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TAGS: PINS, PINT, PINR, ES, NU

SUBJECT: STATEMENT BY SENATE AND HOUSE SELECT INTELLIGENCE
COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

1. HOUSE COMMITTEE: QUOTE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MARCH 4, 1982. CONGRESSMAN EDWARD BOLAND, D-MASS.,
CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE,
TODAY RELEASED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT FOLLOWING A
COMMITTEE BRIEFING CONCERNING EL SALVADOR. PARTICI-
PATING IN THE BRIEFING WERE ALL ELEMENTS OF THE INTEL-

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LIGENCE COMMUNITY, LED BY DCI WILLIAM J. CASEY. THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT FOLLOWS:

INNER QUOTE: THE COMMITTEE HAS RECEIVED A BRIEFING CONCERNING THE SITUATION IN EL SALVADOR, WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THE QUESTION OF FOREIGN SUPPORT FOR THE INSURGENCY. THE INSURGENTS ARE WELL-TRAINED, WELL-EQUIPPED WITH MODERN WEAPONS AND SUPPLIES, AND RELY ON THE USE OF SITES IN NICARAGUA FOR COMMAND AND CONTROL AND FOR LOGISTICAL SUPPORT. THE INTELLIGENCE SUPPORTING THESE JUDGMENTS PROVIDED TO THE COMMITTEE IS CONVINCING.

INNER QUOTE: THERE IS FURTHER PERSUASIVE EVIDENCE THAT THE SANDINISTA GOVERNMENT OF NICARAGUA IS HELPING TRAIN INSURGENTS AND IS TRANSFERRING ARMS AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM AND THROUGH NICARAGUA TO THE INSURGENTS. THEY ARE FURTHER PROVIDING THE INSURGENTS BASES OF OPERATIONS IN NICARAGUA. CUBAN INVOLVEMENT -- ESPECIALLY IN PROVIDING ARMS -- IS ALSO EVIDENT.

INNER QUOTE: WHAT THIS SAYS IS THAT, CONTRARY TO THE REPEATED DENIALS OF NICARAGUAN OFFICIALS, THAT COUNTRY IS THOROUGHLY INVOLVED IN SUPPORTING THE SALVADORAN INSURGENCY. THAT SUPPORT IS SUCH AS TO GREATLY AID THE INSURGENTS IN THEIR STRUGGLE WITH GOVERNMENT FORCES IN EL SALVADOR. END QUOTES.

2. SENATE COMMITTEE: BEGIN QUOTE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MARCH 2, 1982, BARRY GOLDWATER CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE RELEASED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT AT A BRIEFING ON CENTRAL AMERICA IN A RECENT ABC INTERVIEW THE NICARAGUAN AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S., FRANCISCO FIALLOS, SAID THAT HIS COUNTRY, INNER QUOTE, DOES NOT SEND WEAPONS AND IS NOT GOING TO SEND WEAPONS TO EL SALVADOR. END INNER QUOTE.

ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, CIA DIRECTOR WILLIAM CASEY AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY BRIEFED MEMBERS OF THE SENATE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON DEVELOPMENTS IN CENTRAL AMERICA. THE BRIEFING, WHICH LASTED SEVERAL HOURS, ADDRESSED

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THE MILITARY SITUATION IN EL SALVADOR, THE STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION OF GUERRILLA FORCES THERE, AND THE DEGREE OF EXTERNAL SUPPORT TO THE INSURGENTS IN EL SALVADOR, ESPECIALLY THAT PROVIDED BY THE SANDINISTAS IN NICARAGUA.

THE BRIEFING LEFT NO DOUBT THAT THERE IS ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT BY SANDINISTA GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN SUPPORT OF THE SALVADORAN GUERRILLA MOVEMENT. THIS SUPPORT INCLUDES ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE USE OF NICARAGUAN TERRITORY FOR THE MOVEMENT OF ARMS AND MUNITIONS TO GUERRILLAS IN EL SALVADOR, THE CONTINUING PASSAGE OF GUERRILLAS IN AND OUT OF NICARAGUA FOR ADVANCED TRAINING IN SABOTAGE AND OTHER TERRORISTS TACTICS, AND THE PRESENCE OF HIGH-LEVEL GUERRILLA HEADQUARTERS ELEMENTS IN NICARAGUA. THERE IS STRONG EVIDENCE OF A GREAT SURGE IN THE DELIVERY OF ARMS, AMMUNITIONS, AND RELATED MATERIALS FROM NICARAGUA TO EL SALVADOR.

SPEAKING AS CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, I MUST STRESS THE SENSITIVE NATURE OF THE INTELLIGENCE PROVIDED US. THE DETAILS MUST REMAIN SECRET, BUT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE DESERVE TO KNOW THAT THE OFFICIALS CHARGED WITH DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING U.S. POLICY IN THIS AREA ARE DOING SO ON THE BASIS OF SOLID INFORMATION. END QUOTE.

3. DEPARTMENT IS TONIGHT, 3/4, CONSIDERING HOW BEST TO USE THESE STATEMENTS. HAIG

END OF MESSAGE

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