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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 7, 1983

Mr. Herbert A. Ashe
1216-B West 22nd
Austin, Texas 78705

Dear Mr. Ashe:

Mrs. Whittlesey asked that I thank you for your expressed interest in the Administration's Central American policies and send you some materials which may be of interest to you in that regard.

I am enclosing a copy of the President's remarks to the Joint Session of the Congress on April 27, 1983, copies of all White House Digests on this issue which have been issued to date, and a background paper on Central America which was jointly prepared by the Departments of Defense and State.

Sincerely,



Morton C. Blackwell,
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

MCB:jet

Enclosures a/s

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 7, 1983

Mr. Milton Peverini,
Director & Speaker
LA VOZ DE LA ESPERANZA
Post Office Box 2525
Newbury Park, CA 91320

Dear Mr. Peverini:

Because of your expressed interest, Mrs. Whittlesey asked that I send you copies of the White House Digests on Central America which have been issued to date. In addition, I am also enclosing a copy of a joint Department of Defense and Department of State background paper on Central America.

I am sorry that you were unable to attend the briefing on U.S. National Security and our Central American Policy for the members of the Hispanic Evangelical community on September 14, 1983 as it was very well received.

I am enclosing a copy of the listing of speakers for the month of November for the White House Outreach Working Group on Central America. Should your schedule permit you to attend one of these briefings, please contact Mrs. Thomann of my office whose name and telephone number appears at the bottom of the page.

Sincerely,



Morton C. Blackwell,
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

MCB:jet

Enclosures a/s

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 7, 1983

Miss Lynn Goodman,
Research Assistant
KYW News Radio
Independence Mall East
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

Dear Miss Goodman:

First, I must apologize for the delay in acknowledging receipt of the three cassette tapes of your day-long special, "Central America the Central Issue."

I deeply appreciated your thoughtfulness in sending them to me and was delighted that I could be a part of your program. I regret that I have not yet had the time to listen to the entire full-day program, but have thoroughly enjoyed those portions I was able to hear.

If we can be of assistance to you again, please don't hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Faith Ryan Whittlesey
Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

FRW:mcb-j

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 3, 1983

Mr. Felix I. Rodriguez
215 N.E. 114th Street
Miami, Florida 33161


Dear Mr. Rodriguez:

I very much enjoyed meeting you today at my office. You are doing very important and badly needed work in **seeking** humanitarian aid for Nicaraguan refugees in Honduras. We should keep in touch.

We look forward to viewing the video tape of your previous efforts in Central America. I have forwarded your letter regarding the Nicaraguan Freedom Fighters to the President.

Good luck in your program to implement fully the V.F.W.'s national convention resolution to support humanitarian efforts. I will check back with Cooper Holt of the V.F.W. on your progress.

Cordially,


Morton C. Blackwell,
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

MCB:jet

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 3, 1983

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215 N.E. 114th Street
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Cordially,



Morton C. Blackwell,
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

MCB:jet

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
November 2, 1983

Mr. Efram Zimbalist, Jr.
c/o Fred Amsell and Associates
291 South La Cienaga Boulevard
Suite #307
Beverly Hills, California 90211

Dear Mr. Zimbalist:

I am the project officer for the White House Outreach Working Group on Central America. Our duties include working with groups supporting the President's policy in Central America.

One strongly supportive group, the Council for Inter-American Security (CIS), has gone to considerable expense and trouble to prepare a documentary on this subject. Filmed largely on location in Central America, the film is the only educational effort of which we are aware which is intended to be shown on television around the country to support the President's policy in the area.

We arranged for cooperation in the filming from our United States embassies in the region.

Mr. Lynn Bouchey of CIS has requested me to introduce him to you so he may request that you narrate the film. He has a script prepared and assures me he would ask for no more than an afternoon of your time in a setting convenient to you. Clearly, your participation would be a big boost to this important project.

Upon your receipt of my letter, Mr. Bouchey will contact you through the Fred Amsel office. Should you want to call Lynn directly, he can be reached at CIS. The number is:
(202) 543-6622.

If you would like to discuss this matter with me, I can be reached here at (202) 456-2657.

We think this is a worthwhile project and would appreciate your giving it most serious consideration.

Sincerely,

Morton C. Blackwell

Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 10, 1983

Mrs. Joan Hall
855 North N.W. Highway
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068

Dear Mrs. Hall,

Faith Ryan Whittlesey asked me to forward to you copies of the White House Digest Papers on Central America.

I hope they prove useful to you.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morton C. Blackwell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "M".

Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

MCB:jet

enclosures

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 16, 1983

Mr. James E. Andrews
Mr. William P. Thompson,
Interim Co-Stated Clerks
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
341 Ponce de Leon Avenue, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30365

Dear Sirs:


This is in response to your thoughtful letter to the President of August 18, 1983.

Pursuant to your suggestion, we have circulated your policy statement on Central America to the members of the White House Outreach Working Group on Central America. The Working Group includes policy staff from all the major departments and agencies concerned with Central America.

The statement is very interesting and remarkably consistent. Perhaps because I went more than forty years without knowing a Presbyterian adhering to this viewpoint with such purity, I found the document particularly illuminating.

Thank you for providing us with these views.

Sincerely,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

ID: 160417

CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

PAGE D01

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE DATE 830818

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(SUFFIX)

MR.

JAMES E.

ANDREWS

TITLE: INTERIM CO-STATED CLERK

ORGANIZATION: PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

STREET: ROOM 1201
475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE

CITY: NEW YORK

STATE: NY ZIP: 10115

COUNTRY:

SUBJECT: SUBMITS POLICY STATEMENT, ADOPTED AT THEIR
195TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, RELATIVE TO U. S.
POLICY IN CENTRAL AMERICA

AGY/OFF
PLMORE

ACTION CODE
ORG

TRACKING DATE
830825

C 830826 **E**

STAFF NAME: PRESIDENT REAGAN
COMMENTS:

MEDIA: L OPID: LW TYPE: IBA

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✓ PLBLAC

USER:

R 830826 **E**

#160417

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

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James E. Andrews William P. Thompson
Interim Co-Stated Clerks

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Eugene D. Witherspoon, Jr., Assistant Stated Clerk*

New York Office

*Otto K. Finkbeiner, Associate Stated Clerk
Robert T. Newbold, Jr., Associate Stated Clerk
Robert F. Stewenson, Associate Stated Clerk
Mildred L. Wager, Assistant Stated Clerk*

August 18, 1983

The President.
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The 195th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the uniting assembly of the former United Presbyterian Church U.S.A., and the former Presbyterian Church, U.S., met in Atlanta, Georgia, June 7-15, 1983. The new church combines a membership of 3,166,000. The General Assembly is the highest governing body of this church. It is a representative governing body composed of an equal number of ministers and lay officers, known as elders, elected by the 195 presbyteries of this church.

