



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Executive Registry
84- 1047

February 9, 1984

Mr. William Casey
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Langley, Virginia 20505

Dear Bill:

Yesterday I got around to reading your excellent speech delivered at Westminster College on October 29 which you were kind enough to send me.


I have three specific comments in the event you decide to give a similar dissertation in the future. First, there is a sentence towards the bottom of p.5 which reads, "The Soviets recognize that in most Third World countries power rests with the military." There may be some truth to that statement; but I think a way should be found to say it in such a manner that does not suggest that we might condone it.

My next suggestion relates to the passage in the middle of p.6 which states that insurgencies and revolutionary violence have been unleashed to topple governments in El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. I think that by grouping Honduras with El Salvador and Guatemala, your statement has the effect of exaggerating the level of violence which has occurred in this country. For example, the last significant urban terrorist act in Honduras took place in September 1982 when terrorists seized the Chamber of Commerce in San Pedro Sula.

Finally, in regard to the measures you outline at the bottom of p.6 and the top of p.7, I wish you had added AID police training as an activity which could contribute significantly to the achievement of our security objectives in the Third World. It is ironic that our legislation makes it the most difficult to equip and train those forces in the Third World which should be the first line of defense against terrorism. It is also ironic, as the Kissinger Commission Report points out, that our legislation inhibits our ability to assist the only security forces in Costa Rica.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,



John D. Negroponte
Ambassador

