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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

23 March 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable Alexander M. Haig
Secretary of State

The Honorable William P. Clark
Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs

The Honorable Jeane J. Kirkpatrick
United States Representative to
the United Nations

SUBJECT: Central America

I thought this paragraph in Saturday's story in
The Washington Post could be read to contain some particular significance:

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"While generally declining to comment on the content of the talks with Castro, d'Escoto said the possibility of increasing the already considerable Cuba military assistance in Nicaragua in the event of an invasion 'was not the object of the discussions.' But he added, 'I don't think truly responsible countries would stand idly by, just as we would not in the case of an invasion of El Salvador'."

The only meaning that makes sense is that d'Escoto was saying that the Nicaraguan Government is not invading El Salvador but only some freelancers are operating in El Salvador and that if any government really invaded El Salvador, we'll (Nicaragua) send troops to El Salvador as we would expect Cuba to do for us (Nicaragua).

This line may be developed in the U.N. debate on the United States' threat which Nicaragua has called for in the U.N.



William J. Casey

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