

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 10, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: FAITH RYAN WHITTLESEY

THROUGH: Jonathan Vipond

FROM: Morton C. Blackwell 

SUBJECT: Proposed White House Digest Papers

The report received yesterday from Dick Darman regarding our two pending Outreach Working Group papers is disappointing.

I suppose the Sanchez paper will be forthcoming in some form. From our discussions, I presume that paper will be available for our meeting next Wednesday.

I presume that Fred Fielding was not aware of the procedure by which the White House Digest papers are issued by the White House Communications Office -- not by the Office of Public Liaison.

The dropping of the Piedra paper produced by Ambassador Middendorf, is too bad. It is a good paper. Yes, it is controversial. But it seems unlikely we can produce any useful papers which are not controversial. If that is the standard we must meet, we should disband the Working Group.

Piedra's effort is not designed to defend the Pope or the Catholic Church. It is intended to defend the interests of the United States. Liberation theology is a weapon being used by our enemies to attack the interests of our country. Is a religious cloak to be allowed to shield some of the most effective Marxist attacks on the United States?

It is standard communist doctrine to attack from sanctuaries. Time and again we let them use this tactic to tie our hands. Are we, as a government, required to sit quietly under this ideological attack? Why not at least defend ourselves? Must we expect the Pope to defend us? He has enough problems on his hands, including no doubt advisors who say he shouldn't "carry the brunt of the battle" on issues which largely concern U.S. national interests.

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You will recall there was strong agreement in our Working Group when Ambassador Middendorf pointed out the urgent need for a paper on liberation theology and volunteered to prepare one for us.

I suggest you and Ambassador Middendorf take up this matter with Judge Clark and then Fred Fielding. Certainly Ambassador Middendorf would be happy to handle media questions relating to this paper if we issue it. Perhaps we could issue the White House Digest paper on Liberation Theology signed by him. Or perhaps the paper could be edited in some way so as to pass muster.

MCB:jet

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 8, 1983



MEMORANDUM TO: Faith Ryan Whittlesey
FROM: Morton C. Blackwell *MCB*
SUBJECT: PLO and Libyan Central American Involvement

Attached are two items:

1. First, the Anti-Defamation League news release of yesterday.

2. Second, the notes which Jackie Tillman spoke from at this morning's Coalition breakfast. There was not time to give you her notes in a better form. They will be the basis of one of our "White House Digest" papers.

MCB:jet

2 Enclosures a/s

②

* Jorge Mandi: Sandinista spokesman, told a reporter for the Kuwaiti newspaper Al Watan, 6/7/79 ^{in the triumph}
"There is a long standing blood unity between us and the Palestinian revolution. Many of the units belonging to the Sandinista movement were at Palestinian revolutionary bases in Jordan. In the early 1970s, Nicaraguan & Palestinian blood was spilled together in Amman and in other places during the Black September battles.
A number of Sandinistas took part in the operation to divert 4 aircraft which the PFLP seized and landed at a desert airfield in Jordan. One of our comrades was also wounded in another hijack operation in which Leila Khaled was involved. She was in command of the operation and our comrades helped her carry it out. It is natural, he explains to us, therefore, that in our war against Somoza, we received Palestinian aid for our revolution in various forms.

* This aid/solidarity was formalized in two publicly proclaimed joint communiqués issued in 1978.

- 1st Signed in Mexico City ^{in 1978} on 2/5/78 which affirmed the "ties of solidarity existing between the two revolutionary organizations" and attached "the racist state of Israel"

- The second communiqué was signed in Havana on 3/6/78 this time between the Sandinistas and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), declaring war against "Yankee imperialism, the racist regime of Israel and the dictatorship of Anastasio Somoza."

* PLO was ^{an important} a major supplier of arms to the Sandinistas during the war. You may recall the interception ^{in early 1979} of a planeload of weapons sent by the PLO to the Sandinistas discovered in Tunis. ^{It, like the Libyan plane recently intercepted in Brazil, was disguised as medical supplies.}

* Mission to Beirut by S. Ramirez's brother established official contacts.

* After the triumph, the PLO maintained a discreet presence in Nicaragua. ^{in 1979 protocol on relations signed.} They came out of the closet a bit during the 1st anniversary celebration of the revolution, when in 7/80 the Sands formally recognized the PLO and they opened an embassy in Managua.

Arafat: "The simple fact of the Nicaraguan's people's victory is the victory of the Palestinians. Anyone

* Watershed date marking the PLO presence in LA 1966 Havana meeting of OSPAL - Organization of the People's of Asia, Africa & LA

* Claire Sterling's book ^{on that meeting}

* By 68, Cuban intelligence & military personnel assisting PLO on training missions in N Af & Iraq

* 69 - Cuban national liberation officers were in joint training with PLO officers in USSR

* June 69 - Cuban members of training camps went to Egypt where they conducted a joint raid into IS occupied Siani desert.

* 1972 - important meeting in Algeria. Castro met with PLO to discuss stepped up coordination of activities.

PLO undertook to augment Cuban training of LA terrorists with specialized instruction in Lebanon, South Yemen & Libya.

