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CIA Manual Based on Vietnam

Wording in Nicaragua Booklet Similar to '68 'Lesson Plans'

By Joanne Omang
Washington Post Staff Writer

Sections of 1968 U.S. Army "lesson plans" for training U.S. Special Forces troops in Vietnam guerrilla warfare are "word for word the same" as parts of a CIA manual that recommended political assassination of officials in Nicaragua, Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.) said yesterday.

The Defense Department supplied copies of three lesson plans, dated April 1968, from the U.S. Army Special Warfare School at Fort Bragg, N.C., to the House and Senate intelligence committees over the weekend in response to

their requests. Copies were obtained by The Washington Post.

Allowing for repetition, elimination of bibliographies, teaching notes and U.S. military jargon and some rewriting to make specific reference to Nicaragua, the points of instruction are identical in the Fort Bragg plans and in the manual that the CIA has admitted supplying to U.S.-backed insurgents in Nicaragua.

"We really know now what the origins of this thing are," Moynihan said in an interview, referring to the Nicaragua manual. "We have still to learn how it happened."

The deputy inspector general of the Central Intelligence Agency is expected to submit the report of his

investigation into that question today to CIA Director William J. Casey, Moynihan said.

Senate intelligence committee officials have said hearings on the origins and authorship of the Nicaragua manual would be scheduled after the inspector general's report was given to the panel. Yesterday, they said no hearing is likely before next Tuesday's general election.

Moynihan said it is still unclear whether the Fort Bragg lesson plans were used to train U.S. troops in guerrilla warfare or merely sought to describe existing methods used by the Vietcong, the North Vietnamese and other U.S. adversaries in Vietnam. They cite the late Chinese leader Mao Tse-tung,

Vietnamese Gen. Vo Nguyen Giap and assorted U.S. sociologists. "We plan to ask them about that," Moynihan said.

He noted that other, more recent copies of psychological warfare manuals do not contain recommendations for political assassinations. "It took us some time to realize that while a communist insurgent movement could behave like that, we couldn't," Moynihan said.

He noted that no explicit prohibition on political violence existed until President Reagan signed an executive order on it in December 1981, the same month he authorized the start of aid to rebels in Nicaragua. They received the CIA manual in 1983.

The most controversial recommendation in the Nicaragua manual, summarized at the start of the Fort Bragg lesson plan numbered 643 and expanded later, discusses "selective use of armed force for PSYOP [psychological operations]

effect." It says that "carefully selected, planned targets—judges, police officials, tax collectors, etc.—may be removed for PSYOP effect in a UWOA [unconventional warfare operations area], but extensive precautions must insure [sic] that the people 'concur' in such an act by thorough explanatory canvassing among the affected populace before and after conduct of the mission."

The Spanish version in the Nicaragua manual, as translated by the Congressional Research Service, discusses "selective use of violence for propagandistic effects."

It says "it is possible to neutralize carefully selected and planned targets, such as court judges, *mesta* [municipal] judges, police and State Security officials . . . it is absolutely necessary to gather together the population affected, so that they will be present, take part in the act and formulate accusations against the oppressor."