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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

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14 October 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: See Distribution

FROM: Robert D. Vickers, Jr.
National Intelligence Officer for Latin America

SUBJECT: Agenda for October 1986 Latin America
Warning and Forecast Meeting

1. The October Latin America Warning Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 22 October 1986 at 1015 hours in Room 7E32, CIA Headquarters. Invited agencies and components should please keep their representatives to a necessary minimum because of space limitations.

2. We intend to discuss the following countries/topics:
El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Ecuador.

El Salvador

Insurgent hopes for a military victory in the near term have diminished greatly over the past year. It should also be quite apparent to them that President Duarte is in no hurry to resume the dialogue. Under the circumstances, the guerrillas appear to have revised their strategy to emphasize urban warfare and political action. Labor unions, cooperatives and student groups are among the likeliest targets for insurgent penetration and manipulation, including the creation of popular front organizations. What is the current status of insurgent efforts, and the prospects for gaining influence and using these organizations for their objectives? Are there still differences between the Communist Party (PCES) and other members of Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) over the overall strategy, as well as differences in the tactics to be pursued in attempting to take over labor movements?
(CIA/ALA - 30 minutes)

Nicaragua

Is there any evidence that the Sandinistas will obtain new weapons systems (eg., air defense missiles) in the next month for use in their November anniversary celebration? What are likely preconditions or indicators? (CIA/OGI - 15 minutes)

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[redacted] is concerned over reports of Sandinista forces planning to move against Miskito refugees that have fled across the Coco River into southeastern Honduras. What is the likelihood of another Sandinista military incursion into Honduras, either in the southeast or elsewhere? (DIA - 15 minutes)

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Ecuador

The leftist-controlled Congress and President Febres-Cordero are on what appears to be a collision course if Congress goes ahead with its threatened impeachment of several key members of the President's cabinet. The President has stated that he will not permit the removal of cabinet members without cause. What are the prospects for serious political instability? Is the military likely to take a more active role in government as a result? (State/INR - 30 minutes)

3. Please have your clearances passed and call [redacted] with your attendance plans no later than Tuesday, 21 October.

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