The 195th General Assembly (1983) received two reports that had been prepared on Central America. These two reports were prepared by task forces appointed by the separate churches in 1982 with responsibilities to study the situation in Central America and to bring their recommendations to the respective Assemblies in 1983. These two task forces, whose members were drawn from the constituencies, worked separately through the year, visiting Mexico and all the countries in Central America, conferring with representatives of our government and the governments of the Central American countries, with church leaders, refugees and others as they studied the issues. The two groups came to similar conclusions and their recommendations were combined in a Policy Statement adopted by the united Assembly. As a substantial portion of the Policy Statement relates to United States' policy in Central America, we are transmitting this document to you, commending it to you and your staff for study.

The President
August 18, 1983
Page 2

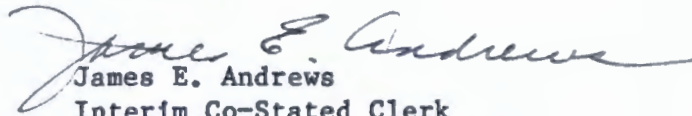
The Policy Statement expresses our commitment to peace, justice, and stability in the region. It reflects concern for the long standing needs of the people in the region, as well as for the contemporary tragedy of the refugees, the displaced persons, and those suffering because of the brutalities of government and the ravages of civil war. The Policy Statement addresses the support of the United States for repressive regimes, and the covert and overt attempts by the United States to destabilize the government of Nicaragua.

We call your attention in particular to the Sections on Emergency Assistance and Refugees, Public Policy, Development Assistance, Human Rights and the References to Specific Countries.

We believe that the crisis in Central America is one of the gravest our country is facing. The Reports and the Policy Statement suggest that the directions of our present policy are such as to prolong the suffering of the peoples who live in Central America, to undermine the stability of the region, and ultimately to run counter to the best interests of the United States, not only there but in its global responsibilities.

We are prepared with members of our staff to explore these matters in appropriate ways with representatives of the Administration and of Congress.

Sincerely,


James E. Andrews

Interim Co-Styled Clerk


William P. Thompson

Interim Co-Styled Clerk

JEA:WPT:smw
Enclosure

Approved by the 195th General Assembly (1983)
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
June, 1983

Adventure and Hope:
Christians and the Crisis
in Central America

Call to Faithfulness

A new reformation has begun in Central America. It is at the heart of the political and social turmoil in that region. The word "reformation" is not used lightly when describing the experience of faith that sweeps the Christian Church in Central America at this time.

The Bible is being read in a new way and with a fresh vision, as radical as the way in which sola gratia compelled Luther and Calvin. This new vision of liberation, as seen through the eyes of the poor and oppressed, calls for nothing less than a conversion experience.

The old political and economic structures are being threatened by a new theological vision of the Kingdom of God. Much as the feudal institutions of Europe could not withstand the challenges of Luther, Calvin, and Wesley, so all existing political and economic systems are threatened by the historical consequences of this new reformation.

The old structures of the church are being transformed. The new reformation is truly ecumenical, facing Protestant, Catholic, Pentecostal, Liberal, and Conservative with a new phenomenon: la iglesia que nace del pueblo--the church that is born from the people.

Over the past two decades within the Christian church in Central America there has been a struggle to live out a new faithfulness to the demands of the gospel. To a significant degree, the church has cast its lot with the poor and the dispossessed, rather than with the privileged and the powerful. In so doing, the church has nourished among the poor the hope of the gospel that God intends for all to have life and have it abundantly, not only in a spiritual sense, but in the fullness of life in its many dimensions. As it has shared this Word of God's love for the poor, has become directly identified with the plight of the poor and has nurtured hope for a better life, the church has come under violent attack from forces which resist changes in the prevailing patterns of dominance and exploitation in Central America.

In this process, the church in Central America has developed a new sense of its relation to the people, accepting the role of servant.

In this process, the church in Central America has developed a new understanding of evangelism, as witness to the gospel through immersion in the lives of the people.

In this process, the church in Central America has developed a new way of reading the Bible, the Good News in terms of the biblical promises held out to all, but with special preference to the poor.

Christians in Central America have heard with new power the good news of God's liberation and promised justice, have understood it as present promise, and are challenging the structures of oppression and privilege that have kept millions in desperate poverty.

The church in North America cannot be the church in Central America, but it can stand with sister and brother Christians in the region as they cry out against the powers of death. It must seek to serve the God of life, justice, and mercy, the God who promises abundant life to all the world's people. God promises and requires justice in all human relations. The Reformed tradition is firm ground on which to stand, as new choices and decisions are called for. The response we make must not only inform positions related to the policies of the United States government but our life as a church as well.

This experience and witness of the church in Central America, and the suffering it has accepted for the sake of the gospel, pose a challenge of faith to us in the United States, an example by which to test our own faithfulness in witnessing to the Good News of the gospel.

Therefore, reaffirming and building upon the policy base provided by the actions of previous General Assemblies of the Presbyterian Church in the United States and The United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, the 195th General Assembly (1983) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.):

Calls the church to respond to the new reformation in Central America by considering its implications for our own life and faith. We must test our faithfulness in light of the faithfulness of the church in Central America, and be open and vulnerable to the further unfolding of God's Word to us through its experience and witness. As historic circumstances have called forth declarations of faith from the church in the past, the present urges such a declaration again. The reunion of two Presbyterian churches with strong confessional traditions affords a creative opportunity to extend those traditions through a new word of new understanding and a new commitment.

I. Churchwide Emphasis

A. The 195th General Assembly (1983) urges that from July 1, 1983, through January 1, 1985, a special churchwide effort be made to help Presbyterians become familiar with the situation in Central America, to discern how God is at work there, taking advantage of all appropriate denominational and ecumenical means to respond as a community of faith. As part of that effort, this Assembly:

1. Requests its program agencies to make resources available for education, worship, and action to facilitate greater understanding of the conditions, theology, politics, and history of Central America, as well as the involvement of the United States in the region, as a basis for faithful and effective action by governing bodies and individuals.
2. Urges congregations to give special attention to the nationwide observance of the Central America Week in March 1984, when the martyrdom of Archbishop Romero and of thousands of other Central American Christians will be commemorated.
3. Advocates a special focus on U.S. policy toward Central America at the legislative briefing in Washington, sponsored by IMPACT in March 1984.

4. Urges governing bodies and church organizations, in consultation with the General Assembly agencies and the Latin American office of the National Council of Churches, to develop exchange programs with churches and Christians in Central America. Such programs might include sponsorship of group visits to the region, seminary student and faculty exchanges, youth caravans, travel-study seminars, short-term assignments with churches and agencies of Central America, the itineration of Central American Christians in the United States and Central American Christians in residence in presbyteries or congregations for periods of time.
5. Directs its program agencies to take initiative in bringing about a national convocation, under the auspices of the National Council of Churches if possible, to be held in 1984 for the purpose of assessing the responses of the churches of the United States to the situation in Central America.
6. Urges that programs and centers for study and continuing education within the Presbyterian Church (e.g., seminaries, Ghost Ranch, Stony Point, Montreat, synod schools) include in their offerings a special segment on Central America.
7. Suggests that programs and organizations of the church, particularly the Peacemaking Program, Washington Offices, Presbyterian Women, and the Presbyterian Health, Education and Welfare Association, give special attention to public policy issues in relation to Central America, coordinating their efforts through the program agencies.
8. Urges the communication vehicles of the church (e.g., Survey, Concern, synod newspapers) to highlight continuing developments in Central America and the related actions taken by the General Assemblies.
9. Urges Presbyterian seminaries to incorporate the theological expressions of the new reformation as an integral part of contemporary theological education, both for those in training for the ministry and for those in continuing education experiences. To this end, we urge seminaries to consider arrangements for Spanish language instruction as a necessary tool for understanding and participating in the theological development that is emerging in the church in Latin America.

