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REMARKS: cc: Oliver North (#2 and 3) Jim Radzimski (#4)					

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HANDLE VIA SYSTEM IV CHANNEL ONLY

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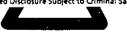
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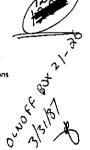
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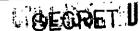
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J. SEGRET]





SYSTEM IV NSC/ICS-400300

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL March 20, 1985

N 40301

SECRET-

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT C. MCFARLANE

FROM:

OLIVER L. NORTH

SUBJECT:

Timing and the Nicaraguan Resistance Vote

Attached at Tab A is the most recent version of the chronology of events aimed at securing Congressional approval for renewed support to the Nicaraguan Resistance Forces. This schedule results from the four communications/media meetings we have now had with Pat Buchanan's ad hoc working group. Please note that the schedule continues to focus on a vote at the end of April triggered by submission of the required report on or about April 15.

In addition to the events depicted on the internal chronology at Tab A, other activities in the region continue as planned—including military operations and political action. Like the chronology, these events are also timed to influence the vote:

- -- planned travel by Calero, Cruz, and Robelo;
- various military resupply efforts timed to support significantly increased military operations immediately after the vote (we expect major Sandinista crossborder attacks in this timeframe-today's resupply to from went well); and
- special operations attacks against highly visible military targets in Nicaragua.

Some of these efforts will proceed whether or not the vote occurs as planned at the end of April. For example, today Bernardario Larios, former Sandinista Defense Minister, defected to Costa Rica and is now in Panama (you were briefed on this operation during the trip). Others, however, including actions by U.S., interests groups are very sensitive to the timing. Next week the networks auction their air time for 15, 30, and 60 second commercials during prime viewing hours. These groups are prepared to commit nearly \$2M for commercial air time and the

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N 40302

production of various advertising media. If we are to retain their support, we must let them know by Friday whether or not they should proceed. To the maximum extent we have tried to prevent the kinds of errors that will cost them financially or politically. Unfortunately, some, like the Young Republicans ad, get through -- this has been fixed.

It is important that a decision be taken no later than noon, Friday, March 22, if we are to proceed with the events in the checklist (Tab A) and those activities which support a vote at

Senator Durenburger plans to make a major speech on this issue at the National Press Club next Tuesday, March 26. We should at least give him a sense of what to expect before he speaks.

You should also be aware that Director Casey has sent a personal note to Don Regan on the timing matter. We are attempting to obtain a copy for your use.

Worthlind has apparently completed an analysis on some recent polling data. It reportedly does not look good for a vote at

Finally, Jim Michel reminds that in your meetings with the Central American Heads of State you told them that we would be quiescent during the early Spring, but that in April we would act. This description fits either scenario-going for the vote or a fallback option with sanctions. One way or the other, we need to have a decision.

RECOMMENDATION

That you discuss this matter with Don Regan and urge that a decision be made on timing by noon on Friday, March 22.

Approve	Disapprove
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Attachments

Tab A - Chronological Event Checklist (dtd March 20, 1985) Tab B - Young Republicans Ad

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CHRONOLOGICAL EVENT CHECKLIST

February 21-28, 1985 (completed)

Event

Send resource book on the Contadora process process to congressmen, media outlets, private organizations and individuals interested in Nicaragua.

FDN to select articulate freedom fighters with proven combat records and to make them available for contact with U.S. media representatives.

Assign U.S. intelligence agencies to research, report, and clear for public release Sandinista military actions violating Geneva Convention/ civilized standards of warfare.

Prepare themes for approaches to Congressmen based on overall listed perceptions which will directly attack the objections listed above.

Encourage U.S. media reporters to meet individual FDN fighters with proven combat records and media appeal.

Contact internal evewitnesses/victims to testify before Congress about their abortive attempts to deal with the FSLN (deadline March 15).

Responsibility

State/LPD (Miller)

NSC (North)

NSC (North) (Raymond)

NSC (North)

NSC (North) State/LPD (Gomez)

NSC (North)

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Event

March 1-6, 1985

Prepare list of publicly and privately expressed Congressional objections to aiding resistance and voting record on the issue.

Provide State/H with a list of Nicaraguan emigres and freedom fighters to serve as potential witnesses to testify before hearings on aid to Nicaraguan freedom fighters (due March 15).

Nicaraguan internal opposition and resistance announce unity on goals and principals (March 2, San Jose) (completed).

Request that Zbigniew Brzezinski write a geopolitical paper which points out geopoliticalconsequences of Communist domination of Nicaragua (paper due March 20).

