

10 January 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence
National Intelligence Officer for Latin America

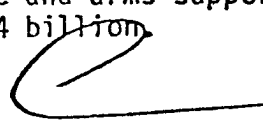
FROM: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Request from Judge Clark re Central America

1. The compendium of evidence on Central America which Judge Clark requested doesn't quite meet the mark. It needs more detail, more specificity and, above all, more relevant sequence. Its organization by countries (i.e., Nicaragua, El Salvador, on to Guatemala, and so on) deprives it of the force with which it all actually happened.

2. It should start off with how the Cubans took over Nicaragua. Then it should go on to the new Nicaraguan government quick support of insurgency in El Salvador. Then Castro and Burnham's declaration of intent in 1980 at first anniversary of Sandinista government, to add to revolutionary Nicaragua, revolutionary El Salvador, revolutionary Guatemala, and revolutionary Honduras. It should then tell about the Cubans calling the El Salvador factions to Havana to get themselves united in return for a promise of support. Then it should go on to the 1980 meeting in which the propaganda program was laid out in Havana and I believe later in Mexico City, all of which doesn't emerge in this draft. Then it should bring in arms commitments for Vietnam, North Korea, etc. It should turn to the extension to Guatemala, the factions there were again being called to Havana to get united. Then the same process in Honduras. Along the way should be interspersed the specific reports which have come in on Bulgarian, East German, North Korean, Libyan, PLO support steps. Then return to Costa Rica. At the right point, insert the report from [redacted] on Castro's admissions of support and the use of negotiations by time. Along the way in the appropriate points in time should be the tightening up of Nicaraguan society, the appearance of East Germans, Cubans and other forces, evidence of extending runways, training of pilots, appearance of tanks, etc. In short, what is wanted is a specific and chronological account of how a regionwide incursion developed. Don't overlook the magnitude of the financial support to the region provided by the Soviets and its allies which, including economic and arms support to Nicaragua and Central American insurgents, probably exceeds \$4 billion.

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William J. Casey

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[redacted]
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