B. In Central America, the specter of communism is being used to justify terrible acts of brutality and inhumanity. In the United States the possibility of expanded Soviet and Cuban influence in Central America is being used to justify continuing military and economic support for governments that engage in systematic brutality against their own people.

Christians confess that the God of love, whom we know in Jesus Christ, is the Lord of history and of all demonic powers and principalities. In faith, we are therefore called to affirm life, justice, and mercy even in the face of death, injustice, and brutality. Christians must reject any fear or other rationale as justification for government policies and actions that destroy life, justice, and mercy.

The use of Marxist analysis in understanding economic conditions does not necessarily indicate sympathy with political communism as it exists in totalitarian governments such as the Soviet Union; neither is it necessarily an endorsement of violent revolution. Viewing systems from the perspective of the poor and seeking change is emphatically not of itself Marxist nor an indication of Marxist or Communist control. Informed and responsible Christians must avoid simplistic formulations of the evils and threats of communism and seek a more informed and discriminating understanding of current realities.

To that end, the 195th General Assembly (1983) urges Presbyterians to:

1. Engage in programs of study and dialog to become better informed about the nature of communism today and the diversity that exists among Communist and Socialist societies.
2. Examine critically the anti-Communist claims of all governments and the activities that those claims are used to justify.
3. Explore their own sense of fear of communism to help discern differences between a legitimate fear of communism as one form of totalitarian repression of human freedom and anxiety over social change that may only challenge present arrangements of economic and social power and advantage.

II. Mission Partnerships

The definitive involvement of churches and Christians in Central America in the struggle for justice and human rights requires the Presbyterian Church to evaluate its own life and response, both as a community of faith and as an institution. The rationale for and patterns of mission involvement need a new look. New forms of mission in which witness to the gospel through identification with the poor and oppressed as the primary objective are called for. We must find forms appropriate to the needs of today and establish strong supportive relationships with churches and church agencies in Central America and ecumenical groups in the United States with these same commitments in witness and mission.

Therefore, the 195th General Assembly (1983) requests its program agencies to:

1. Facilitate presbytery partnerships in mission to promote resource-sharing and to facilitate mutuality in mission between Central American Christians and the Presbyterian Church.
2. Explore new ecumenical partnerships in mission with churches, councils, and other appropriate organizations in Central America in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Christ in Central America; and seek greater proportional emphasis on mission partnerships in Central America during the next decade.
3. Pursue the possibility for an informal agreement with the Moravian Church in Honduras, Nicaragua, and the United States in a three-way covenantal relationship.
4. Enter into mission partnership with responsive Central America or Christian groups in El Salvador.

5. Continue and strengthen our cooperation with ecumenical groups outside Central America that impact this part of God's creation and holy history.
6. Support the efforts of our Christian partners in Central America to minister to the needs of refugees and other victims of the present crisis working through the ecumenical channels available to us through Church World Service.
7. Use funds from the Pearl Wight Burnam Fund for Peacemaking in Central America in consultation with and in partnership (research, planning, staff, etc.) with ecumenical partners in Central America.
8. Continue to provide and increase, if possible, personnel and material resources (missionary staff, Volunteers in Mission, program support, emergency aid, refugee assistance, development aid, etc.) for Central America.
9. Review mission relationships of personnel, financial aid, and involvements with ecumenical organizations in terms of how they affect ministry with the poor and report findings and recommendations to a subsequent General Assembly.
10. Pursue dialog and partnerships with Roman Catholics in Central American countries, primarily through ecumenical channels, so that the church of Christ may make a stronger and more effective witness to God's love for all human beings.
11. Facilitate person exchanges between the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and Christians in Central America (e.g., seminary students, faculty exchanges, youth caravans, travel/study seminars, short-term assignments of Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) persons in churches and agencies of Central America and the itineration of Central American Christians in the U.S.).

III. Emergency Assistance and Refugees

Central America may be described as a region of refugees. Christians are called to seek amelioration of the conditions that create refugees and compassion for the special suffering experienced by displaced persons within or outside their national boundaries. Christian response must be humanitarian and pastoral. It must also be prophetic protest and advocacy to the institutions that create and perpetuate the turmoil that disrupts the lives and threatens the security of so many.

Christians in the U.S. should give high priority to the special consideration of needs of the refugee peoples and other victims of the present crisis in Central America, whether they are still within their own countries, in neighboring countries in the region, or within the United States.

- A. Therefore, the 195th General Assembly (1983):
 1. Urges synods, presbyteries, congregations, seminaries, and individual Presbyterians to support programs for and with refugees by making contributions for Central American refugee projects in the United States and elsewhere to the Office of World Service

and World Hunger (General Assembly Mission Board) and the World Relief, Emergency and Resettlement Services (Program Agency) and for the First Asylum Project of the National Council of Churches.

2. Calls for continued prayer for the victims of the present tragedy in Central America, keeping informed about the reality of the situation in order that prayer may be an expression of a committed concern, and further giving substance to prayer by communicating with public officials to urge the enactment of legislation granting refugee or temporary resident status to persons not covered by existing regulations and by advocating change in policies of the United States government that are currently helping to create the present human tragedy in Central America.
3. Requests the program agencies to provide educational materials to raise consciousness of synods, presbyteries, and local churches toward responding to need of refugees and other displaced persons, especially seeking to share the interpretation given by our Christian partners in Central America with special attention to the concept and practice of "sanctuary."
4. Commends Presbyterian and ecumenical agencies for their support of work with the refugees from Central America.
5. Affirms the action of the 194th General Assembly (UPCUSA, 1982) endorsing the provision of sanctuary to refugees as an appropriate moral response to our government's policies toward Central American refugees in the United States, even though the current administration may consider this to be illegal.
6. Commends the congregations that have become places of sanctuary for Central American refugees and encourages synods, presbyteries, congregations, and seminaries to follow their example; and offers the support of appropriate agencies of the General Assembly to those churches, should the need arise.
7. Affirms the validity and need of ministry with Central Americans within the United States by providing personnel and material resources committed to constituency education and organization as well as to human service needs and to advocacy with regard to issues in Central America.

B. The 195th General Assembly (1983) also petitions the United States government through appropriate channels to:

1. Adopt a policy on persons who have fled or are fleeing Central American countries where there is violation of human rights and have entered or are entering the United States, that is without bias as to race, religion, and national origin; to stop deportations of these persons; and to grant to these persons extended voluntary departure status, temporary resident status, or refugee status (in accordance with the definition of "political" refugees as established by the United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees and by U.S. law).
2. Continue to expand financial aid to Central American refugees in other nations through international organizations.