* In 1973 Castro broke relations w/Israel at the Algiers Summit Conference of Non-Aligned States that Sept.

Cuba was training S. Yemeni pilots to fly MIGs at that time as well.

* ^{in Havana} 1974 - PLO opened its first LA office. Arafat received the Cuban Bay of Pigs award. Since then, the PLO has been actively involved in LA revolutionary struggles.

eg: 1978 photo in Gente mag in BA of Arafat w/12 leading Montaneros (Mario Ferminish)

'82 - Andres Pascal Allende (Chile)

Co-operation: in the UN, joint communiqués
Fidel facilitates PLO/CA terrorist relations

NICARAGUA

Contrast Arafat visit; Pope's treatment

Nicaragua is center for PLO activities in CA longstanding ties between the PLO & Sandinistas

Between 68-78, at least 70 Sandinistas trained in ME

We know because they had a list of it

parents immigrated to El Sal from Palensine in 20s.

- * Two months after the coup which ousted Romero in Sal, in 12/79, a bomb was exploded in the Israeli Emb in San Salvador, the terrorists announed the act was to show "solidarity with the Palestinian people."
- * 7/22/80, Sandinista hoopla, United Rev Directorate DRU leaders met w/Arafat in Managua and received promises of arms and aircraft.
The next month, in August, Sal guerrilla leaders met w/Fatah leaders in Beruit, and again in Nov.
- * Feb 81, training & \$ received from PLO & Iraq
- * March 81, Handal travelled to Beruit and met w/Arafat & Hawatmak of DFLP to receive arms.
- * Arafat publicly acknowledged the role of the PLO in El Salvador struggles "It was disgraceful of Reagan to call us terrorists. We are a great revolution that can never be intimidated. We have connections with all revolutionary moevments throughout the world, in El Salvador, in Nicaragua --- and I reiterate Salvador --- and elsewhere in the world."
April 14, 81 (told us about it again)
and again in January 82 during an address to the General Federation of Palestinian Writers & Jouranlists
PLO sources confirmed that relations between the PLO and rhe revolutionary movements in LA are more than a decade old, and included various forms of military support. Arafat said that PLO pilots were seriving in Nicaragua, and that other PLO guerrillas were in El Salvador.
- * The relationship continues. In March 82 Cayetano Carpio held talk with PLO leaders in S. Jordan.
- * Captured documents from Beruit last summer indicate the presence of Sal guerrillas, Sandinistas

who threatend Nicaragua will have to face Palestini combatants." Ortega concurred stating: Relations between the PLO and the Sandinista Front are not ne
an military cooperation agreement was reportedly signed the next month!

- * The PLO has helped the Sandinistas receive help frc other radical states. EG: Borge went to Tripoli in May 81, praised Quadaffi, received promise of 100 million, *6 mg deposit which has since been received.* Algeria has shipped arms during 1979 & 80.
 - * Mutual solidarity exemplified by the 12-15 April Managua Latin American preparatory meeting on Palestine & International Law. Alejandro Bendana, deputy foreign policy dir for multilat afr said that "the purpose of this meeting in Managua is to obtain support from international public opinion for the Plaestinian peopl'e struggle for liberty and self-determination. Marwan Tahbub, PLC amb in Managua said: "This meeting is aimed at obtaining governmental and nongovernmental support for the Palwstinian cause. It will reflect worldwi UN rejection of Israel's agressive policy, with US support, against our people."
During the meeting, junta member Sergio Ramirez obsered that US, by "trying to promote a conflict of greater proportions in Central America by introd thousands of Somozist guardsments into Nicaragua" is involved "in an effort to recreate the Middle Ea massacres of Sabra and Shatila in this area."
 - * We think there are currently about 50 PLO personnel in Nicaragua. Some are involved in training Sandin military in the use of Eastern bloc weapons, some training pilots, *maintaining aircraft.* some flying helicopters and, of course, training the communist guerrillas of El Salvador.
- EL SALVADOR
- * PLO relations with the Salvadorean guerrillas are equally long-standing and current. The strongest link exists between the PLO and the head of El Sal Communist party, Shafik Handaf, whos



NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, DC, June 7...The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith yesterday called on Sandinist authorities to return the nation's only synagogue to the Nicaraguan Jewish community. The synagogue was confiscated after the Sandinists came to power in 1979.

In a meeting with the Nicaraguan Ambassador to the United States, Antonio Jarquin, the League's Associate National Director, Abraham H. Foxman, also urged the Nicaraguan government to publicly denounce anti-Semitism in order to make Jews feel "welcome once more in their homeland."

Speaking at a news conference here, Mr. Foxman said the meeting was held at the initiative of Ambassador Jarquin. ADL had issued a report May 23 that the country's Jewish community had been forced into exile and that Jewish-owned property had been confiscated, in addition to the synagogue in Managua.

The Ambassador promised at the meeting yesterday, according to Mr. Foxman, to investigate the situation in Nicaragua, particularly the confiscation of the synagogue as well as three other cases involving the seizure of private Jewish-owned property. These cases had been submitted to Nicaraguan authorities for consideration more than a year ago, he added.

