICE MALONE  
SUBJ : REGIONAL BRIEFINGS

Ambassador Reich has prepared an action plan to carry out the regional briefings which we have discussed.

Please review this and let us have your comments. If this plan is acceptable to your office, would you please have Ambassador Whittlesey sign the attached.

United States Department of State

*Washington, D.C. 20520*

November 14, 1983

MEMORANDUM

TO: PA - Mr. John Hughes  
FROM: S/LPD - Otto J. Reich  
WH/OPL - Faith Whittlesey  
SUBJECT: Major Media Market Briefings

We would like to ask your assistance in implementing the attached proposal for a series of regional briefings on Central America to begin in early December.

We have discussed this concept with Jim Baker and have received his approval.

Attachment: Regional Briefings  
on Central America

## REGIONAL BRIEFINGS ON CENTRAL AMERICA

### Concept:

Organize a series of regional briefings on Central America in an effort to reach the greatest number of Americans to inform the public on United States policy in Central America.

### Organization:

The top 24 media markets have been selected as one effective vehicle for communicating U.S. policy to the American public. They are as follows:

New York  
Los Angeles  
Chicago  
Philadelphia  
Detroit  
San Francisco  
Washington  
Dallas/Fort Worth  
Houston  
Boston  
St. Louis  
Pittsburgh  
Baltimore  
Minneapolis/St. Paul  
Atlanta  
Cincinnati  
Milwaukee  
Denver  
Cleveland  
San Diego  
Miami  
Seattle-Everett  
Tampa-St. Petersburg  
Phoenix

By organizing these 24 media markets into regional briefings of 2 to 3 cities depending on the proximity, we can maximize the use of our resources.

The proposed tours are as follows:

Philadelphia/New York/Boston  
Baltimore/Washington  
Pittsburgh/Cleveland/Detroit  
Dallas/Ft. Worth/Houston  
San Diego/Phoenix/Los Angeles  
Milwaukee/Chicago/Minneapolis-St. Paul  
Atlanta/Miami/Tampa-St. Petersburg  
Cincinnati/St. Louis  
San Francisco/Denver/Seattle

Depending on the number of cities involved, each tour would consist of 2 or 3 major forums hosted by prominent organizations within the participating city, i.e., World Affairs Council, International Chamber of Commerce, and/or the League of Women Voters. Media add-ons would be scheduled around the platforms, for example, interviews with editorial boards, TV talks shows and/or other town meetings.

Briefing teams will be composed of senior as well as mid-level USG officials representing all components of our foreign policy in the region. A few examples are as follows:

<u>Team Leader</u>	<u>Destination</u>
Jeane Kirkpatrick or Vernon Walters	Philadelphia/New York/ Boston
Bill Middendorf	Baltimore/Washington
Peter McPherson	Pittsburgh/Cleveland/Detroit
Eugene Douglas	Dallas-Ft.Worth/Houston
Caspar Weinberger	San Diego/Phoenix/Los Angeles
John Vessey	Milwaukee/Chicago/Minneapolis- St. Paul
Otto Reich	Atlanta/Miami/Tampa- St. Petersburg
Verne Orr	Cincinnati/St. Louis
Tony Motley	San Francisco/Denver/Seattle

The above team leaders were selected because of their knowledge of the geographic area.

Our goal is to communicate our policy to the greatest number of persons. With this in mind, we believe that the White House would be able to generate more interest within the communities to attend a "National Security Briefing on Central America," therefore, the invitation should be issued from the White House.

We have explored this idea with organizations in a few of these key cities and their response has been extremely positive.

Our thought is to schedule these briefings throughout December and into the month of January.

Drafted: S/LPD - Patrice Malone  
Rm. 5917 632-6751

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 8, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: CASPAR A. WEINBERGER

FROM: Faith Ryan Whittlesey

SUBJECT: Department of Defense Display of  
Captured Documents and Weapons

I want to commend you for the Department of Defense's planned public display of captured documents and weapons scheduled to take place at Andrews Air Force Base, November 11-22.

