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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ [redacted]

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

DDI- 01699/86

4 APR 1986

The Honorable Charles Z. Wick  
Director  
United States Information Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20547

Dear Charlie:

Thank you for sending over copies of USIA's Soviet Propaganda Highlights. They are an interesting and useful quick fix on what Moscow is saying from week to week. I appreciate being put on regular distribution for future copies. Our analysts, of course, make good use of the more detailed Soviet Propaganda Alert and other USIA products.

I'm glad the relationship between USIA and FBIS looks good from your perspective. We also think that it's working well, not only in terms of regular provision of FBIS Daily Reports and wire material but also in a number of ad hoc projects. FBIS encourages continued contacts at the working level, where desk officers can devise specific modes of cooperation and discuss exact requirements, and we remain committed to full cooperation with USIA in dealing with Soviet propaganda or any other issues that may arise in the future.

In this regard our analysts relied heavily on USIA expertise in producing a recent study of The Soviet Foreign Propaganda Apparatus. For your agency's use, I am enclosing an unclassified version of this paper. [redacted] in my Office of Soviet Analysis (SOVA) has talked to Nils Wessell about publishing this study as a USIA product with broad dissemination. I think it would be a good way to help educate the public regarding the Soviet propaganda effort. I hope you can make use of it.

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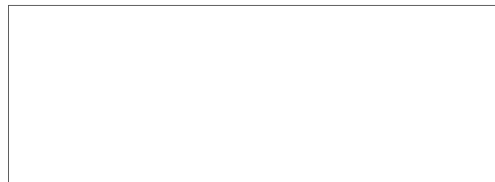
Sincerely,

/s/ Bill

William J. Casey  
Director of Central Intelligence

Enclosure

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L-265-1K

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ [redacted]

DDI- 01698186

2 APR 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence  
Executive Director

FROM: Robert M. Gates  
Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT: Response to Director, USIA's Memorandum

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1. Action: Respond to Charles Wick's letter of 18 March. [redacted]

2. Background: As part of your response to Charles Wick's letter which forwarded highlights of Soviet propaganda and praised the work of FBIS, I thought it might be a good opportunity to pass along SOVA's unclassified paper on The Soviet Foreign Propaganda Apparatus. The groundwork has been laid for getting this paper out as a USIA product, subject to your and Charlie's approval. We also need your concurrence in giving this paper to the DO for liaison and other purposes and to pass along to the State Department for use in responding to Congressman Newt Gingrich's request for increased analysis of Soviet disinformation. [redacted]

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3. Staff Position: FBIS has coordinated and the DO has been consulted on the action requested. [redacted]

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4. Recommendation: Endorse the letter to the Director, USIA and approve the dissemination of the SOVA paper to USIA, the DO, and the State Department. [redacted]

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[redacted signature]  
Robert M. Gates

Attachment:  
Letter for signature

Approved:

Director of Central Intelligence

4 Apr 1986

Date

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ [redacted]

L-265-1R

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
ROUTING SLIP**

TO:		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		X		
2	DDCI		X		
3	EXDIR		X		
4	D/ICS				
5	DDI	X			
6	DDA				
7	DDO				
8	DDS&T	X			
9	Chm/NIC				
10	GC				
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/OLL				
14	D/PAO				
15	D/PERS				
16	VC/NIC				
17	D/FBIS		X		
18	D/SOVA		X		
19	NIO/USSR		X		
20	<i>ER</i>				
21					
22					
		SUSPENSE	3 Apr 86 <small>Date</small>		<i>[Signature]</i>

Remarks To 5: Please have response prepared re our comments on USIA's product as well as any ideas re cooperation with FBIS (the latter in coordination with DDS&T).  
To 8: Please pass on kudos to FBIS.

Executive Secretary  
**20 Mar 86**  
Date

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CONTROL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

CROSS REF: \_\_\_\_\_

PRIOR PAPERS ON THIS SUBJECT: NO YES

PRIOR CORRES SENT TO: \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

*As sent*  
20 MAR 1986

EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE NO:

*L-366-1R* CROSS REF: \_\_\_\_\_

**United States  
Information  
Agency**

Washington, D.C. 20547

Executive Registry
86- 1181x

Office of the Director



March 18, 1986

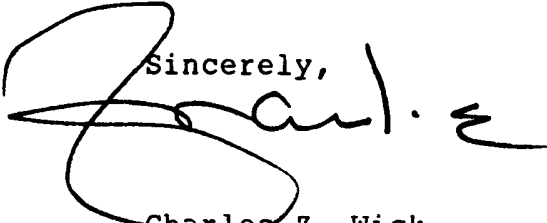
Dear Bill:

Per our conversation, I am sending you back copies since the first of the year of the Agency's Soviet Propaganda Highlights. The report is based on Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) material and is designed to give a quick overview of Soviet statements on topical events. We send it to about fifty people outside USIA, including the top levels of the White House, Defense, State, and Congress. I will put you on regular distribution.