Ambassador Jarquin, the ADL official went on, acknowledged that the Nicaraguan government had not responded to these ADL inquiries nor to a request that the authorities set forth the conditions under which Nicaraguan Jews could return to their country.

Mr. Foxman was accompanied to the meeting by I. Barry Mehler, Chairman of the League's Latin American Affairs Committee, Jess Hordes, Associate Director of ADL's Washington Office, and Rabbi Morton M. Rosenthal, Director of the League's Latin American Affairs Department.



NEWS

Page 2

Mr. Foxman emphasized that ADL's representations to the Nicaraguan government were being made on behalf of the entire Jewish community of Nicaragua. He said that the League sought the opportunity for each member of the community to obtain the principle of due process of law.

The Ambassador was assured, Mr. Foxman said, that ADL's actions in behalf of Nicaraguan Jewry at this time "have absolutely no connection with the present political situation involving the United States and Nicaragua."

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON
June 7, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: Faith Ryan Whittlesey
THROUGH: Jonathan Vipond
FROM: Morton C. Blackwell 
SUBJECT: Meeting of Central American Outreach
Working Group, Monday, June 6, 1983

Attached for your information is a copy of the Agenda which I had prepared for yesterday's meeting.

I briefly discussed the status of papers which have been generated to date by the Outreach Group:

One published - "Nicaragua's Sandinistas - Having It All Ways" (by Jackie Tillman)

Two undergoing White House clearance procedures:

1. "Liberation Theology" (by Alberto M. Piedra, Senior Policy Advisory to Ambassador Middendorf)
2. "Soviet/Cuban Threat and Buildup in the Caribbean" (by Nestor Sanchez' office)

(The last two names were transmitted to you by my memoranda of June 2 and 3.)

Four new White House Digest papers will be drafted:

1. Fact sheet on "Union Persecution by the Sandinistas" - will be drafted by Walt Raymond
2. "Statements by Nicaraguan Religious Leaders" - will be drafted by Jackie Tillman
3. Expand paper on PLO and Libyan Activity in Central America - will be drafted jointly by Jackie Tillman and Walt Raymond
4. Human Rights Violations in Cuba - will be drafted by Bob Steven of Elliott Abrams Office

The discussion then turned to briefings and in particular to groups which should be briefed. The following groups were suggested:

1. Hispanic speaking Evangelicals
2. Members from the "Southern Tier States" (Texas, California, Florida, and even Georgia were mentioned.) These are the States which will be the most heavily impacted by an influx of refugees from Central America. (Zablocki and Boland were mentioned as Members who would have an interest.)
3. Get stories into the newspapers and on talk shows that reach into the "Southern Tier States." In that regard, it appeared to be the consensus that a prominent individual be sent into those States to give interviews on the Central American problem. Anne Armstrong and John Fisher were mentioned as prominent individuals with "Southern Tier State" credentials who could do the briefings.
4. Editorial page editors.
5. The Spanish press (newspaper and TV networks, in the latter regard, the Spanish International Network was specifically mentioned as being good.)
6. Agnes Walters of the Senate Policy Committee was named as having a list of 1,200 good reporters who should be contacted and sent material as it is developed.
7. It was noted that Bill Hart (WH) keeps good track of where editors of the various newspapers stand on issues.
8. The Catholic Church hierarchy -- in particular the Knights of Columbus.
 - a. The National Catholic Register. Jane Frawley who is an editor of this paper was mentioned as being particularly good on her stories.
9. Jewish Groups
 - a. It was suggested that the Israeli Embassy be approached for the purpose of having them give briefings to Jewish Members of Congress on the Central American question. It was noted that any briefing given to the Members by the Embassy should give emphasis to the involvement of the PLO.

- b. Dick McCormack thought that Mort Rosenthal, who heads up the B'nai B'rith would be very good on the issue.
10. Jaycee representatives - particularly those in the Southern Tier States.
11. DoD Public Affairs Officers - It was noted that these individuals are constantly asked to speak to groups such as Rotary, American Legion, etc. throughout the country and as such would be good "briefing officers" on behalf of the Administration's position in Central America.
12. A briefing WITHIN THE ADMINISTRATION for 200 top appointees. This should be arranged by Cabinet Affairs.
13. Local talk show hosts. Bruce Herschenson's talk show in Los Angeles was cited as having a large following. Invite the talk show hosts to Washington, D.C. for the purpose of briefing them on Central American matters. To "whet their interests/awareness."
14. Amnesty International and similar groups.
15. Frank Carlson of Human Rights to do piece on Human Rights violations in Cuba.
16. Get friends in Congress to identify those individuals in the Southern Tier States that we could invite to receive briefings on the Central American question. Nancy Risque agreed to do this.