It occurs to me that this would be a perfect opportunity to also let the public know of the other efforts which are being made in Central America and other Caribbean Basin countries. In that regard, I would like to suggest that as a part of the public display a small booth or table be established where already public U.S. Government information materials such as those attached could be made available to the general public. In that manner, we may begin to get some attention not only to the recent rescue operation in Grenada, but to the political and economic development efforts which this Administration has made as well as to some of the problems which yet remain unresolved.

FRW:mcb-j

Attachments

(See listing)



ATTACHMENT LISTING:

1. White House Digests:
  - a. June 1, 1983 - Nicaragua's Sandinistas: Having It All Ways
  - b. July 6, 1983 - Soviet/Cuban Threat and Buildup In the Caribbean
  - c. July 13, 1983 - Central America: Facts Not Widely Known
  - d. Aug. 10, 1983 - Human Rights in Cuba
  - e. Aug. 24, 1983 - Nicaraguan Repression of Labor Unions
2. Joint Department of State/Department of Defense paper, May 27, 1983, "Background Paper: Central America"
3. Remarks of the President to a Joint Session of the Congress, April 27, 1983
4. Department of State Gist:
  - a. June 1983 Central America: US Policy
  - b. April 1983 El Salvador's Land Reform
  - c. May 1982 US Interests in the Caribbean Basin
  - d. Nov. 1982 El Salvador
  - e. July 1983 El Salvador: Certification Process
5. Department of State, Current Policy Issues:
  - a. #522 - Speech by President Reagan, "America's Commitment to Peace"
  - b. #518 "The Cuban Revolution and Its Impact On Human Rights"
  - c. #509 "Economic Growth and U.S. Policy in Central America"
  - d. #503 "Elections in El Salvador"
  - e. #502 "Comprehensive Strategy for Central America"
  - f. #499 "Saving Freedom in Central America"
  - g. #478 "Struggle for Democracy in Central America"
  - h. #477 "Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act"
  - i. #476 "Nicaragua: Threat to Peace in Central America"
  - j. #467 "Bilateral Assistance for Latin America and the Caribbean, FY 1984"
  - k. #464 "Strategic Importance of El Salvador and Central America"
  - l. #443 "Dealing with the Reality of Cuba"
  - m. #414 "Building the Peace in Central America"
  - n. #412 "U.S. Approach to Problems in the Caribbean Basin"
  - o. SR #103 - "Cuban Armed Forces and the Soviet Military Presence"
6. Department of State, "Atlas of the Caribbean Basin", September 1982
7. Agency for International Development paper, "U.S. Economic Aid to Latin America," November, 1983

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
November 8, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: FAITH WHITTLESEY  
THROUGH: Jack Courtemanche  
FROM: Morton C. Blackwell  
SUBJECT: The Opportunity Presented by the DoD Display  
of Captured Grenadan Documents and Weapons

We have collaborated with Constantine on the attached.

The memorandum from you to Secretary Weinberger has been prepared with a separate attachment listing for the purpose of allowing you or Secretary Weinberger to select from the listing those items you believe should be excluded; thereby facilitating your review.

Attachment #7 listed on your memorandum to Secretary Weinberger is in the final stages of preparation at AID. I have been assured by AID that it will be in our possession by close of business today. Inasmuch as it is a single item, I did not want to delay your review of this package and will forward it to you immediately upon its receipt.

MCB:jet

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

November 8, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR FAITH WHITTLESEY

FROM: CONSTANTINE C. MENGES<sup>COM</sup>

SUBJECT: The Opportunity Presented by the DOD Display of Captured Grenadan Documents and Weapons

After you had departed the Outreach meeting this afternoon, the discussion turned to the public display of captured documents and weapons which the Department of Defense is going to open at Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland, beginning Friday, November 11 and continuing through November 22. (For your information, at Tab I I am attaching a copy of DOD's "Grenada Display Plan" which was distributed at the meeting by Ray Warren of DOD.)

