 COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAS

AN AFFILIATE OF THE AMERICAS SOCIETY, INC. 684 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK, NEW YORK

March 23, 1982

Hon. William J. Casey
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

The current political and economic situation in Central America - and, equally important, the potential spillover effects in Mexico are foremost on the minds of many corporate members of the Council of the Americas. The Council is a business association of 200 U.S. corporations which comprise the majority of U.S. private investment and other business activity in Latin America and the Caribbean.


Our corporate members are deeply concerned that forces inimical to the U.S. are threatening U.S. security, economic and commercial interests in the region. Additionally our membership is disturbed that much of the information communicated to the public on Central America may, in fact, be misinformation or disinformation.

Consequently, as our corporate members have a significant stake in the region, I would like to bring a select group of executives to Langley for an extended briefing by you, personally, on the present situation and current outlook with respect to Central America and Mexico. Our group would include chief executive officers or presidents of a dozen major U.S. firms with extensive investments in the region.

As you may be aware, the Council was invited by the Administration to help shape the CBI. We accepted the invitation and will continue to play an active role in this endeavor. The related matter of security is one on which we need to be better informed. We hope you will agree to brief us on this critical issue.

We look forward to hearing from you or your staff regarding a mutually convenient date for the suggested briefing.

Sincerely,



Samuel L. Hayden
President

SLH:bmb