In addition, the following items of interest were also brought up:

1. AIPAC, a meeting with the Jewish leaders is being held on June 12, 1983. Senators Laxalt and Boschwitz and Vice President Bush and Congressman Kemp will speak. One of these individuals should be approached and asked to give their speech to this group dealing with PLO activities in Central America. Obviously because of the imminent nature of this event, there is some urgency to this matter.
2. Get senior people in the Administration (Cabinet level) to call newspapers and television stations directly whenever an error in their reporting of the Central American situation is noted. Walt Raymond will take this item up at Judge Clark's Special Planning Group Meeting. First - identify the inaccuracies and;

second - identify within the particular media an appropriate individual to contact. The purpose is to bring errors to the attention of newspaper/television station owners by someone in the Administration at a high enough level that they will be noted. The errors should NOT be brought to the attention of the reporter or newscaster, but rather to the owner of the newspaper/station.

3. Dick McCormack asked that the following item be placed on Wednesday's Agenda:

"Economics in Central America"

:jet

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

OUTREACH WORKING GROUP ON CENTRAL AMERICA

Monday, June 6, 1983
Room #194 - OEOB
2:30 p.m.

A G E N D A

STATUS OF PAPERS GENERATED BY OUTREACH WORKING GROUP --
Morton Blackwell

STATUS OF: Dolf Droge -- Faith Ryan Whittlesey
Phil Nicolaides -- Faith Ryan Whittlesey

DISCUSSION OF BRIEFINGS:

- a. Topics for Briefings
- b. Speakers for Briefings
- c. Groups to be Briefed

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 7, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: Faith Ryan Whittlesey
THROUGH: Jonathan Vipond
FROM: Morton C. Blackwell 
SUBJECT: Washington Times Editorial

I am forwarding a copy of the Washington Times' June 6th editorial in case you missed it. As I told you in my memorandum of June 3rd on Mr. Pickering, this appointment is the cause of considerable consternation among our supportive outside groups.

MCB:jet

1 Attachment a/s



James R. Whelan Editor and Publisher

Smith Hempstone Executive Editor

Anne Crutcher Editor of the Editorial Pages

Colt Hendley Jr. Managing Editor

Philip Evans Deputy Managing Editor

Ted Agres Assistant Managing Editor

P.E. Innerst Assistant Managing Editor

Carlyle Reed Associate Publisher

Paul M. Rothenburg General Manager

John P. Brown Director of Finance and Administration

Donald H. Jochens Director of Production

J. Timothy Whiting Director of Circulation

Pickering, smickering

Have all the circuits blown at the White House? The nomination of Thomas Pickering as ambassador to El Salvador suggests that the lights went out over there.

The logic of selection is, at one level, apparent. Pickering is a career Foreign Service officer — as are Thomas O. Enders, the assistant secretary for Inter-American Affairs, and Deane Hinton, current ambassador to El Salvador, both of whom were pushed out the door last week. The man tapped to succeed Enders, Langhorne Motley, is not a career diplomat. There were reports circulating that another non-careerist was being considered as Hinton's replacement.

As a result of those changes and rumors of change, with the careerists not doing so well, there was muttering at the State Department. Political appointees are not overwhelmingly loved there. Secretary Shultz, an avuncular gentleman, apparently was made aware of the sullenness and decided to go with a Foreign Service officer to replace Hinton, and the president concurred.

But Pickering? On the face of it, his career credentials would delight a president who was a charter member of Americans for Democratic Action. Indeed, the criticism coming from conservatives is furiously of that opinion. "If they want to lose the war down there, he's the guy," was the harsh verdict from one conservative Capitol Hill suite.

Pickering's nomination makes us uneasy. There's something to the notion that a career diplomat should not be weighed by his previous assignments, that Foreign Service officers are professionals who carry out the policies of the man in the White House, whether in accord with them or otherwise. But that thesis is part of the Foggy Bottom mythology: Which is to say, it may be true in its generality but not in its particulars. A senior Foreign Service Officer

can substantially nudge Washington policy in a direction he thinks appropriate.

Thomas Pickering, now ambassador to Nigeria, is described by some as one of the best in the top career echelons of the State Department. But this is also the man who, as assistant secretary of state for oceans, environment and scientific affairs, was intimately involved in producing President Carter's abominable 1980 *Global Report to the President* — a.k.a., the Global 2000 Report.

That ridiculous document held, in effect, that the game's up. Unless we — the U.S. and the West, in the report's context — changed our wicked ways the world was going to be ruinously polluted, its resources squandered, and the poor and destitute would be on their sure way to deeper destitution and worse political repression. The Global 2000 Report has become the holy book of the most fatuous wing of the liberal congregation, whose members have delighted to bash Ronald Reagan over the head with it.

It is all very well to say that Pickering's chairmanship of the group that drew up the noxious report was merely in the line of duty as a State Department careerist. We suppose, however, that he would not have signed the letter of transmittal to Carter had he grave doubts about the intellectual integrity or validity of its contents. Thus, Pickering's role in formulating the 2000 Globaloney was something more than that of a casual passerby.

It is a tactical error amounting almost to a strategic blunder that the White House couldn't find a man in the Foreign Service whose philosophy would appear more consonant with the president's — particularly when the diplomat will be the administration's man on the spot in a region so hot it could melt. In diplomacy, as in much else, perception constitutes a large chunk of reality.

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CARTER '83

... AND THE
WINNER
IS...