It occurred to many of us that this would be a perfect opportunity to emphasize the other efforts which this Administration has made in Central America and the Caribbean Basin as a whole. To that end, it was suggested that the Department of Defense use this opportunity to provide the public with already published US Government information materials on the Caribbean and Central America such as:

- the May 27, 1983 DOD-State Department paper, "Background on Central America", selected issues of the "White House Digests";
- selected issues of the State Department's "Gists" be made a part of this planned public display;
- a one or two-page summary of the President's Caribbean Basin Initiative and its potential economic benefits.

Also it was suggested to Mary Catherine English of AID that AID prepare a brief one-page summary of AID programs in the Caribbean and Central America along with a summary showing how funding levels have gone up since FY 1977. She believed this could be quickly accomplished. This would also be made a part of the materials which would be made available to the public.

If you agree that this might be a good idea, I suggest that you telephone Secretary Weinberger and also send him a note attaching the specific US Government information items you believe should be made available. The Defense Department then would have to arrange for copies to be reproduced and displayed at Andrews Air Force Base along with the Grenada material.

Attachment:

Tab I DOD's "Grenada Display Plan"  
Tab II Draft memorandum to SecDef

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON  
November 3, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: JOHN TILLER  
FROM: Morton C. Blackwell  
SUBJECT: Central American Briefings Update

Today I was visited by Patsy Faoro of Craig Fuller's office regarding the plans for a Central American briefing for Administration Hispanic appointees. She then spoke with Dolf and the upshot is that the briefing has been cancelled or at least deferred. What was surprising was that Fuller's office knew nothing of our wish to brief political appointees in the departments and agencies.

I think it would be timely for you to put together a written report for distribution at our Monday Outreach Working Group meeting. The report should describe the status of the four categories of briefings listed in my attached memo to of August 4th.

I recall that we agreed you would work first on the briefings of appropriate White House staff. But the time for arranging briefings on the other categories is now as well.

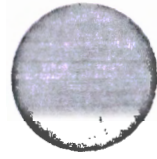
With Grenada having gone so well, we have a great story to tell.

With respect to Fuller, Dolf has smoothed things over with Faoro, so you should get details of his understandings for the report on Monday.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 3, 1983



MEMORANDUM TO: FAITH WHITTLESEY  
THROUGH: Jack Courtemanche  
FROM: Morton C. Blackwell  
SUBJECT: Outreach Working Group Meeting of Monday,  
November 7

Next Monday afternoon, I am scheduled to be at a very important meeting of the American Conservative Union Board of Directors. This means I would not be able to attend the regular Outreach Working Group meeting in Room #194.

If you are not able to preside at that meeting, with your permission, I will ask Constantine Menges to do so.

MCB:jet

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

OUTREACH WORKING GROUP ON CENTRAL AMERICA

DATE: Wednesday, November 2, 1983  
LOCATION: Room #450 - OEOB  
TIME: 2:30 p.m.

I. PURPOSE:

To brief certain individuals from the public sector on matters relating to Central America and the Administration's policies.

II. BACKGROUND:

This is the 25th in a series of meetings of the White House Outreach Working Group on Central America chaired by Faith Whittlesey.

III. PARTICIPANTS:

The Honorable James H. Michel, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs  
Miss Lynne Burtan of Saddle River, New Jersey,  
Student, St. George's University Medical School, Grenada;  
Mr. Dennis Sheridan of Glen Head, New York,  
Student, St. George's University Medical School, Grenada;  
Mr. Robert Shapiro of Butler, Pennsylvania,  
Student, St. George's University Medical School, Grenada.  
Dr. Roger Fontaine, Director for Latin American Affairs,  
National Security Council

IV. PRESS PLAN:

None.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS:

2:28 p.m. - Faith Whittlesey arrives at holding room of Room #450.

