

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

OLL 84-2289/3

27 JUL 1984

The Honorable Michael D. Barnes
 Chairman, Subcommittee on
 Western Hemisphere Affairs
 Committee on Foreign Affairs
 House of Representatives
 Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I regret any misunderstanding that may have developed between the Agency and the General Accounting Office (GAO) over GAO's request for information of the military supply relationship between the United States and Guatemala. My Office of Legislative Liaison responded to GAO's request in a phone call to Mr. Frank Degnan of GAO on 20 June 1984. We explained to Mr. Degnan that it is not within the Central Intelligence Agency's (CIA) purview to discuss United States policy toward Guatemala. We believe the Department of Defense has the detailed information GAO is seeking on Guatemalan arms sources.

We also indicated to Mr. Degnan that the CIA has briefed you and other Members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee in recent months on the overall situation in Central America. However, if you or GAO would like an update on Guatemala, including a threat analysis or its military capabilities, we would be most happy to provide such a briefing at your convenience.

Sincerely,

William J. Casey

William J. Casey
 Director of Central Intelligence

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