TOM PICKERING!...
STEP FORWARD,
TOM... WHOEVER
YOU ARE!



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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 3, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: Faith Ryan Whittlesey

FROM: Morton C. Blackwell 

SUBJECT: Thomas R. Pickering

There is considerable gloom among supporters of the President's policy in Central America over the designation of Thomas Pickering as our new Ambassador to El Salvador.

My good friend, Dr. James Lucier, Chief Legislative Assistant to Senator Jesse Helms, called me today to point out the irony of Pickering's announcement appearing on the same front page of the Washington Post with another story headlined, "Carter Denounces Reagan's Record."

In the latter article, "Carter also accused President Reagan of ignoring poverty and oppression in El Salvador in pursuit of military aid for 'the most murderous government in this hemisphere.'" Carter's speech was to the Global Tomorrow Coalition, an alliance of left-wing groups established to work for recommendations of the Global 2000 Report, which happens to have been co-chaired by Thomas R. Pickering.

Once more, we are paying the cost of heterogeneous staffing and concensus decision making.

MCB:jet

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 3, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: Faith Ryan Whittlesey
THROUGH: Jonathan Vipond
FROM: Morton C. Blackwell
SUBJECT: Third White House Digest Paper

Attached is my suggested third White House Digest paper. It was prepared in the office of Nestor Sanchez and outlines the Soviet/Cuban Threat to the Caribbean. I suggest that you forward it to Dick Darman for clearances so that it can be our third "White House Digest" paper.

MCB:jet

1 Attachment a/s

Soviet/Cuban Threat and Buildup in the Caribbean

Since 1978 we have seen an ever increasing Soviet presence in the Caribbean Region. The USSR through its surrogate--Cuba--has been able to establish a permanent presence in the Western Hemisphere.

The Characteristics of the Soviet/Cuban Build-up: Men, Money, Materiel

- The Soviet Union maintains and reinforces its presence by:
 - Deploying its long range Bear Bombers to the region on an almost back-to-back basis.
 - Deploying its naval combatants for joint training exercises with Cuba.
 - Providing a palace guard of approximately 3,000 men of its Soviet Brigade near Havana and an additional presence of 2,500 military advisors.
 - Providing Cuba with 8,000 civilian advisors.

- In 1982, the Soviets and Cubans had 50 times as many military advisors in Latin America as did the US. Last year the Soviets increased their military advisors in Cuba by 500.

- The USSR has also provided a steady stream of military equipment to Cuba. In 1981 alone, Moscow provided 66,000 metric tons in military assistance valued at \$600 million. Deliveries in 1982 exceeded 1981 by 2,000 metric tons and amounted to over \$1 billion in military assistance in the last two years.

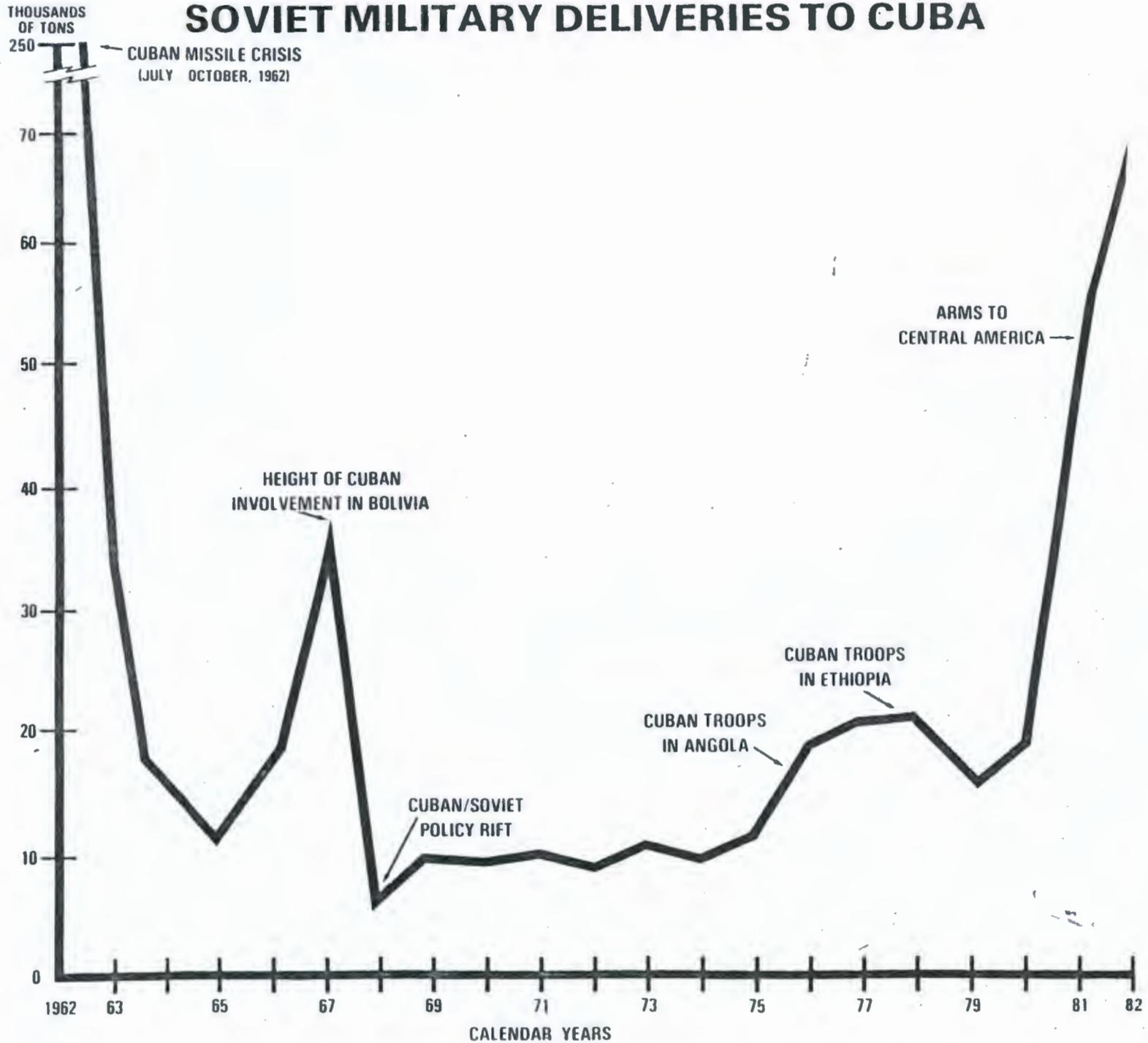
- Cuban armed forces have grown to a size disproportionate for defensive needs:
 - Cuba possesses an Army of over 225,000; a Navy of 11,000 and air and air defense forces of 16,000 not including hundreds of thousands of paramilitary.
 - Cubans have well over 200 MIG fighter aircraft.
 - Castro has about 65,000 Cubans serving overseas, 40,000 military (25,000 troops in Angola, about 12,000 in Ethiopia) and 25,000 civilian technicians.
 - Cuba has 2.3% of its population in the regular armed forces, one of every 20 Cubans participates in some security mission.