2:30 p.m. - Faith Whittlesey escorts speakers to the stage and opens program.

VI. ATTACHMENTS:

1. Talking points
2. Introduction for Speaker (Only for James Michel)
3. Agenda (previously forwarded)

## TALKING POINTS

- On behalf of President and Mrs. Reagan, I want to again welcome you to the White House Complex and the twenty-fifth in our series of briefings on Central America.
  
- For those of you who have been regular attendees at our briefings, I think it is safe to say that the revelations of the Soviet/Cuban arsenal found in Grenada came as no surprise to us. We have been watching the largest airfield in the Caribbean Basin being built for the avowed purpose of enhancing tourism when no hotels or other normal activities associated with tourism were being constructed. We were not really surprised by the Soviet arsenal on Grenada.
  
- I can assure all of you that in my State of Pennsylvania, and I'm sure where you come from too, that our tractors and other construction equipment are NOT equipped with anti-aircraft missiles.
  
- And I think we in the United States thought the days of using hospitals as ammunition dumps went out with Hitler. But those of you who have attended our weekly briefings know that religious persecution and violations of basic human rights are, unfortunately, alive and frighteningly well in the Marxist-Leninist bag of dirty tricks.

- It does occur to me, however, that a benefit of the liberation of Grenada which may have been overlooked is that now the American public will know where Grenada is! Many of you in this audience will remember that as late as May of this year, less than 10% of the American public knew where El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua were located and although some might have been able to hum the first few bars of "Grenada" few could have told you where the island Grenada was located.
  
- But I fear that the American public's awareness is still sadly lacking regarding the importance of Central America to our welfare -- not only to our security, but in economic terms. During peacetime, 44% of all foreign trade tonnage and 45% of all import tanker tonnage moves through the Caribbean Sea Lanes.
  
- The Caribbean states provide 75% of our nation's aluminum requirements.
  
- Within the Caribbean itself, refineries process approximately five million barrels of crude oil a day and three-fourths of all our imported oil passes through the Caribbean Sea Lanes.
  
- In terms of local trade alone, U.S. commerce with the Caribbean Basin countries is about 12% of our total world



trade and amounted to almost \$68 billion worth of exports and imports in 1982 alone.

- Lately, critics of the President's actions have compared the recent liberation of Grenada to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. In my view, there is something seriously wrong with anyone who cannot see the difference between 100,000 Soviets trying to force a dictatorship down the throats of the Afghan people and the United States, at the request of six threatened Caribbean democracies, joining to liberate the people of Grenada.
  
- If the situations are as analagous as our detractors would have us believe, then why is it that the Soviets are being attacked by the people of Afghanistan, while the U.S. and Caribbean forces have been greeted as liberators in Grenada? The answer is quite simple. No people in history have ever chosen to become slaves. People everywhere want to be free. And freedom is the bottom line difference between Afghanistan and Grenada.
  
- Although recent days in Grenada have emphasized the military, let me assure you that the Administration is still firmly committed to its policies of economic aid for Central America. We are committed to assist in the development of viable economies and democracies in

Central America. Development. Democracy. Defense.  
Dialogue. These continue as the four cornerstones  
of the Reagan Administration's Central American policy.

- Before I introduce our first speaker, let me show you  
the November issue of the Reserve Officer Association's  
magazine, The Officer. This is the type of activity  
which we are delighted to see as the result of our  
Outreach efforts and I want to thank General Roberts for  
sharing this with us.
  
- (Introduce speaker: Jim Michel - pronounce MICHAEL).

## INTRODUCTION

JAMES H. MICHEL

- James Michel (MICHAEL) serves as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-american Affairs. In that capacity, he serves as the principal Deputy to our friend, Ambassador Tony Motley, who is responsible for carrying out the foreign policy of the United States in its relations with the nations of the Western Hemisphere.
  
- Prior to his current appointment, Mr. Michel had served, since 1965, in the Department of State's Office of the Legal Advisor.
  
