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NIO/LA
22 November 1982OTHER INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE EXTREME LEFT IN CENTRAL AMERICA

A major component of the Cuban/Nicaraguan strategy is the use of propaganda and political action (including negotiation offers) to deepen the isolation of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Costa Rica. The non-Soviet bloc/Cuban forces which aid the extreme left groups contribute to their power and serve to legitimate them which isolates the target governments. The following is an overview of actions:

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Socialist International Meeting in November 1982

- Condemned arrests of leftists in El Salvador, emphasizing its unconditional support of the National Revolutionary Movement (now in coalition with the FNLN) and need for negotiated settlement;
- Condemned alleged "plans" for military aggression against Nicaragua and endorsed its new law on elections and political pluralism; the SI will send fact-finding mission to Nicaragua.
- It also condemned alleged efforts to isolate and destabilize Grenada and supported the pro-Castro Puerto Rican Independence Party.

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Some Democratic Governments

--The European Economic Community countries continue their economic aid to Nicaragua and their de facto boycotts of aid to El Salvador and Guatemala.

25X1Venezuela

--Since August 1982, has shifted away from public opposition to communist subversion and support for moderates to a two-track approach -- this is a significant political setback;

--Venezuela now publicly is aligned with Mexico in being ambiguous or silent about the communist threat in Central America and endorsing a "negotiated solution" which in effect would mean guerrilla power sharing and endorsed Nicaraguan/Honduran negotiations in October;

--Also, Venezuela recognized the PLO in August 1982 and sought membership in the Non-aligned Movement;

25X1Implications

This trend toward the political isolation of the target Central American governments suggests the need for an expanded international communications effort by their democratic friends.

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