

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

10 March 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
FROM : Chairman, National Intelligence Council
SUBJECT : El Salvador

1. This is to recommend that [redacted] the NIC undertake a major new analysis of forces and longer term trends with regard to El Salvador. As the military and political balances there appear once again to be fluid -- despite the significant gains made by the US-supported government last year -- I believe there is an urgent need for an overarching review and update of the situation there.

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2. The effort I have in mind would supplement the work of hard pressed analysts in CIA, DIA, INR, and elsewhere, and have the following major objectives:

- complete by late spring a comprehensive survey of the balance of political and military forces and a contingency type analysis of possible outcomes in El Salvador through the 1980s;
- concentrate in particular on information resources that have thus far not been fully exploited because of the heavy workloads of analysts (intensive analysis of the March 1982 elections May, for instance, provide valuable lessons as the country prepares for elections this December);
- identify information gaps, consult with collectors here and in the field, and recommend new collections and analytic approaches.

3. [redacted] wants to devote himself full time to such an endeavor for the next several months, and to work closely with Agency and community specialists. As you know, he has two decades of

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experience as a CIA officer and Latin American specialist, and has written on El Salvador on a number of occasions in recent year. Your endorsement and support of this effort is crucial if it is to succeed and provide our key policymakers with important new insights and alternatives.

H.S. Rowen

Henry S. Rowen

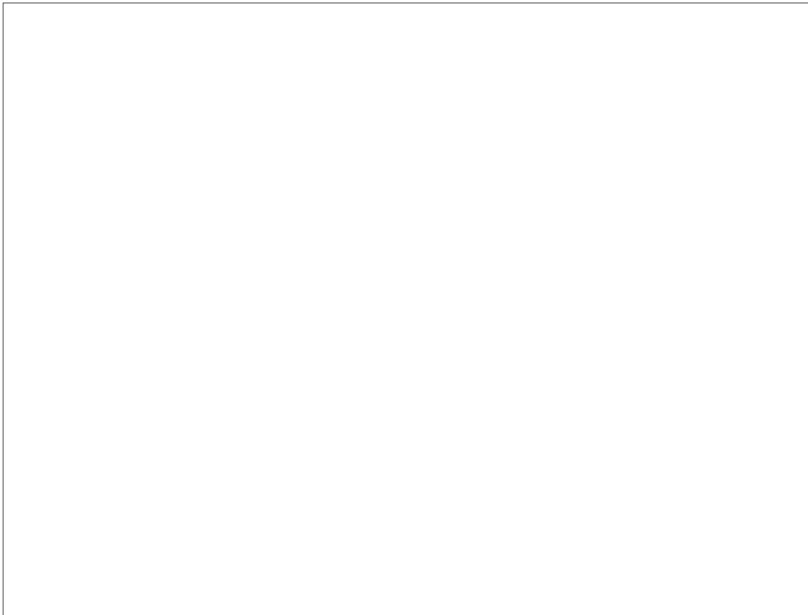
*Bill: Bob Gates agrees on the need for this and
CONCUR: H.S. [redacted] should do it. HSR*

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W. William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence

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Date



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All portions of this memo
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