- In 1974 he was named Assistant Legal Adviser for Politico-Military affairs and was named a Deputy Legal Advisor. From November 1977 to August 1981 Mr. Michel was the principal Deputy to the Legal Advisor and shared responsibility for the management of the Office of the Legal Adviser.
  
- From 1958 until 1965, Mr. Michel was employed by the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, as an expert in fingerprint and other forms of criminal identification.

- Mr. Michel has twice been the recipient of the State Department's Superior Honor award. He was awarded the rank of Meritorious Executive by President Carter in 1980. In 1981, he received the Secretary of State's Distinguished Honor Award. And in 1982, President Reagan awarded him the rank of Distinguished Executive in the Senior Executive Service.
  
- Mr. Michel was born in St. Louis, Missouri and attended the public schools there. He attended St. Louis University and was graduated from the St. Louis University Law School with the degree of Juris Doctor, cum laude. He is a member of the District of Columbia Bar, the Missouri Bar, the Federal Bar Association, and the American Society of International Law.
  
- It gives me great pleasure to present, James H. Michel, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 27, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: FAITH WHITTLESEY  
THROUGH: Jack Courtemanche  
FROM: Morton C. Blackwell *MB*  
SUBJECT: Memo to the Outreach Group

Attached is a proposed memorandum for your signature advising the members and guests of the speakers and rooms for November.

If it meets with your approval, please sign it using a BLACK pen. We will have it printed on White House letterhead and will send it to our listing.

MCB:jet

1 Attachment a/s

October 28, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: THE MEMBERS AND GUESTS OF THE WHITE HOUSE  
OUTREACH WORKING GROUP ON CENTRAL AMERICA

FROM: Faith Ryan Whittlesey,  
Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison

SUBJECT: Meetings for November

Following is a listing of our principal speakers and room locations for the Central American Outreach Meetings for the month of November. As usual, all meetings will begin at 2:30 p.m.:

- November 2 - "Grenada"  
The Honorable James Michel,  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State  
for Inter-American Affairs  
Room #450 - Old Executive Office Building
- November 9 - "El Salvador as Seen by Its Youth"  
Fernando Aceto  
Ana Vicky Morales  
Ana Berrios  
Eduardo Torres  
Bertha Van Ripper  
Marisa Fortin  
(NOTE: Only two of the above students  
will be speaking after having returned  
from a speaking tour of the United States)  
Room #450 - Old Executive Office Building
- November 16 - "The Situation in the Caribbean"  
General John Vessey,  
Chairman  
Joint Chiefs of Staff  
Room #450 - Old Executive Office Building
- November 23 - CANCELLED (Due to Thanksgiving Holiday)
- November 30 - "KGB Disinformation in the Media and Other  
Soviet Active Measures"  
Mr. Arnaud De Borchegrave, noted author/lecturer  
Room #2008 - New Executive Office Building

If you have any questions, please contact: Mrs. Joyce Thomann, Office of Public Liaison (202) 456-2657.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
October 18, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: CATHI VILLAPANDO  
FROM: Morton C. Blackwell *MB*  
SUBJECT: Invitations to C.B.I. Signing Ceremony

Attached is the list of people that I suggest be invited to the Caribbean Basin Initiative signing ceremony. If it is necessary to prioritize the list I can do so.

attachments: two page list

# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

*Collection Name*

BLACKWELL, MORTON: FILES

*Withdrawer*

KDB 8/5/2009

*File Folder*

WHITE HOUSE OUTREACH WORKING GROUP ON  
CENTRAL AMERICA ~~(7)~~ (7)

*FOIA*

F08-0004/01  
KRAUSE

*Box Number*

9076

2

---

*DOC Document Type*

*No of Doc Date Restric-*  
*pages tions*

*NO Document Description*

---

1 LIST

2 ND B6

RE SUGGESTED INVITEES

---

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

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]

B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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