

ST LOUIS UNIT  
8-9 March 1976

*Completed  
copy of Mtg*

19 March 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Director of Current Intelligence  
THROUGH : Chief, Western Hemisphere Division  
          : Chief, Administrative Staff, OCI  
SUBJECT : Domestic Trip Report by [REDACTED]

STATINTL

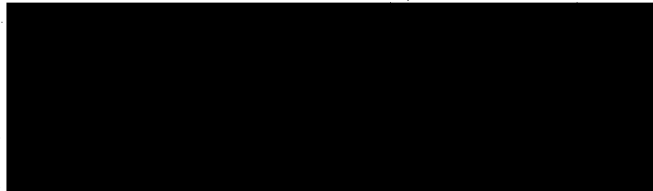
My brief trip last week to St. Louis to consult with Latin American specialists and to lecture on Cuba and other Latin American topics was quite successful. I enjoyed such friendly and solicitous responses from students, faculty members, and others interested in Latin America in fact, that I suspect in St. Louis at least, CIA does not have much of an image problem.

On March 8th and 9th I spoke before two classes at St. Louis University, and on the evening of the 9th I addressed an audience of about 80 or 90 persons interested in Latin America. The last group consisted mostly of faculty and students from St. Louis University, Washington University (the site of the meeting), the University of Missouri at St. Louis, Southern Illinois University, and several local colleges. None of the audiences had been told in advance that I was from CIA, but I was introduced to them as a "CIA Latin American specialist and the holder of a Ph.D. in Latin American history."

There were no hostile or mordant comments or questions at any time. The audiences were attentive and interested, and in each instance, long question and answer sessions followed. I was asked a few questions about CIA, its mission, and my role, and was able to respond to them candidly and to the apparent satisfaction of all. A number of faculty members and graduate students inquired about job opportunities at CIA, and I encouraged one doctoral candidate at Washington University, who seemed to me unusually well qualified as a Caribbean specialist, to inquire officially about employment here.

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Frankly, I was surprised by the overwhelmingly friendly reactions and attitudes of all the individuals I met and lectured. Several of the faculty members present at the last talk have been highly critical of the Agency in the past. I suspect that it may have been generally representative of the mood of my audience, when after the question and answer session following the last lecture, a man approached me with a small boy in hand, and said: "When my son heard that you work for the CIA, he wanted to come up here and shake your hand." I shook hands with the father and the son.



Chief, Central America  
and Caribbean Branch  
Office of Current Intelligence

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*Campain Direct  
cc: Prof Mtg*

February 20, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Associate Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT : Request for Authorization and Funding to  
Speak and to Consult with Latin American  
Specialists in Saint Louis and Los Angeles

1. Dr. Charles Fleener has invited me to speak at a meeting of the Saint Louis area Latin Americanists (an informal group of scholars and others interested in the region) and before one of his graduate classes at the University of Saint Louis. He would like me to discuss contemporary Cuba, and to consult with him and other academic specialists in the Saint Louis area on current Latin American affairs.

2. Similarly, Dr. Edward Gonzalez, an associate professor at UCLA and a part-time staffer at RAND, has asked me to lecture one of his seminars (on historical topics from my doctoral dissertation) and to consult with him and his RAND colleague David Ronfeldt. The opportunity to exchange information and views with Gonzalez and Ronfeldt would be the primary reason for going to Los Angeles.

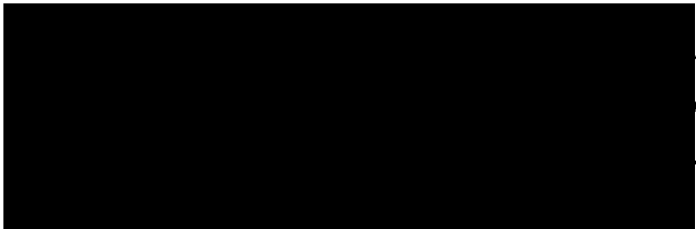
STATINTL

4. Gonzalez, Ronfeldt, and Fleener are under no illusions about the role of intelligence in foreign policy or about my work as a desk specialist. I know all three well, and do not anticipate any problems in being identified openly as a CIA analyst while appearing as their guest. They realize of course, that I will not discuss classified information in my lectures.

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5. Before accepting their invitations, nonetheless, I will stipulate that no media representatives be invited and that my remarks be off the record and not attributable to me or to CIA. I will also stipulate that Gonzalez and Fleener discuss their invitations to me with their classes and colleagues in order to anticipate and prevent adverse reactions. If there are strong reactions against a CIA speaker, I am confident that they would advise me of this, and that my plans could be revised accordingly.

6. I would appreciate your prompt consideration of this request for authorization to meet with the above individuals and groups and for travel expenses and per diem. I hope to be able to arrange to make the trip during the second or third week of March.



Chief, Central America  
and Caribbean Branch  
Office of Current Intelligence

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SUBJECT: Request for Authorization and Funding to Speak and to Consult with Latin American Specialists in Saint Louis and Los Angeles


CONCUR:  
STATINTL

  
Director of Office of Current Intelligence

*2/23/76*  
Date

  
Coordinator for Academic Relations

25 FEB 1976  
Date

STATINTL   
*for*  
Director of Security

2 MAR 1976  
Date

APPROVED:

  
Associate Deputy Director for Intelligence

STATINTL

2 MAR 1976  
Date

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