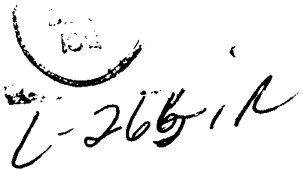
I would like to take this opportunity to say how much we appreciate the service provided by FBIS. It would be very difficult to do our job without it. Apart from receiving about 200 copies of the Daily Reports and other FBIS publications, we have occasionally called upon FBIS to provide research services and to flag items on the FBIS Wire which are of special interest to USIA. Their cooperation has been excellent. We also look forward to the upgraded retrieval service that will be implemented next year.

I would appreciate your reaction to the Propaganda Highlights report and any suggestions for improving cooperation with FBIS.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,  
  
 Charles Z. Wick  
 Director

The Honorable  
 William Casey  
 Director  
 Central Intelligence Agency

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# Soviet Propaganda Highlights

February 19 - March 4

## U.S. Response to Gorbachev Proposals

It must be clear to everyone that such horrible weapons ... must be eliminated and that there cannot be a thinking individual who would oppose the concept of a world without nuclear arms. But they in Washington think along different lines. The so-called "answer" to the Soviet initiatives, the "new" U.S. proposals, attest to a different thing. ... Everything has been done to place an insurmountable barrier to the solution of all problems. (TASS, March 3)

## Reagan Radio Address on Defense

The latest statement by the White House incumbent was a kind of radio supplement to the recent television address to the country. In both speeches the President was trying to enlist Americans' support for the unleashing of a new spiral in the arms race and the continuation of the unconstructive, futile, strong-arm approach to relations with the Soviet Union. (Pravda, March 3)

## Duvalier, Marcos

However different the concrete social, economic, and political realities are in [Haiti and the Philippines], one should not deflect one's attention from the things common there, which are typical of Washington's policy and have come to be known as "the neoglobalism doctrine." Judging by everything, the lessons of history have been utterly lost on U.S. ruling quarters which continue looking at the world as if it were their baliwick. When they are compelled, for this or that reason, to get rid of reactionary puppets who have compromised themselves beyond salvage, they present this to the world as a "triumph of democracy" U.S.-style, while in fact trying to repeat the Haitian "voodoo" trick of reviving another "zombi" and forgetting in the process that the world has changed and does not want to lie down in the procrustian bed of American "doctrines." (TASS, March 3)

## Posner on ABC

The White House is beside itself with rage. ... Well, to muzzle an opponent is quite a convenient-to-the-USA way of conducting a dialogue with the USSR on vital issues of war and peace at a time when the U.S. public shows increasing concern over the Administration's nonconstructive stand on disarmament issues. To U.S. mass media this entire story has become yet another convincing illustration of the "freedom of speech" and "exchange of ideas" which the present U.S. Administration officials are so fond of talking about. (TASS, February 28)

**United States Information Agency**

Washington, D.C.

# Soviet Propaganda Highlights

February 19 - 25

## U.S. Reply to Gorbachev Proposals

Judging by first press reports, the reply does not go farther than repeating the U.S.'s well-known nonconstructive stand in this matter which is of major importance to the destiny of the world. The reply, which constitutes a propaganda strategem designed to justify Washington's unwillingness to take real steps along lines of ridding the world of the threat of nuclear annihilation, also pursues the aim of diverting attention from the Soviet proposals and of justifying the U.S. Administration's course towards further spiralling up the arms race. (TASS, February 24)

## Grenada

Last spring President Reagan laid a wreath at a cemetery in Bitburg, Germany, where war criminals, members of the Nazi SS are buried. Now he is going to lay a wreath at a monument to the victors of Grenada, if victor is the right name for those who have trampled underfoot the sovereignty of a tiny country and have thrown it back many years. (Radio Moscow, February 19)

Without so much as a shade of embarrassment, the White House incumbent described an act of state terrorism -- the seizure of the tiny insular state of Grenada on which the Pentagon brought down the might of its intervention forces -- as the liberation "of the people of Grenada from the grip of tyranny." (TASS, February 23)

