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TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PINT, PINR, ES, NU

SUBJECT: STATEMENT BY SENATE AND HOUSE SELECT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

1. HOUSE COMMITTEE: QUOTE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MARCH 4, 1982. CONGRESSMAN EDWARD BOLAND, D-MASS., CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, TODAY RELEASED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT FOLLOWING A COMMITTEE BRIEFING CONCERNING EL SALVADOR. PARTICIPATING IN THE BRIEFING WERE ALL ELEMENTS OF THE INTEL-

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File
DCI
25 Feb
El Salvador

State Dept. review completed

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LIGENCE COMMUNITY, LED BY DCI WILLIAM J. CASEY. THE
TEXT OF THE STATEMENT FOLLOWS:

INNER QUOTE: THE COMMITTEE HAS RECEIVED A BRIEFING
CONCERNING THE SITUATION IN EL SALVADOR, WITH PARTICULAR
EMPHASIS ON THE QUESTION OF FOREIGN SUPPORT FOR THE
INSURGENCY. THE INSURGENTS ARE WELL-TRAINED, WELL-
EQUIPPED WITH MODERN WEAPONS AND SUPPLIES, AND RELY
ON THE USE OF SITES IN NICARAGUA FOR COMMAND AND CONTROL
AND FOR LOGISTICAL SUPPORT. THE INTELLIGENCE SUPPORTING
THESE JUDGMENTS PROVIDED TO THE COMMITTEE IS CONVINCING.

INNER QUOTE: THERE IS FURTHER PERSUASIVE EVIDENCE
THAT THE SANDINISTA GOVERNMENT OF NICARAGUA IS HELPING
TRAIN INSURGENTS AND IS TRANSFERRING ARMS AND FINANCIAL
SUPPORT FROM AND THROUGH NICARAGUA TO THE INSURGENTS.
THEY ARE FURTHER PROVIDING THE INSURGENTS BASES OF
OPERATIONS IN NICARAGUA. CUBAN INVOLVEMENT -- ESPE-
CIALY IN PROVIDING ARMS -- IS ALSO EVIDENT.

INNER QUOTE: WHAT THIS SAYS IS THAT, CONTRARY TO THE
REPEATED DENIALS OF NICARAGUAN OFFICIALS, THAT COUNTRY
IS THOROUGHLY INVOLVED IN SUPPORTING THE SALVADORAN
INSURGENCY. THAT SUPPORT IS SUCH AS TO GREATLY AID
THE INSURGENTS IN THEIR STRUGGLE WITH GOVERNMENT FORCES
IN EL SALVADOR. END QUOTES.

2. SENATE COMMITTEE: BEGIN QUOTE: FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE MARCH 2, 1982, BARRY GOLDWATER CHAIRMAN OF
THE SENATE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE RELEASED THE FOLLOWING
STATEMENT AT A BRIEFING ON CENTRAL AMERICA IN A RECENT
ABC INTERVIEW THE NICARAGUAN AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S.,
FRANCISCO FIALLOS, SAID THAT HIS COUNTRY, INNER QUOTE,
DOES NOT SEND WEAPONS AND IS NOT GOING TO SEND WEAPONS
TO EL SALVADOR. END INNER QUOTE.

ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, CIA DIRECTOR WILLIAM CASEY
AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY
BRIEFED MEMBERS OF THE SENATE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE
IN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON DEVELOPMENTS IN CENTRAL AMERICA.
THE BRIEFING, WHICH LASTED SEVERAL HOURS, ADDRESSED

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THE MILITARY SITUATION IN EL SALVADOR, THE STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION OF GUERRILLA FORCES THERE, AND THE DEGREE OF EXTERNAL SUPPORT TO THE INSURGENTS IN EL SALVADOR, ESPECIALLY THAT PROVIDED BY THE SANDINISTAS IN NICARAGUA.

THE BRIEFING LEFT NO DOUBT THAT THERE IS ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT BY SANDINISTA GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN SUPPORT OF THE SALVADORAN GUERRILLA MOVEMENT. THIS SUPPORT INCLUDES ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE USE OF NICARAGUAN TERRITORY FOR THE MOVEMENT OF ARMS AND MUNITIONS TO GUERRILLAS IN EL SALVADOR, THE CONTINUING PASSAGE OF GUERRILLAS IN AND OUT OF NICARAGUA FOR ADVANCED TRAINING IN SABOTAGE AND OTHER TERRORISTS TACTICS, AND THE PRESENCE OF HIGH-LEVEL GUEPRILLA HEADQUARTERS ELEMENTS IN NICARAGUA. THERE IS STRONG EVIDENCE OF A GREAT SURGE IN THE DELIVERY OF ARMS, AMMUNITIONS, AND RELATED MATERIALS FROM NICARAGUA TO EL SALVADOR.

SPEAKING AS CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, I MUST STRESS THE SENSITIVE NATURE OF THE INTELLIGENCE PROVIDED US. THE DETAILS MUST REMAIN SECRET, BUT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE DESERVE TO KNOW THAT THE OFFICIALS CHARGED WITH DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING U.S. POLICY IN THIS AREA ARE DOING SO ON THE BASIS OF SOLID INFORMATION. END QUOTE.

3. DEPARTMENT IS TONIGHT, 3/4, CONSIDERING HOW BEST TO USE THESE STATEMENTS.HAIG

END OF MESSAGE

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