

NBC NIGHTLY NEWS  
9 May 1984

**CENTRAL AMERICA BROKAW:** Although Duarte has claimed victory, there still is no official result from El Salvador, and today, the right-wing candidate, Roberto D'Aubuisson, said figures compiled by his party make him the winner. The result, of course, could have a big effect on United States policy. The debate in Congress on aid for El Salvador now is really heating up, and tonight, President Reagan will address the nation on Central America. Andrea Mitchell looks ahead.

**MITCHELL:** While the president ducked questions about tonight's speech, aides said it would be a tough warning about the Soviet-Cuban military threat and an appeal for passage of economic and military aid to El Salvador. To set the stage, he asked the team that observed El Salvador's election to help sell his program. They didn't waste any time. **SEN.\PETE\WILSON (R-Calif.):** It is going to take military force to suppress terrorism, and without suppressing terrorism, the entire meaning of this election will be lost.

**MITCHELL:** Spokesman Larry Speakes said the president will use charts and graphs to warn about growing numbers of Cuban-supported guerrillas. Despite public concern about covert activity, Mr. Reagan will praise anti-Sandinista forces, saying that they are making Nicaraguan export of subversion more difficult. House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill Jr. said until the president disavows covert activity, Americans will worry that he is leading us into war. Dodd of Connecticut said the president is appealing to people's fears. **SEN.\CHRISTOPHER\DODD (D-Conn.):** ...that he's gonna be talking about what'll be amount, what'll amount, I presume, to almost a, uh, a verbal declaration of war. Uh, sees the Soviet Unions (sic), the Cubans, the Nicaraguans as the, the creation of all evil, with massive amounts of forces and arms.

**MITCHELL:** While skirting the issue of covert aid, Mr. Reagan is expected to say that opposing the leftist guerrillas is a legal right and a moral duty. Senior officials say they have strong intelligence about a fall offensive by the left, and that tonight's speech is designed to help Mr. Reagan blame the Democrats if they don't support his policies. Andrea Mitchell, NBC News, at the White House.

**BROKAW:** NBC News will carry the president's speech at 8 tonight, Eastern time, 7 Central time.