3. Take the initiative for the creation of a regional refugee policy that would provide safety and aid for all refugees within the area.
4. Provide emergency disaster assistance to Central American countries as needed without regard to their political situation.

IV. Public Policy

! *
A. Our nation is providing support for the powers of death in Central America. This has occurred because we have often been motivated by concern for national security more than by concern for justice.

The concern for national security has focused on the perceived threat of expanding communist influence. Presbyterians have too often shared this fear. As a particular expression of this fear, the United States government has supported countries that violently repress their own citizens, denying the most basic human rights in the name of anti-communism. Yet, it is clear that poverty, oppression, and injustice are the primary causes of unrest in Central America. The demands for freedom and social change will continue as long as these conditions exist. The attempt to stifle these demands by reliance on arms and military strength has resulted in the spread of violence, destruction, oppression, and human suffering. There has been little change in the conditions that generate the conflict in the first place and little reason to believe that more repression will still the demand for change.

As long as injustice and gross inequity exist, there will be conflict. The more deeply embedded injustice and inequity become, the more inevitable revolution becomes. The words of John F. Kennedy have proven prophetic in Central America, "Those who make peaceful revolution impossible make violent revolution inevitable."

Some form of social revolution in Central America is an unavoidable fact. The United States, with its great economic, political, and military power in the hemisphere, will inevitably affect the means, the directions, and the destiny of that revolutionary change. Rather than giving support to policies that encourage the powers of death, it is in the true national interest of the United States to follow policies that build justice and affirm life in Central America. In order to respond faithfully to the Christians of Central America, then, we must speak to the policies of our nation as they relate to the unique conditions, individual countries, and regional issues in Central America. We must speak to other involved nations as well.

Christians must advocate a foreign policy that seeks nonmilitary negotiated settlements to regional conflicts in Central America and supports policies that recognize the right of countries to determine their own destinies and develop governmental institutions appropriate to their own situations. Accordingly, governments ought not to promote revolution or counterrevolution.

Therefore, the 195th General Assembly (1983) petitions the United States, Cuban, Soviet, Israeli, and other involved governments through all appropriate channels and persons to:

1. Work toward negotiated rather than military solutions to regional conflicts in Central America and to support dialog among groups in conflict in Central America nations without preconditions, as a first step toward substantive negotiations.
2. Encourage and support both regional and bilateral negotiations and agreements in the pursuit of peace in Central America.
3. Press diplomatically for international agreements, with all parties involved, to eliminate immediately the traffic of arms into and within Central America.
4. Cease all covert and overt activities aimed at destabilizing governments in Central America.
5. Support an international agreement to demilitarize the entire region of the Caribbean and Central America, with the security of each member nation guaranteed.

Further, the 195th General Assembly (1983) petitions the United States to:

1. End governmental military aid to Central America; cease the shipment of armaments already committed; prohibit arms export licenses to private U.S. companies; remove all U.S. military advisers from the region.
2. Exercise the crucial influence of the U.S. government through strong support of all reasonable initiatives for peace in Central America by regional "Middle Powers" such as Mexico, Panama, Colombia, and Venezuela, which would include all parties involved in the dispute.

B. Christians affirming the inherent worth of all persons must advocate governmental policies and practices that allow and facilitate the participation and expression of citizens in society and government. In the experienced democracy and developed society of the United States, national elections are the evidence and guarantor of the vitality of such democratic commitments. However, in other societies where the form is different, substantive manifestations of democratic process such as the involvement of people in decisions affecting their lives and the freedom to dissent openly from official policies are equally important.

Therefore, the 195th General Assembly (1983) urges the United States government and its agencies to accept the principle of political diversity in relation to Central American nations, and thereby recognize the sovereignty of each country to determine its own political and economic institutions as long as those institutions do not involve the wholesale denial of human rights of citizens or aggression against neighboring states.

C. Christians of the United States are citizens of the dominant country in the Western Hemisphere, a country whose policies significantly affect the course of events in Central America and a country where political institutions are built upon the premise of democratic participation. We bear a special responsibility to advocate for public policies that will place the influence of our nation behind forces that seek social justice and human dignity, such as those outlined in this report.

In order to make public policy advocacy effective, the 195th General Assembly (1983) therefore:

1. Requests its agencies:
 - a. To engage in long-term advocacy for a change in policies of the United States government which are helping to create the present human tragedy in Central America.
 - b. To encourage the work of the Washington Office on Latin America and participate in its efforts, when possible.
 - c. To provide support for those within the church who are working for just U.S. public policies on Central America.
2. Urges synods, presbyteries, and sessions to develop special means to advocate policies taken by the General Assemblies with regard to Central America and for the continuation and strengthening of our cooperation with ecumenical groups related to the church's witness in Central America.
3. Commends the Moderators of past General Assemblies, the Stated Clerks and the staff of the program agencies for their advocacy with regard to human rights in Central America and urges continuation of these important efforts.

V. Development Assistance

A. The God of justice calls for economic relationships that enable nations and people to participate fully and fairly in the use and development of shared inheritance of resources. Such relationships should not lead to the dependence of one country on the other but to a just interdependence. Christians must advocate development policies that support the movement of individual nations toward self-development, self-determination, and self-reliance within the family of nations.

Therefore, the 195th General Assembly (1983) urges the United States government to:

1. Exercise its influence with the World Bank to secure development loans and other multilateral aid for Central America, as a means of helping the nations of that region move toward self-development and full self-determination.
2. Increase U.S. Government development assistance and material resources to Central America to support work in food and nutrition, public health, public education, and community development.
3. Continue humanitarian aid in emergency and disaster situations.
4. Extend economic assistance, other than disaster relief, only to countries making serious attempts to narrow economic disparities among their people.
5. Apply even-handedly to all Central American countries the rules of human rights certification as a basis for U.S. aid.

B. Land reform is of special importance in Central America, where a large percentage of the population is still dependent on agriculture and where ownership is concentrated in the hands of a few. Christians

concerned for the opportunity for each person to live a full and productive life must advocate genuine land reform that is effectively implemented and safeguarded by the government. Too often land reform efforts have been blocked by uncooperative large landowners through military forces who intimidate farmers, driving them from their land. The leadership of new cooperatives has been subjected to torture and murder.

Therefore, the 195th General Assembly (1983) urges the United States government to:

1. Link foreign assistance programs to land reform; i.e., use aid programs to encourage governments to provide people access to sufficient land to meet their basic needs.
2. Advocate agricultural development and land use plans that have priority commitment to use land in such ways as to meet the nutritional and economic needs of both the cultivators and the population as a whole.

VI. Human Rights

The God of justice and mercy calls us to recognize the inherent worth of all persons and to stand in opposition to policies that result in murder, repression, and human suffering. Christians must advocate the protection of human rights as a basic goal of U.S. foreign policy, with special reference to Central America.