- Moscow underwrites the activities of its Cuban surrogate at a cost exceeding \$4 billion annually (1/4 of Cuba's GNP) and supports efforts to collect funds, arms, and supplies from the communist bloc for guerrilla activities in Central America and the Caribbean.

- The number of Soviet Bloc academic grants offered annually to Latin American students jumped from 400 in the 1960's to about 7,000 now. In 1979 Moscow admitted to sponsoring 7,000 Cubans for studies in the Soviet Union. Last year 700 Nicaraguans were reported studying there and an additional 300 scholarships were being provided. Scholarships include free room, board, tuition, transportation, medical care and a small stipend.

- About 3,000 Latin American students, including 1,600 Nicaraguans are studying in Cuba. Cuba has constructed 17 schools for foreigners each costing about \$2 million to build and \$600,000 to operate annually.

SOVIET MILITARY DELIVERIES TO CUBA



Spreading Soviet/Cuban Intervention Throughout The Region

- The implication of the Soviet/Cuban buildup is that it provides a platform for spreading subversion and supporting guerrillas throughout the region.

- It was Cuba that acted as the catalyst to organize and unify the far-left groups in El Salvador, assisted in developing the military strategy and encouraged the guerrillas to launch the ill-fated "final" offensive in January 1981. Cuba continues to be vital in training and supporting continuing offensives in El Salvador by funneling weapons and supplies via Nicaragua to rebel forces in El Salvador.

- Castro is actively engaged in converting Nicaragua into another Cuba. There are approximately 5,500 Cuban civilian advisors and more than 2,000 Cuban military and security advisors in Nicaragua.

- The Sandinistas themselves have boasted they have 138,000 men under arms in their active armed forces, reserves, militia, police and security forces. At its present strength the Sandinista Army represents the largest military force in the history of Central America. The Sandinistas have built 36 new military garrisons since Somoza's downfall.

- Approximately 70 Nicaraguans were sent to Bulgaria for training as pilots and mechanics. Existing landing strips in Nicaragua are being lengthened and will be able to accommodate the most sophisticated Soviet jet aircraft. MIGs could be flown in quickly from Cuba.

- In Grenada, the Cubans are constructing air facilities that exceed the requirements of that tiny island. The Grenadian Minister of Mobilization, Selwyn Strachan, has boasted publicly that Cuba will eventually use the new airport to supply troops in Angola, and because of its strategic location it will also be used by the Soviet Union. Over the past 2 years, Cuba's presence has been aimed at ensuring the viability of the Bishop government. Cuba has constructed a battalion size military base, including barracks and training areas; and it is building additional training facilities at Calivigny Point and Point Egmont.

- In Suriname, the Cuban Ambassador is a senior intelligence officer who was formerly Chief of the Caribbean Section of the Americas Department of the Cuban Communist Party. The Americas department is responsible for Cuban covert activities. The Cuban Ambassador maintains a very close relationship with LTC Desire Bouterse, Suriname's military leader, and has continuous access to key leaders.

