



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of Congressional Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20505
Telephone: 482-6136

TO:

[Redacted]

Focal Point Officer, DCI

Office of Congressional Affairs have no
objections to the release of documents
forwarded under TM 215940 & TM 112876

[Redacted]

20 May 1987

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5 May 1987

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Office of Independent Counsel Request #14

1. Attached is the material you requested from the files of the NIO/USSR regarding a briefing he and the NIO/LA gave to Mike Epstein of Senator Byrd's staff on Soviet and Cuban policy toward Latin America in January 1985 (page 10 of the request).

2. We have no material in our files regarding the breakfast NIO/USSR attended with a group of Senators and Congressmen on 28 April 1986 on Soviet activity in Central America. A conversation with the former NIO/USSR indicated that he never wrote up anything about that particular session (page 5).

[Redacted Signature]

Assistant NIO/USSR

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Executive Registry 13,923
R. 14-09-10

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(11)

The Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

NIC 01465-85
15 March 1985

National Intelligence Council

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

FROM: Robert D. Vickers, Jr.
National Intelligence Officer for Latin America

SUBJECT: Meeting with Senate Staffers

1. On 14 March 1985, I met with Christopher Manion, a staff assistant to Senator Jesse Helms, to discuss the forthcoming briefing on 19 March with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. I outlined in brief the subjects we were planning to address with the Committee. Mr. Manion asked that we also be prepared to address the subject of Sandinista disinformation and Sandinista involvement in drug trafficking. He also mentioned that we should be prepared to provide specific intelligence information [redacted] to help make our case.

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2. On 15 March, I met with Mike Epstein, a staff assistant to Senator Robert Byrd and an ex officio representative to the SSCI. Mr. Epstein wanted to discuss the recent estimate on the prospects for Sandinista consolidation. In particular, he wanted to know the genesis of the estimate and who had reviewed and coordinated it at each step of the way. It was obvious to me that he had read the estimate carefully from cover to cover and was trying to determine if it had been influenced in any way by policy direction. I assured him that it had not been and that in fact I had gone out of my way to try to ensure that it was as objective as possible in its language and presentation. He then surprised me by asking if we intended to have the Key Judgments declassified. I told him that we would not as this was not normally done, but that the Annex had been declassified as well as the table on Sandinista policy statements. He mentioned that he thought that this would be an extremely important estimate in influencing Senate opinion, and that I should expect to be questioned on it closely in any testimony for the SSCI. He added that I should be prepared to address the question of why there is such a difference between the Intelligence Community's assessment of the Sandinista regime and that provided by the numerous American clergy and other individuals more sympathetic to the Sandinistas.

NOT RELEVANT

Robert D. Vickers
Robert D. Vickers

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