Therefore, the 195th General Assembly (1983) urges the United States government to:

1. Press diplomatically to see that all Central American governments give to all governmental and nongovernmental human rights commissions that exist in each country, direct, speedy access to channels of due process of law, supporting and cooperating with these commissions in the protection of human rights.
2. Instruct U.S. diplomatic representatives in Central America to inquire immediately into alleged human rights violations which are brought to their attention, and, through diplomatic channels, to encourage a cessation of violations that are confirmed and legal proceedings against those who appear, after investigation, to be guilty of the violations.
3. Press for investigation and legal judgment for the murders of all U.S. citizens and other foreign citizens in the region.

VII. References to Specific Countries

A. El Salvador

It is imperative that the United States government recognize the unjust social and economic conditions that underlie the conflict in El Salvador, and terminate its support for those who engage in wanton destruction of human life and inflict pain and suffering on the people in order to perpetuate an unjust system.

The violence and strife in El Salvador have caused the flight of hundreds of thousands of persons in legitimate fear for their lives.

The refusal by the United States government to accord full refugee status to these persons causes great human suffering, has resulted in some deaths, and is doubly unjustifiable: first on humanitarian grounds; and second, because of United States government involvement in the violence they are fleeing.

Therefore, the 195th General Assembly (1983) calls upon the United States government to:

1. Accept the principle of negotiated settlement of the conflict in El Salvador and seek to facilitate the engagement of all major groups in negotiations toward a peaceful settlement.
2. Press for land reforms.
3. Establish an immediate moratorium on all military and economic aid to the government of El Salvador.
4. Withdraw immediately all military advisers and renounce armed intervention by the United States or surrogate military forces.
5. Use the full influence of the United States to protect the human rights of the Salvadoran people through bilateral channels and appropriate international organizations.
6. Reduce diplomatic presence in El Salvador, as an expression of disapproval, as long as the current level of oppression continues.
7. Recognize Salvadorans seeking asylum in the United States as political refugees.
8. End immediately the deportation of Salvadoran nationals back to their homeland.
9. Assist Salvadorans in imminent danger to safe passage out of their country.
10. Use diplomatic means to advocate full protection of internal refugees in places of asylum within El Salvador.
11. Use international institutions to safeguard the lives of all Salvadorans and grant them fair and equal treatment as refugees throughout the region and neighboring areas. Special attention should be given to their conditions in Honduras, Belize, Costa Rica, and Panama.

B. Guatemala

The people and government of the United States must recognize the racial and class characteristics of the violence in Guatemala. We must not be deceived by cosmetic changes that are represented as fundamental changes and offered as a basis for foreign policy decisions. It is particularly important that Christians in the United States be alert to attempts to divert attention from oppression and persecution in Guatemala by concentrating on the public Christianity of the current leader, Efraim Rios Montt. We call upon all Presbyterians to pray for Efraim Rios Montt, to the end that God will sharpen his conscience as he attempts to deal with very complex political, social, and military issues. That he be granted wisdom as he leads the nation in the reforms that are necessary to correct century-old inequities. That he be protected from an untimely death at the hands of enemies, lest the country be plunged into an even worse blood bath than it has experienced during the past several years. And that his leadership of

the nation will be a genuine reflection of his Christian profession. Policy must be evaluated by its effects, not by the personal piety of its promulgators.

An estimated one million Guatemalans are displaced within their country, and tens of thousands are in exile in other countries. This situation has been produced by the seizure of peasant and Indian land by large landowners and military forces. In addition the government counterinsurgency strategy, which includes torture, slaughter, and the disappearance of countless persons, has directly contributed to refugee problems.

Therefore, the 195th General Assembly (1983) calls upon the United States government to:

1. Reinstate the 1977 embargo on the shipment of military and support equipment to Guatemala, and seek compliance with such a policy by all other countries.
2. Prohibit the sale of arms and military equipment constructed with United States parts or under United States license by third party countries, such as Israel.
3. Withdraw all United States military advisers from Guatemala and halt all training of Guatemalan police, paramilitary and military personnel.
4. Use its influence with the government of Guatemala to bring to an end the confiscation of lands belonging to Indian peasant farmers and the assassination, torture and disappearance of many of those Indians in the process.
5. Condemn the numerous assassinations of those who protest the policies of the Guatemalan government.
6. Support the concept, and seek the establishment, of a permanent non-military, independent international presence in Guatemala to verify the conditions and safeguard the lives of displaced persons and indigenous peoples.
7. Support and cooperate with the use of international institutions to safeguard the lives of Guatemalan refugees throughout the region and adjacent areas, especially in the Mexican state of Chiapas.

C. Nicaragua

The peace and life of Nicaragua are threatened by current United States government policies that can lead to an increasingly defensive hard-line position by the Nicaraguan government, or to counterrevolution.

The consequences would be violence, destruction, and loss of human life in a nation that has had a surfeit of all three and now has a precarious absence of them. The unwillingness of the United States government to accept the fact of the Sandinist government in Nicaragua has led it to support counterrevolutionary forces that have a history of repressive and inhumane activity in the previous repressive Somoza dictatorship. The attempt to "destabilize" Nicaragua is publicly acknowledged and not only threatens and destroys life but intentionally diverts the energy and resources of the government of

Nicaragua from the constructive tasks it has undertaken. The assistance of this nation should be bent toward recognition and encouragement of those forces within Nicaragua that have worked for and demonstrated the policies of justice and reconciliation.

Therefore, the 195th General Assembly (1983) calls upon the United States government to:

1. Affirm and support the right of Nicaragua to self-determination as a nation, even if that involves the development of a political and economic system that is not in conformity with strict democratic-capitalist ideals, to the degree that such development does not involve internal denial of human rights or aggression toward neighboring states.
2. Immediately cease all efforts, direct or indirect, to destabilize the government of Nicaragua or to intervene in its internal affairs.
3. Invoke the provisions of the Neutrality Act in instances where counterinsurgents are being trained in the United States for the military overthrow of the government of Nicaragua, irrespective of arguments that such training is taking place on "private property."
4. Accept and insist upon Nicaragua as a participant in all regional negotiations.
5. Cease all efforts to block international monetary aid to Nicaragua.
6. Resume economic aid immediately, beginning with payment of the \$15 million previously committed for 1982, which is still being withheld; the priority of aid should be determined through government-to-government negotiations.
7. Include Nicaragua in all future economic aid programs designed for the Central American or Caribbean regions.

D. Costa Rica

The historic accomplishment of Costa Rica in disbanding its armed forces and creating a society with concern for human rights and political pluralism must be affirmed and celebrated. Now there is fear among Costa Ricans that proximity to the conflict in Central America and the flight of refugees into their country may jeopardize these achievements, as current United States policies seem to draw more and more nations into the regional conflict. Costa Rica's positive achievements need to be supported, its unique character should be preserved, and its democratic traditions strengthened.

Therefore, the 195th General Assembly (1983) urges the United States government to:

1. Affirm Costa Rica's resistance to the militarization of its social order.
2. Assist, encourage and strengthen the democratic tradition of the nation, especially at this time in the Costa Rica nation's history.
3. Express concern for the recent creation of paramilitary squads in Costa Rica.

4. Offer substantial economic aid, including favorable trade agreements, to ease the current strains in Costa Rica, which have developed as a result of regional events. This should be done without demanding excessive austerity measures that may require repression for effective enforcement.