RADIUS OF ACTION FOR MIG AIRCRAFT STATIONED IN CUBA, NICARAGUA AND GRENADA



The Threat Posed by Soviet Expansionism

- Such communist expansion could lead to an extensive and permanent Soviet presence, and an increased Soviet strategic capability in the region which would create significant military consequences for the US.
- It could place hostile forces and weapons systems within striking distance of targets in the US.
- It could provide air and naval bases, such as those in Nicaragua and Grenada, for recovery of Soviet aircraft after strategic missions.
- It would furnish missile sites for launching attacks against the US with short and intermediate range missiles.
- It could provide bases for use in covert operations against the US and our neighbors.
- It could provide for prepositioning of Soviet equipment, supplies and ammunition in our hemisphere.
- It could allow the Soviet Pacific and Atlantic fleets to operate near our shores without having to return to the USSR for maintenance.
- It could threaten our Caribbean Sea Lines of Communication through which a large volume of our goods pass; thus endangering the economic well-being of our nation.
- And finally, it could cause the US to divert scarce resources in manpower and materiel from other areas of the world to protect an area previously considered militarily secure.

SECURITY ASSISTANCE TO LATIN AMERICA (\$ IN MILLIONS)

MILLIONS OF
U.S. DOLLARS

1000
(1B)

600

500

400

300

200

100

0

1962

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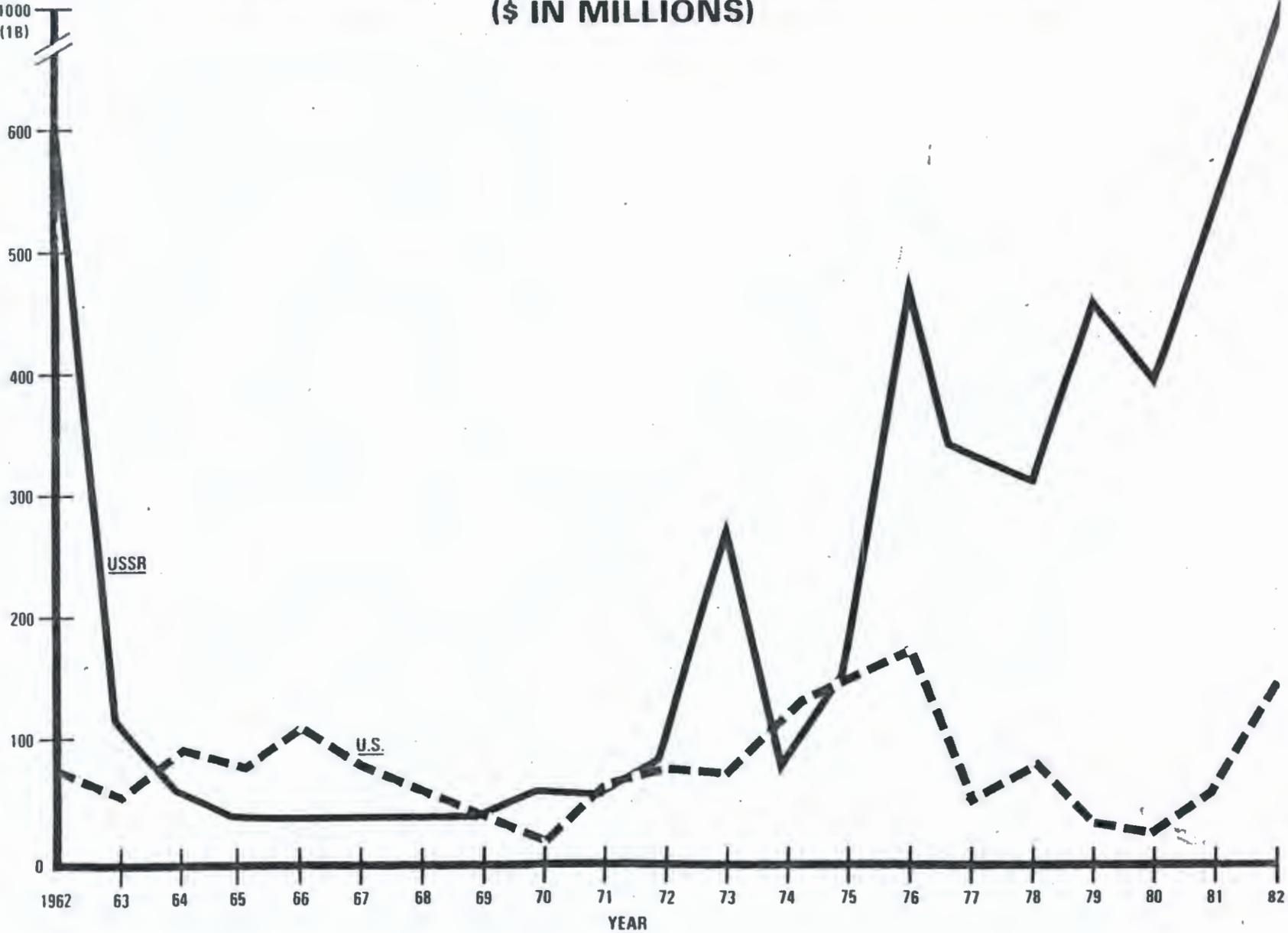
81

82

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 2, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: Faith Ryan Whittlesey
THROUGH: Jonathan Vipond
FROM: Morton C. Blackwell 
SUBJECT: Proposed Memorandum to Jim Baker, III

I suggest you send the attached memorandum to Mr. Baker, unless you think we could invite these two men to regularly join us. In either case, I would draft a letter to Mr. Wick requesting Segesvary.