Briefings on Nicaragua for key Congressional members and staffers. North on NU aggression and external involvement, Burghardt on diplomatic situation.

Supervise preparation and assignment of articles directed to special interest groups at rate of one per week beginning March 18 (examples: article on Nicaraguan educational system for NEA, article by retired military for Retired Officers Association, etc.).

Assign agencies to draft one op-ed piece per week for signature by Administration officials. Specify themes for the op-eds and retain final editorial rights.

Conduct public opinion poll of America attitudes toward Sandinistas, freedom fighters.

National Press Club news conference for FDN commanders Bermudez, Tigrillo, Mike Lima (March 5) (follow-on Congressional visits (March 6) (completed).

Martha Lida Murillo (9 yr old atrocity victim) visit to Washington-media interviews, Congressional visits, possible photo-op with First Lady (March 6-8) (completed).

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CONTENUED

Responsibility

WH/LA State/H

NSC (North) State/ARA (Michel) State/LPD (Reich)

State/LPD (Miller) NSC (North)

NSC (Menges)

NSC (North) (Burghardt)

State/LPD

NSC (Menges)

WH (Rollins)

State/LPD (Gomez) (Kuykendall)

State/LPD (Gomez) (Kuykendall) (WH/OPL)

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March 9-15, 1985

Event
WH/Legislative Affairs, State/H and ARA
complete list of key Congressmen interested
in Nicaragua.

Intelligence briefing for White House Administration and senior staff by CIA (Vickers, Room 208, OEOB, 30 minutes).

Brief Presidential meeting with Lew Lehrman and other leaders of the influence groups working on MX and resistance funding.

State/LPD and WH Media Relations prepare a list of key mediaoutlets interested in Central American issues, including newspapers, radio, and TV stations (including SIN). Where possible identify specific editors, commentators, talk shows, and columnists.

NSC update talking points on aid to Nicaraguan freedom fighters.

Briefings in OEOB for members/Senators: Shultz, McFarlane, Gorman, and Shlaudeman to brief Lehman (requires General Gorman to be placed on contract).

Call/visit newspaper editorial boards and give them background on the Nicaraguan freedom fighters.

Brief OAS members in Washington and abroad on second term goals in Central America. Explore possible OAS action against Nicaragua.

VP at Brazilian inauguration. Discuss possible OAS initiative on Nicaragua with Core Four, Colombia, Brazil, and Uruguay (March 15 and 16).

Prepare a "Dear Colleagues" ltr for signature by a responsible Democrat which counsels against "negotiating" with the FSLN:

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Responsibility

State/H(Ball/Fox)
WH/LA
State/ARA
(Michel/Holwill)

NSC (North)

NSC (Raymond) (North)

NSC (North) State/LPD (Miller)

NSC (North)

NSC (North) (Lehman)

State/LPD(Reich)
WH/PA
NSC (North)

OAS (Middendorf) NSC (Menges) State/LPD (Reich)

VP (Hughes)

NSC (Lehman)

Proposition Desirated

N 40306

Responsibility

NSC (Hinckley)

State/LPD

State/LPD

NSC (North) (Raymond)

NSC (North)

NSC (North)

WH/OPL (Reilly)

(Lehman)

(Lehman)

(Reich)

WH/LA

Justice

(Mullen)

NSC (North)

VP (Hughes)

WH (Elliott)

(Kuykendall)

CONTIDENTIAL

March 16-22, 1985

Event

Results due on public opinion survey to see what turns Americans against Sandinistas (March 20).

Joachim Maitre--Congressional meetings, speeches, and op-ed pieces.

Review and restate themes based on results of public opinion poll.

Presidential drop-by at briefing for American evangelicals on MX and Nicaraguan resistance.

Congressional hearings (Foreign Relations/ Affairs) and testimony by Nicaraguan emigres and atrocity victims.

Prepare document on Nicaraguan narcotics involvement.

SSCI CODEL Boren, Rockefeller, McConnell, and Wilson for meetings with resistance (March 15-19).

VP in Honduras; meeting with Pres Suazo (March 16).

Argentine state visit; President emphasize need for OAS case (March 19).

Pastora and Calero meeting with Congressional Hispanic Caucus (Jorge Mas) (March 20).

Production and distribution of <u>La Prensa</u> chronology of FSLN harassment.

State/LPD (Reich)

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March 23-31-, 1985

Event

Rev. Vallardo Antonio Santeliz. (Pentecostal Minister atrocity victim) -- Congressional/ media meetings (March 22-23).

McFarlane, Friedersdorf meeting with key-Congressional leadership (Rm 208 or WHSR) to brief situation and proposed course of action (March 23-25).