## Chad

The U.S. is making no secret of its satisfaction with this [French] intervention operation. Washington applauds Paris .... However, things are not restricted to applause alone. The U.S. hold constant "consultations" with Paris over the Chad problem, provides France with spy satellite intelligence information, and is expediting shipments of additional military aid to the tune of 6 million dollars to the Habre regime. (Izvestiia, February 20)

## Philippines

The arguments about "defending democracy", the struggle against corruption, and the concern for justice are only camouflage, a propaganda screen for Washington's basic political goal: to keep its positions in the Philippines and to ensure tools of pressure on a country where events have recently developed that are patently not in the U.S. favor. This is precisely why the U.S. corridors of power are worrying, entire detachments of "arm-twisting" experts have been cast into the Philippines, and the forces of the Pentagon have begun to act. (Pravda, February 21)

**United States Information Agency**

Washington, D.C.



# Soviet Propaganda Highlights

February 5 - 11

## Challenger Explosion

Picture to yourself what might have happened if the space shuttle had carried on board a combat laser unit activated by a nuclear explosion. Yet it is with the help of exactly such space shuttles, that Washington plans to test and put into orbit laser and other weapons under the "star wars" program. The Challenger disaster has served as an eye-opener for many people to the danger of the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative, which can jeopardize the life of whole nations, even of the entire humanity, if its complicated computer systems malfunction. (Radio Moscow, February 3)

## State of The Union Address

... The American leader needed the false, totally groundless accusations against the Soviet Union in order to provide a propaganda justification for the course towards a further unrestricted escalation of the arms race.... One of the chief theses of the address is that America should and will arm itself, and that its course is the position-of-strength policy. In other words, the U.S. intends to follow the path which has already led mankind to an unprecedented arms race, to great disasters. (TASS, February 6)

## Reagan Budget Message

So what is the course for the foreseeable future proposed in this message? Briefly, this course may be characterized as a program of unrestrained militarization and imperial globalism. (TASS, February 7)

## Haiti

It is with U.S. connivance that the Duvalier tyranny subjected the local population to utter poverty and lawlessness. It is under this rule that this nation of 6 million people has been turned into a virtual island prison.... And it is a sad irony that a country that professes promotion of human rights around the world should have been the one to provide the Haitian dictator with a getaway plane and find him a safe haven. (Radio Moscow, February 7)

## Philippines Election

In recent months, Washington has put strong and sometimes crude pressure on the Philippine government, insisting on early elections on the pretext of the "need to restore democracy". Certain circles in the U.S. Government and Congress are casting doubt on the current regime's ability to control the situation and preserve the U.S.'s privileged positions there. (Izvestiia, February 8)

**United States Information Agency**

Washington, D.C.

# Soviet Propaganda Highlights

January 29 - February 4

## ACDA Report on Soviet Violations

One notices the fact that precisely the part of the report which contains the absurd "accusations" is strictly classified. This very fact alone shows that the U.S. has no facts at its disposal because there can be none. ... It is not the United States, but the Soviet Union which has every reason to pose the question of adherence by the U.S. side to its obligations. (TASS, February 2)

## Shuttle Explosion Investigation

... The White House will soon announce the setting up of an "independent group" to study the prospects for the U.S. space program in light of the Challenger disaster. ... It is evidently the U.S. Administration's intent to launch a broad campaign to brainwash the country's public opinion with the aim of crushing the fears of Americans who believe that Challenger's fate is a serious warning to those who plan to deploy weapons systems in space. (TASS, January 31)

## Reagan Remarks to Conservative Political Action Conference

... Reagan again turned to his pet theme -- anti-Sovietism and anti-Communism. He directed rude and wholesale criticism against the Soviet Union's foreign policy, ascribed "expansionist aims" to it, openly called for implementing American-style "freedom" throughout the world, including in socialist countries, and for giving every possible assistance to forces of counterrevolution and antisocial elements on the CIA's payroll. (TASS, January 31)

## Savimbi Visit

Receiving this out-and-out terrorist in Washington, with honors befitting top statesmen, the Reagan Administration, for the umpteenth time, has shown its support for the undeclared war against Angola and its adherence to the policy of state terrorism. (TASS, January 31)

## Haitian Unrest

... They in the U.S. clearly hope for a palace coup in Haiti under U.S. Embassy control that would make it possible to lower the momentum of the popular struggle and replace the butcher of the Haitian people with a less odious puppet. This would make it possible to preserve for the U.S. monopolies positions of diktat in that country. (TASS, January 1)

Rene Theodore, general secretary of the Central Committee of the United Party of Haitian Communists, has exposed the intentions of the U.S. to invade Haiti. (TASS, February 3)

**United States Information Agency**

Washington, D.C.