E. Honduras

The strategic location of Honduras has led the United States government to an ill-advised military buildup in that country. This, in turn, has led to the increasing involvement of Honduras in regional tensions and has endangered its fragile democratic institutions.

Therefore, the 195th General Assembly (1983) urges the United States government to:

1. Withdraw immediately United States military advisers and end further shipments of military hardware to Honduras, in order to strengthen the recent tentative steps toward democracy by the Honduran government.
2. Increase economic aid that serves in a direct and verifiable way the poorest 30% of the Honduran people, by specific indicators.
3. Withdraw all economic and military support for incursions by counterrevolutionaries from Honduras into Nicaragua.
4. Encourage the disarming and dispersion of all counterrevolutionary camps along the border between Honduras and Nicaragua.
5. Encourage Honduras to seek a bilateral solution to the border conflict with Nicaragua.
6. Advocate an independent international presence in Honduras, in order to protect Salvadoran refugee camps from incursions by the Salvadoran military.
7. Protest military actions by the Honduran army against Salvadorans fleeing from their country; and urge the protection of the human rights of Salvadoran refugees in Honduras.

VIII. As conscientious Christian citizens we feel a particular responsibility to speak the truth in love to our government. We cherish the freedom we have in this nation to speak on all these matters. We recognize that other governments, such as Cuba and the Soviet Union, have their own desires and objectives in this region. We call upon all governments to refrain from interfering in the affairs of the nations of the region.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 22, 1983

Mr. Edward D. Cone
19262 Parkview Road
Castro Valley, California 94546

Dear Mr. Cone:

This is in response to your letter to Mrs. Whittlesey regarding an Associated Press report on her views.

You repeatedly ask that she single out specific religious leaders for criticism. She has not done so and is unlikely to do so. The Church historically recognizes that many sinners are savable, and most religions teach believers to hate the sin but love the sinner. These are useful analogies for a public liaison officer.

As I am sure you know, there is a wide range of views in the religious community regarding Central America. Some church leaders see virtually no evil in communists. Some reveal a bias by writing to the White House about the "government of Nicaragua" and the "regime in El Salvador." Others vigorously and equally condemn violence and terrorism in the region from the right and the left. Others urge a crusade against communism. We have useful communications with all sorts.

The role of the Office of Public Liaison is to facilitate an exchange of views between the government and groups in society. To the extent possible, we work to develop a consensus in society for the programs of the President.

Sincerely,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
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Date Correspondence received (YY/MM/DD) 83109119

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: Edward D. Cone

PL Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

SUBJECT: FRN Article re Central America

ROUTE TO:	ACTION	DISPOSITION			
Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>PL MORE</u>	ORIGINATOR	<u>83109119 LD</u>			<u>1 1</u>
<u>✓ PL BLAC</u>	Referral Note:	<u>RC 83109119 LD</u>			<u>1 1</u>
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	Referral Note:				

ACTION CODES: A - Appropriate Action C - Comment/Recommendation D - Draft Response F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary R - Direct Reply w/Copy S - For Signature X - Interim Reply	DISPOSITION CODES: A - Answered B - Non-Special Referral C - Completed S - Suspended	FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE: Type of Response = Initials of Signer Code = "A" Completion Date = Date of Outgoing
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SECOND REQUEST

19262 Parkview Road
Castro Valley, CA 94546
August 11, 1983

Faith Ryan Whittlesey
Director of Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Ms. Whittlesey:

The *Associated Press* has quoted you as saying that certain leaders of major U.S. churches tend "to characterize the Sandinistas as Robin Hoods, essentially fighting for social justice."

Please send me the names of such church officials and their religious affiliation.

Yours truly,


Edward D. Cone

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
September 8, 1983

The Honorable William J. Casey,
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

This is to confirm the invitation extended to you on behalf of Faith Ryan Whittlesey, Assistant to the President for Public Liaison, to speak to the White House Outreach Working Group on Central America.

To aid you in understanding the purpose of the White House Outreach Working Group, I am enclosing a copy of an article which appeared in the Washington Post, June 17, 1983.

We would like for you to brief the group on Wednesday, September 21st, in the President's Briefing Room (Room #450, Old Executive Office Building) beginning at 2:30 p.m.

The format for our speakers is a presentation devoted exclusively to Central America, the Administration's policies in Central America, a setting out of the situation in Central America from the perspective of the speaker, and the relevance of the situation in Central America to the interests of the United States. The meeting is always opened to questions from the floor.

There is no press coverage of the meetings.

For your information, I am attaching a listing of groups which are represented at the majority of the meetings as well as a listing of previous speakers and their topics.

We hope that your schedule will permit you to speak to the White House Outreach Working Group on Central America on Wednesday, September 21, 1983.

Cordially,



Morton C. Blackwell,
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

Enclosures a/s

Public Relations Campaign U.S. Promoting Latin Policy

By Lou Cannon

Washington Post Staff Writer

The White House has launched a coordinated government public relations campaign to persuade special-interest groups and other Americans that President Reagan's efforts to counter communism in Central America are vital to U.S. security.

"The judgment of history on this president will probably be based on what happens in Central America," said Faith Ryan Whittlesey, director of the White House office of public liaison, whose Central American Policy Outreach Group is coordinating the campaign. She argued that the United States faces "the Eastern Europeanization of its southern border"

and the prospect of Soviet-backed regimes throughout the region.

"Every businessman who asks me about natural gas or consumer product safety, I ask to help us on Central America," Whittlesey said. "The president has made a commitment, and we intend to follow through and mobilize public opinion."

She said anti-communist appeals are being made to ethnic groups, and Jewish organizations are being told that forces most hostile to Israel—including the Palestine Liberation Organization, Libya and Eastern European nations—are supporting leftists in Central America.

Whittlesey's group meets each

Monday with mid-level government officials involved in Central America policy development and each Wednesday with other administration officials and invited representatives of special-interest groups. Administration officials are urged to sell Reagan's Central America policy in all speeches and public appearances, regardless of the audience or primary subject matter.

The groups have been lectured on the rationale of Reagan's policy of increasing military aid to friendly forces in Central America by White House national security affairs adviser William P. Clark, presidential counselor Edwin Meese III and specialists from the State and Defense departments.

Two members of the U.S.-supported guerrillas fighting the leftist Sandinista government in Nicaragua also spoke at one meeting, denouncing the Sandinistas for "betraying the revolution" and talking optimistically about the anti-Sandinista military movement.

According to White House officials, the group has decided on these basic arguments for strong U.S. action to stop the spread of communist influence in Central America:

- The region is vital to U.S. security because of its proximity and because other nations in the region would be threatened if leftist guerrillas overthrew the U.S.-backed government in El Salvador. "If El Salvador falls, Honduras and Costa Rica wouldn't be far behind," said former Republican congressman John H. Rousselot, White House liaison with the business community.

"The national security of all Americans is at stake in Central America," says the White House Digest, a new publication to be distributed to voter groups. "If we cannot defend ourselves there, we cannot expect to prevail elsewhere. Our credibility would collapse, our alliances would crumble, and the safety of our homeland would be put in jeopardy."