Presidential breakfasts, lunches, and WHSR meetings with key Congressional leaders (March 24 through vote).

Pedro Juaquin Chamorro (Editor <u>La Frensa</u>) U.S. media/speaking tour (March <u>25-April</u> 3)

President to meet in Room 450 w/"Spirit of Freedom," concerned citizens for Democracy. Representatives from 8 countries (180) (March 25).

Release of DOD/State paper on Soviet/Cuban/ Nicaraguan intentions in the Caribbean; possible WH backgrounder.

Distribute Bernard Nietschmann paper on suppression of Indians by FSLN.

Antonio Farach (Former FSLN Intelligence Officer) --media and Congressional meetings regarding Sandinista espionage, intelligence activities.

Invite President's Duarte, Monge, Suazo, and Barletta to a very private meeting in Texas with key Congressional leaders so that CODEL can hear unvarnished concerns re Sandinistas and Democratic leaders' support for the FDM.

Release paper on Micaraguan media manipulation.

Publish and distribute as State Department document Nicaragua's Development as Marxist-Leninist State by Linn Poulsen.

Declassify Nicaraqua's Development as a Marxist-Leninist State by Linn Jacobowitz Poulsen for publication as State Department document (clearance request w/Casey).

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Responsibility

State/LPD (Kuykendall) (Gomez)

WH/LA NSC (Lehman) (North)

State/LPD (Miller/Gomez)

State/LPD(Reich) 1

WH/PA (Sims)

State/LPD

Republican Study Committee

> (Kuykendall) NSC (North)

State/LPD

State/LPD (Reich)

State/LPD (Blacken)

U. CONFIDENTALE

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April 1-7, 1985

Event

Request Bernard Nietschmann to update prior paper on suppression of Indians by FSLN (to be published and distributed by April 1).

AEI: Sponsor media events w/print and television media for Central America resistance leaders (April 1-7).

European Parlimentary delegation to meet with President Reagan (April 2).

Visit by Colombian President Betancur (April 3-4); possible Joint Session speech by Betancur.

Proposed Presidential television address on Nicaragua (April 4).

Second round of SFRC hearings on Soviet build-up in region (Helms) (prior to recess),

CODEL visits during recess (April 4-14). Nicaraguan refugee camps in Honduras and Costa Rica (include visit to freedom fighter base camp and hospital

CODEL visit during recess (April 4-14) with regional leaders of Central America. Regional leaders convey importance of resistance fighters in NU.

Administration and prominent non-USG spokesman on network shows regarding Soviet, Cuban, East German, and Libyan, Iranian connection with Sandinistas.

Publish updated "Green Book;" distribute personally to Congressmen, media outlets, private organizations, and individuals interested in Nicaragua. Pass to Lew Lehrman and other interested groups.

Distribute paper on geopolitical consequences of Communist domination of Nicaragua.

Release paper on Nicaraguan drug involvement.

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Responsibility

State/LPD

State/LPD (Reich) WH/OPL (Reilly)

National Forum Foundation WH/OPL (Reilly)

WHSpeechwriters (Elliott)
NSC (North)

State/H

NSC (North)
(Lehman)

NSC (North) (Lehman)

WH/PA (Sims) WH (Buchanan) State/LPD

State/LPD (Reich)
WH/LA
State/H (Fox)

State/LPD

State/LPD (Blacken) NSC (North)

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April 8-14, 1985 (During recess)

Event

Responsibility

CFA (Abramoff)

25 Central American spokesmen arrive in Miami for briefing before departing to visit Congressional districts. Along with national television commercial campaign in 45 media markets.

Targeted telephone campaign begins in 120

CFA (Abramoff)

CFA

Congressional districts. CITIZENS FOR AMERICA district activists organize phone-tree to targeted Congressional offices encouraging them to vote for aid to the freedom fighters in Nicaragua.

Lew Lehrman speaking tour of major U.S. cities. CF

Telephone campaign.

Central American spokesmen conduct rallies throughout the country in conjunction with CITIZENS FOR AMERICA activists (starting April 12).

Nationally coordinated sermons about aid to the freedom fighters are conducted (April 14).

Naval Institute Seminar in Newport, RI (Lugar, McFarlane [April 12]).

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April 15-21, 1985

<u>Event</u>

Responsibility

Nicaraguan Refugee Fund (NRF) dinner, Washington, DC; President as Guest of Honor (April 15).

State/LPD (Miller)
NSC (Raymond)

Presidential report to Congress on reasons for releasing funds to freedom fighters (April 15).

NSC State

AAA available to Washington press.