# Soviet Propaganda Highlights

January 22 - 28

## U.S. "New Globalism"

The architects of "new globalism", the doctrine of direct armed interference by the U.S., in an attempt to camouflage their hegemonistic designs, resort to propaganda gimmicks of all sorts to distort the situation by prattling about the "legitimacy" of the fight against "international terrorism", about the "need to ensure U.S. national security." ... This hegemonistic doctrine is a tool of crude, including armed, interference by the U.S. in the regions and parts of the world where the U.S. would like to establish its domination. (TASS, January 27)

## Savimbi Visit

Savimbi and his supporters have a dirty and shameful record. They have wiped out communities, ruined economic facilities, downed passenger airliners, and killed civilians. Equally notorious are their close ties with the regime in South Africa, which has been lavishly supplying UNITA with money and munitions, and giving it shelter in occupied Namibia. (Radio Moscow, January 27)

## U.S.-Libya

The fact that Washington has so far stopped short of actually attacking Libya may serve as an indication that the U.S. policymakers realize that Libya is not a puny Grenada, and that an attack on it won't be a trifling business. And this is perhaps the one case where the policy of brawn rather than brain is not likely to succeed. (Radio Moscow, January 24)

## ABC "Amerika" Series

This piece of television hack work is a routine murky variation on the theme of the "Soviet military threat" on which the bosses of ABC did not begrudge spending 40 million dollars. It distorts the history and ignores the peace-loving policy of the USSR. ... Under pressure from the democratic public, the television company bosses were forced to stop work on "Amerika." The concoction of a new portion of anti-Soviet slander was assessed by progressive forces in the U.S. and outside that country as a betrayal of the spirit of Geneva, but the retreat by ABC management aroused unconcealed annoyance in the White House. (TASS, January 23)

## U.S. Nuclear Tests

By setting off new nuclear devices, Washington demonstrates contempt to the commitment formalized in the joint Soviet-U.S. statement following the November summit meeting .... (TASS, January 21)

*United States Information Agency*

Washington, D.C.

# Soviet Propaganda Highlights

January 15 - 21

## Geneva NPT Talks

The Soviet Union's approach opens up broad opportunities for ensuring progress at the Geneva talks. But all efforts aimed at ending the nuclear arms race will inevitably be reduced to nil if no solution is found to the main issue, the prevention of the militarization of space. (TASS, January 14)

## Whitehead Trip

The essence of the State Department's diplomatic moves is the sending of an emissary to bring outright pressure on governments of countries -- the U.S.'s partners in NATO -- to force them to follow obediently in the wake of the anti-Libyan policy of the present U.S. Administration; in other words, to resort to political pressure. ... Whitehead's trip is just another attempt to compel the U.S. allies to join Washington in its anti-Arab policy. (TASS, January 14)

## U.S.-Philippines Relations

In all its forms the matter ultimately comes down to Washington's desire to ensure the absolute inviolability of its positions in the Philippines and to further strengthen them. At the same time, the increase in anti-U.S. feelings in the Philippines is the logical consequence of the policy of crude diktat and economic exploitation pursued by the U.S. here. (Izvestiia, January 13)

## U.S.-Libya

Libya has become a victim of U.S.-Israeli subversive actions because Qadaffi rejected the conspiracy of the U.S. and Israel in whatever form. ... Do the tracks of the terrorist acts in Rome and Vienna not lead to the CIA and the Mossad? ... Israel, stirring up the situation, wants once again to look like the victim of terrorism by the Palestinians and all Arabs, and, in this case as happened before, to carry out "acts of revenge" with impunity. Here are the roots of CIA and Mossad activity in the Middle East, the Mediterranean, and in Western Europe. (TASS, January 14)

## U.S. Interventionist Policies

... The U.S. is currently carrying out more than fifty subversive operations abroad. It is this activity of the U.S. which bears the hallmark of state-sponsored terrorism -- one of the main causes of so-called "regional conflicts" which the Washington Administration is seeking to use in order to undermine all efforts directed at creating an atmosphere of trust in the name of averting the war menace and strengthening peace. (TASS, January 15)