- What happens in Central America is also vital to the U.S. economy, because considerable U.S. shipping passes through the Caribbean, and American businessmen have interests in the region that could be jeopardized. "How many Hershey bars do U.S. businessmen sell in Cuba?" asked Rousselot rhetorically.

- There also are "moral and humanitarian issues at stake in Central America," according to Whittlesey, who talked of the potential of 10 million refugees fleeing here from Central America if communist influence spreads.

Administration officials have emphasized this specter of a flood of refugees. Reagan asked in his April 27 speech to Congress: "Must we wait while Central Americans are driven from their homes like the more than a million who have sought refuge out of Afghanistan, or the 1½ million who have fled Indochina, or the more than a million Cubans who have fled Castro's Cuban utopia . . . ?"

Whittlesey acknowledged that public opinion polls, including those made for the White House, show widespread public opposition to Reagan's policies in Central America. But, adding that the polls also show "most Americans don't know where El Salvador is, let alone the policy implications of what we're doing," she contended that public opinion can be changed.

"As a politician, I like to turn political minuses into political pluses," she said. "I believe that, when people understand what the stakes for the United States are in Central America, this issue has the potential of becoming a political plus for the administration."

Not everyone in the Reagan administration agrees with this, however. "We risk the danger that we're going to be sending the wrong signal," said one official. "We risk making people fearful of U.S. troop involvement when there is no grounds for fear."

Whittlesey responded that ignoring the issue at the White House level would risk making Central America "seem less important than it is" and undermine the president's policy.

SPEAKERS
FOR THE
WHITE HOUSE OUTREACH WORKING GROUP ON CENTRAL AMERICA

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 1983:

Ms. Jacqueline Tillman, Executive Assistant to
Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick - "The Sandinistas"
Mr. Roger Fontaine, Senior Staff Member,
National Security Council - "El Salvador"

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 1983:

Ambassador H. Eugene Douglas, U.S. Coordinator
for Refugee Affairs - "The Refugee Problem and
Its Potential"
Assistant Secretary of State, Richard McCormack,
Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs - "The
Economic Implications of Central America to the
United States"
Senor Adolfo Calero, Member, National Directorate, FDN -
"Nicaragua Under Communism"
Senor Stedman Fagoth-Muller, Leader, Miskito Indians -
"The Treatment of the Miskito Indians by the
Sandinistas"

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 1983:

Mr. John Lenczowski, Staff Member, National Security
Council - "The Soviet Effort in Central America"
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Inter-American
Affairs, Nestor Sanchez - "The CONTRA Offensive
in Nicaragua"

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 1983:

Ambassador Richard Stone - "The United States' Effort in
Central America"
Mr. Walter Raymond, Special Assistant to the President,
National Security Council - "The Cuban Effort in
Nicaragua"

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 1983:

Senor Miguel Bolanos Hunter, former Nicaraguan
Intelligence Officer - "Training Under the
Sandinistas"
Ambassador Vernon L. Walters - "U.S. Policy in Latin
America and Why"

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 1983:

- Mr. Roger Fontaine, Senior Staff Member,
National Security Council - "A Central American
Up-date"
- Dr. Richard Wirthlin, President,
Decision Making Information, Inc. - "How The
American Public Views Central America"

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 1983:

- Ambassador J. William Middendorf, II, United States
Permanent Representative to the Organization of
American States - "Central America's Importance
to the United States"

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 1983:

- Rabbi Morton Rosenthal, Director of Latin American
Affairs, Anti-Defamation League - "Persecution
of the Jewish People in Central America"
- Mr. Isaac Stavisky, Nicaraguan Jewish Refugee -
"The Sandinistas Against the Jews"
- Ms. Jacqueline Tillman, Executive Assistant to
Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick - "PLO and
Libyan Activities in Central America"
- THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, Ronald W. Reagan

WEDNESDAY, JULY 27, 1983:

- Congressman Thomas Hartnett and Congressman Mark D.
Siljander - "Central America Visited"
- Congressman Vin Weber - "Central America, A View
From the Congress"
- Ambassador Langhorne Motley, "Central American Policy,
Where Do We Go From Here?"
- Senor Juan Vincente Maldonado, Executive Director
National Association for Private Enterprise in
El Salvador - "Central America From the Businessman's
Point of View"

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 1983:

- The Honorable John F. Lehman, Jr., Secretary of the Navy -
"The Strategic Importance of the Caribbean Sea Lanes"

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1983:

- Mr. Dennis Suit, former ABC Cameraman - "Nicaragua From
The Other Side of the Lens"
- Dr. Fred Ikle, Under Secretary of Defense for Policy -
"Prospects for Central America"
- Dr. Roger Fontaine, Senior Staff Member, National Security
Council - "An Up-date on Guatemala"

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 1983:

Mr. M. Peter McPherson, Administrator, Agency for
International Development - "U.S. Economic
Assistance to Central America"
Colonel (Ret.) Samuel T. Dickens, Director,
New World Dynamics - "El Salvador Today"

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1983:

Ambassador Vernon A. Walters, Ambassador-at-Large -
"Central America: Background and Prospects"
"Central America, The Real Issue", Segment of a
video tape prepared by: WVCY-TV, TV-30,
featuring Ambassador H. Eugene Douglas, U.S.
Coordinator for Refugee Affairs, filmed during
the briefing for the National Religious Broad-
casters by the White House Outreach Working Group
on Central America.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1983:

The Honorable John O. Marsh, Secretary of the Army -
"Soviet and Cuban Influences in Latin America"

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1983:

Lieutenant General James A. Williams, USA,
Director, Defense Intelligence Agency
"Central America Today"

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1983:

Mme. Monique Garnier-Lancon, Deputy Mayor of Paris,
RPR, France - "A European Looks at Central America"
His Excellency Ernesto Rivas-Gallont, Ambassador of
the Government of El Salvador to the United
States - "El Salvador"

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1983:

The Honorable Richard McCormack, Assistant Secretary of
State, Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs -
"An Overview of Central America"
Mr. Peter Romero, Special Assistant to Ambassador Otto
Juan Reich, "An Overview of Central America - A
Comparison of the Carter and Reagan Administration
Policies"

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1983:

The Honorable Verne Orr, Secretary of the Air Force -
"Central America - A View from the Air Force
Perspective"
Senor Aldofo Calero, Member, National Directorate
Fuerza Democratica Nicaraguense (FDN) - "Nicaragua
as Viewed by a Nicaraguan Freedom Fighter"

ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED AT THE
OUTREACH GROUP ON CENTRAL AMERICA

ACCURACY IN MEDIA
AGUDATH ISRAEL
AIR FORCE SERGEANTS' ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN CONSERVATIVE UNION
AMERICAN ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE, THE
AMERICAN FARM BUREAU
AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION
AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR FREE LABOR DEVELOPMENT
AMERICAS COALITION
AMERICA-ISRAEL PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE
AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS
AMERICAN LEGION, THE
AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE EXCHANGE COUNCIL, THE
AMERICAN SECURITY COUNCIL
ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE
ARROYO & ASSOCIATES
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE IN LATIN AMERICA
B'NAI B'RITH
B'NAI B'RITH WOMEN
CAREER BLAZERS
CATHOLIC WRITERS & ARTISTS GUILD
CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
CENTRAL AMERICAN FREEDOM ALLIANCE
CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS
COALITIONS FOR AMERICA
COLLEGE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE
COMMITTEE FOR A FREE AFGHANISTAN
CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS
CONSERVATIVE CAUCUS, THE
COUNCIL FOR DEFENSE OF FREEDOM
COUNCIL ON ECONOMICS AND NATIONAL SECURITY

COUNCIL FOR INTER-AMERICAN SECURITY
CRAMER, HOFFMAN & HABER
CUBAN-AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION
CUBA INDEPENDIENTE y DEMOCRATICA (CID)
DORNAN & ASSOCIATES
DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY
EAGLE FORUM, THE
ETHICS AND PUBLIC POLICY CENTER
EUROPEAN CULTURAL FOUNDATION
EVERZA DEMOCRATICA NICARAGUENSE
EXXON CORPORATION
FINK BANKING CORPORATION
FIRST SOUTHERN FEDERAL SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATION
FLORIDA CONSERVATIVE UNION
FORUM, THE
FREE CONGRESS RESEARCH & EDUCATION FOUNDATION, THE
FREE THE EAGLE
FREEDOM COUNCIL
FREEDOM FEDERATION
FREEDOM HOUSE
GENERAL ELECTRIC CORPORATION
GOODRICH, B.F. COMPANY, THE
GOODYEAR TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY
HADASSAH
HEBREW INTERNATIONAL AID SOCIETY
HERITAGE FOUNDATION, THE
INDEPENDENT BAKERS ASSOCIATION
INSTITUTE OF RELIGION AND DEMOCRACY
INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION
INTERCOLLEGIATE STUDIES INSTITUTE
INTERNATIONAL BANANA ASSOCIATION
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS
JEFFERSON EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
JEWISH INSTITUTE FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

JEWISH LABOR COMMITTEE
JEWISH WAR VETERANS
KIDDE, INC.
LIN INTERNATIONAL, T.Y.
MARANATHA CAMPUS MINISTRIES
MID-ATLANTIC RESEARCH ASSOCIATES
MISKITOS SUMOS RAMAS INDIAN ORGANIZATION
MORAL MAJORITY, THE
NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF SENIOR CITIZENS
NATIONAL CENTER FOR CONSTITUTIONAL STUDIES
NATIONAL CENTER FOR PAN-AMERICAN STUDIES
NATIONAL CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH
NATIONAL CHRISTIAN ACTION COALITION
NATIONAL CONSERVATIVE FOUNDATION
NATIONAL DEFENSE COUNCIL
NATIONAL FORUM FOUNDATION
NATIONAL JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY COUNCIL
NATIONAL JOURNAL, THE
NATIONAL REPUBLICAN JEWISH COALITION
NATIONAL SECURITY ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL YOUNG REPUBLICAN FOUNDATION
NEW WORLD DYNAMICS
NEW YORK JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL
PIONEER WOMEN
PRODUCTION SHARING INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
RAVCO, INC.
REPUBLICAN HISPANIC ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA
REPUBLICAN NATIONAL HISPANIC ASSEMBLY
RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
ROSE OF SHARON MINISTRIES
SALVADORIAN AMERICAN FOUNDATION
TRADITION, FAMILY, PROPERTY FOUNDATION
TRW, INC.
UNITED BRANDS COMPANY
UNITED STATES DEFENSE COMMITTEE

UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION
UNITED STATES GLOBAL STRATEGY COUNCIL
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES
WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW GROUP
WOMENS' ALERT
YOUNG AMERICANS FOR FREEDOM
ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 7, 1983

His Excellency Ernesto Rivas-Gallont
Embassy of El Salvador
2308 California Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Ambassador Rivas-Gallont:

This is to confirm the invitation extended to you earlier on behalf of Faith Ryan Whittlesey, Assistant to the President for Public Liaison, to speak to the White House Outreach Working Group on Central America.

To aid you in understanding the purpose of the White House Outreach Working Group, I am enclosing a copy of an article which appeared in the Washington Post, June 17, 1983.

We would like for you to brief the group on Wednesday, September 14th, in the President's Briefing Room (Room #450, Old Executive Office Building) beginning at 2:30 p.m.

The format for our speakers is a presentation (either informally or from written notes). The meeting is then opened to questions from the group.

There is no press coverage of the meeting.

For your information, I am attaching a listing of groups which are represented at the majority of the meetings as well as a listing of previous speakers and their topics.

We appreciate your willingness to speak to the White House Outreach Working Group on Central America.

Cordially,



MORTON C. BLACKWELL
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

Enclosures a/s

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 7, 1983

Dear General Williams:

Thank you so much for your willingness to speak to the White House Outreach Working Group on Central America. I found your remarks particularly interesting and the hand-out which you provided will be very useful to all of us. It is my intention to have copies mailed to those members of the group who were unable to be present.

Your forthright responses to the many questions asked were wonderful. It was one of the very few times I have asked a question of one of our speakers, but your talk was so thought provoking that I wanted to explore more fully the area of the Sandinistas receiving supplies from free world governments.

Also, Joyce Thomann of my staff has told me of your discussion regarding Mr. Dennis Nagy of your Agency attending one of our Monday Working Group meetings to brief the Group on the Defense Intelligence Agency's unclassified data base; the information that would be available from that source and the manner by which it might be tasked. I believe that the ability to access this data would be of great value to our outreach efforts.

I am enclosing a copy of some polling data provided to us earlier this summer by Dr. Richard Wirthlin of Decision Making Information, Inc., because I believe you will find it of interest. We were able to provide Dr. Wirthlin with the "push questions" on Central America. It is obvious that when the American people realize the issues which are involved, they react as you and I would expect. However, as you mentioned, much of the material which is published by the media could more appropriately be termed "disinformation." Our problem has been one of getting accurate, understandable information into the hands of individuals who, in turn, will get the information out to larger and larger segments of the American public.

The assistance which you have given to our efforts to reach out to the American public on this very vital issue is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Faith Ryan Whittlesey
Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

Lieutenant General James A. Williams, USA,
Director
Defense Intelligence Agency

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 30, 1983

Mr. Eldridge Cleaver
1212 28th Street
Oakland, California 94608

Dear Mr. Cleaver:

Thank you for the book of beautiful poetry that you sent to me. That was a very powerful work and it, as you said, should serve to inspire people who currently know freedom, as well as those who long for it.

We share common feelings about the challenge that faces us. The Communists must never perceive weakness in America's commitment to freedom. Communists appreciate only strength. This was very evident in the change of attitude of Fidel Castro and of the Sandinistas after our recent announcement of military exercises in Central America.

As one who has seen firsthand the true nature of Communism, your support is very valuable in this crisis. I urge you to continue to speak out. Please let me know if I can be of help to you in any way.

Sincerely,

Faith Ryan Whittlesey
Assistant to the President