MCB:jet

Attachment a/s

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 2, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: James A. Baker, III

FROM: Faith Ryan Whittlesey

SUBJECT: Additions to Outreach Working Group on
Central America

There are two people whom I would like your approval to add as regular participants at our Outreach Working Group on Central America:

1. Tom Pauken of Action, who has a strong interest in the area and is accepting speaking engagements to support the President's policies there.
2. Louis Segesvary, a Foreign Service Officer now working at U.S.I.A. who has previously been stationed in Central America and recently wrote a lengthy, scholarly piece on Guatemala which experts in our Working Group say is very good.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON
June 2, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: Faith Ryan Whittlesey
THROUGH: Jonathan Vipond
FROM: Morton C. Blackwell 
SUBJECT: Invitations for Wednesday Afternoon
Central American Meeting

Pursuant to your direction, we have invited Alan Ryskind of Human Events to our Wednesday afternoon meetings. He has not been able to attend, but people know that he has been invited.

At yesterday's meeting you asked people to suggest others to be invited. That word spread quickly in conservative circles. Now, our friend John Lofton has called asking to be put on the list. This clearly is a sensitive matter, particularly since Dave Gergen has agreed to speak next Wednesday.

I see two options:

1. I can tell John Lofton that this is a meeting of heads of conservative organizations -- not conservative journalists and that Ryskind was invited in his capacity as an officer of the ACU Education and Research Institute.
2. I could tell John Lofton that we had some consternation about the matter of inviting conservative media people to these meetings and that he would be welcome provided he understands that this is an off-the-record discussion and that only the written materials distributed would be available for use by those present.

I recommend Option #2 because I think he will understand.

MCB:jet

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 1, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: Faith Ryan Whittlesey
FROM: Morton C. Blackwell *MB*
SUBJECT: Speakers for the Wednesday Outreach
Working Group Meetings

Ambassador Eugene Douglas has, with pleasure, accepted your invitation to brief our combined group next Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 p.m. He will speak to the potential refugee problems from a collapse in Central America.

In addition, Ambassador Richard Stone has agreed to brief our group upon his return from Central America on Wednesday, June 22nd.

MCB:jet

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
June 1, 1983



MEMORANDUM TO: Faith Ryan Whittlesey
FROM: Morton C. Blackwell
SUBJECT: Phil Nicolaides

The attached per your request.

MCB:jet

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 1, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: James A. Baker, III

FROM: Faith Ryan Whittlesey

SUBJECT: Writing Coordinator for Central American
Outreach Working Group

Pursuant to our discussion, I have located someone whom I will, with your approval, bring on to coordinate the preparation of a flow of useful material from our Outreach Working Group.

We have had good cooperation from members of our Working Group in the writing of new and better materials. Nine pieces are in various stages of preparation. We have also worked out an appropriate issuing format with Dave Gergen and clearance procedures with Dick Darman. With luck, the first piece, already cleared, will be available this afternoon.

The person I would like to bring on to coordinate the writing projects for the working Group is Phil Nicolaides. You may remember he was for a time at U.S.I.A., but left after a disagreement over duties with Mr. Wick. For several months, Mr. Nicolaides has been employed here by Anne Higgins as a writer in Presidential Correspondence. Anne very strongly urges us that Mr. Nicolaides is the ideal person to do this job for us.

You will recall that this job will primarily consist of overseeing the production and editing for style and clarity of materials prepared by members of the working group. Before release, all materials will be subject to the Darman clearance procedure.

May I proceed to place Mr. Nicolaides in the slot we discussed?

MCB:jet

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 1, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: Michael E. Baroody
FROM: Morton C. Blackwell
SUBJECT: Issue Paper

I understand from Mrs. Whittlesey that you are now working hard to produce 100 copies of the first paper generated by our Outreach Working Group on Central America. I really appreciate your cooperation on this.

Earlier this morning, my Assistant, Joyce Thomann, sent you a draft with corrections from Roger Fontaine of the NSC. I understand from Walt Raymond of the NSC that the rest of the clearance process from State, CIA, etc. has been completed. I believe Dick Darman has any suggested changes.

Again, thank you very much for your cooperation and I am hopeful we can have copies for distribution at our 2:30 p.m. meeting today in Room #194.

MCB:jet

cc: Mrs. Faith Ryan Whittlesey

M.B.
FYI

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 4, 1984

Dear Bud:

Many thanks for sending me the article about Leroy George which I will pass along to my staff members working on our outreach meetings. Such encouragement means a lot to all of us here and that includes our President.

Warm regards,



Faith Ryan Whittlesey
Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

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