*United States Information Agency*

*Washington, D.C.*

# Soviet Propaganda Highlights

January 8 - 14

## Anti-U.S. Sentiment in Philippines

Domestic developments in the Philippines show how potentially dangerous it is for developing countries to ally themselves with the U.S. In times of relative stability developing countries have to pay an enormous price in order to maintain their alliance with the U.S.; in times of internal instability and crisis, such an alliance becomes a tool for exercising brute pressure and interfering in internal affairs that threatens the independence of developing countries. (Moscow Radio Peace and Progress, January 7)

## Euromissiles

The U.S. has deployed 156 Pershing II missiles in West Germany and not 108 as it formally announced. ... It is not the first time Washington is cheating on the number of its missiles. The American missiles may be trained on the socialist countries, but they as well reach the Middle East, North Africa, and other regions. America's missiles obviously threaten many countries. (Radio Moscow, January 9)

## U.S. Anti-Sovietism

An atmosphere of vituperative anti-Sovietism and suspicion towards Soviet diplomatic personnel and Soviet representatives in the U.S. is encouraged by U.S. official authorities and now goes beyond the "usual" boundaries. ... So on the one hand we have calls for "better understanding" and on the other the true attitude of the official authorities, which are actually inspiring provocative anti-Soviet campaigns. (TASS, January 10)

## Soviet Treaty Violations

U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger has made another unseemly attempt to cast a slur on the Soviet Union's policy as regards observance of the international treaty obligations it has assumed. ... The chief of the U.S. military department needed his fabrications to distract public attention away from the efforts being made by the Washington Administration to sabotage the provisions of the SALT II treaty and to justify the creation and deployment of two new intercontinental missiles. (TASS, January 13)

## Libya

The purpose behind the slanderous and provocative campaign, mounted by the Reagan Administration against Libya, is to set the stage for overthrowing the legitimate government of that country .... (TASS, January 13)

*United States Information Agency*

*Washington, D.C.*

# Soviet Propaganda Highlights

January 2 - 7

## SDI

Through the efforts of U.S. military-political circles, trickery and deception have reached literally cosmic heights. By plugging the idea of "star wars", the Pentagon and its patrons and allies are deliberately misleading the U.S. public and Congress, and the Western countries which the White House is seeking to harness to the chariot of its militarist policy. (Izvestiia, January 2)

## Libya

Anti-Libyan hysteria has been unleashed in the U.S. by way of psychological preparation for the launching of a [military] strike. The notorious "fight against terrorism" has again been chosen as grounds for this. ... It turns out that any foreign government which suddenly becomes not to Washington's liking ... may be simply overthrown, by force if necessary. (TASS, January 6)

## U.S. Central America Policy

In its Central American policy the U.S. Administration intends to continue pursuing a course of great-power chauvinism, diktat, and intolerance of any manifestation of independence on the part of other countries and peoples. This is born out by pronouncements made by President R. Reagan in his interview with the Mexican press agency NOTIMEX. ... Washington is sabotaging the Contadora process in every way, having unleashed the hands of the CIA mercenaries from the ranks of the so-called "contras" in an undeclared war against Nicaragua, striving to overthrow the government of that country which is not to Washington's liking and to alter the sociopolitical system freely chosen by the Nicaraguan people. (TASS, January 2)

## Training Facilities for Terrorists

The aim of the [U.S. mercenary training camps] is to prepare strike units of mercenaries who will be able to carry out terrorist actions against Cuba, Nicaragua, and other independent countries in Latin America, Africa, and Asia. ... Police and the FBI know well the addresses of the terrorist training centers, but none of the American mercenaries has yet been brought to trial. The authorities put no obstacles in the way of this activity. This graphically demonstrates the hypocrisy of the U.S. Administration which uses the campaign of combating "international terrorism" as a smokescreen for interference in the internal affairs of other states and peoples. (TASS, January 1)

*United States Information Agency*

*Washington, D.C.*

ACTION

21 March 1986

NOTE TO: D/SOVA

STAT

[Redacted]

Please take appropriate action on the attached memo from Charles Wick, Director/USIA, requesting comments on their "Propaganda Highlights" and coordinating with DS&T. Prepare the response for the DCI's signature via the DDI. Could we please have this by COB, 2 April.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

STAT

EA/DDI

Attachment:  
As stated

**HAND CARRY**