State/LPD (Gomez)

Central American spokesmen visit Congressional offices on Capitol Hill (April 16).

Abramoff

SFRC Nicaraguan issues, open hearing (April 16-17).

Washington conference "Central America: Resistance or Surrender" (Presidential drop-by?) (April 17).

NSC Abramoff

Barnes' subcommittee hearing on Nicaragua; Motley, public witnesses (April 18) (2170 Rayburn, 2:00 p.m.).

Presidential Radio Address (April 20).

WH (Elliott)

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April 22-29, 1985

Event

Responsibility

House Appropriations (Obey subcommittee) intelligence brief on Central America/ Latin America (April 23).

Obey subcommittee (panel on Central America), public witnesses (a.m.)/Administration witnesses (p.m.) (April 24).

Major rally in the Orange Bowl in Miami, Florida, attended by President Reagan and important Administration figures (April 28).

Cuban American National Foundation State/LPD (Reich)

Presidential calls to key members.

WH (Friedersdorf) NSC (Lehman)

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COMPENSATION LAND

10

April 30, 1985

Event

Vote in the U.S. Congress on aid to the Nicaraguan freedom fighters (April 30).

Presidentaleaves for Europe.

Responsibility

WH (Friedersdorf) NSC (Lehman)

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PUBLIC DIPLOMACY PRESIDENTIAL EVENTS REGARDING NICARAGUAN RESISTANCE

Event

Responsibility

March 16-22, 1985

Argentine state visit; President emphasize need for OAS case (March 19).

WH (Elliott)

March 23-31, 1985

Presidential breakfasts, lunches, and WHSR meetings with key Congressional leaders (March 24 through vote).

President to meet in Room 450 w/"Spirit of Freedom," concerned citizens for Democracy. Representatives from 8 countries (180) (March 25).

April 1-7, 1985

Visit by various members of European parliments who support the President's policies in Central America (April 2). NSC (Raymond) WH/OPL (Reilly)

Visit by Colombian President Betancur (April 3-4); possible Joint Session speach.

Presidential television address on budget (April 4).

WHSpeechwriters (Elliott)

Presidential meeting with AAA.

NSC (North)

April 15-21, 1985

Conference on religious freedom; Presidential drop-by in Rm 450, OEOB.

" NSC (Raymond)

Nicaraguan Refugee Fund (NRF) dinner, Washington, DC; President as Guest of Honor (April 15).

State/LPD (Miller) NSC (Raymond)

Presidential report to Congress on reasons for releasing funds to freedom fighters (April 15). NSC State

Possible Presidential meeting with AAA.

NSC (North)

Possible Presidential visit with former Central American Presidents, Foreign Ministers, and Presidential candidates. NSC (North) S/LPD (Reich)

Presidential Radio Address (April 20).

WH (Elliott)

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Event

April 22-29, 1985

Proposed visit to Washington by Presidents Monge, Duarte, and Suazo.

Presidential calls to key members.

Major rally in the Orange Bowl in Miami, Florida, attended by President Reagan and important Administration figures (April 28).

April 30, 1985

Proposed Congressional vote; President leaves for Europe.

Responsibility

NSC (North) S/ARA (Michel)

WH (Friedersdorf) NSC (Lehman)

> Cuban American National Foundation

In many areas of the world there are children who spend their days fighting for survival. They cry at night but no one enswers. a ony cry at night was so one animers.
That parents were abducted by Communist
forces because they goods about "feredom"
Some were suscrited by firing squards, others
were shall take back, stiff more died in
political prisons.

To me obtain communications.

To you this may sound like a nightmane, something you would see on the Late Show. Here is Nicangua, it is a way of life.

I know. My same is Charley and I am a Nicampuan counter-communist. A Contra. A Freedom Falte

I have taken up arms stalned the Soviet Empire and its satellist government in Nicaregue and I need your help.

Last year, year Congress out off our funding. People like Michael Barnes, Saven Selarz, and Ted Kennedy, who claim



at it was unethical to fund what here is Nice ugue to the "will of the people." There is no "teresty" colled Nicerupus. Only a nation of people Jving under a totalitation regime funded by Cube

democracy to Central America Regular meals, medical attention.

bya con Dios, Charley

SEND DEMOCRACY AROUND THE WORLD

SAVE TI	CE CONTRAS. PO. Ber 7887, Washingto	a, DC 20013-4679
C Enclosed is my first month's t	is fellow Freedom Fighters in Nicaregus syment of \$16. s supply of food, medicine, and clething will write my Coogressman and tell him	t:
Name		
Address	State	21p
	the College Republican National Fund. S	talement of income and expenses evalle

SAVE THE CON

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