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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

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25 March 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence  
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: National Intelligence Officer for Warning

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

SUBJECT: Latin America Warning and Forecast Meeting  
March 1986

1. The following items were discussed at the Intelligence Community's Warning and Forecast Meeting held on 19 March 1986.

Chile

2. Barring some unforeseen change, military support for President Pinochet is expected to remain relatively firm until the end of his term. However, there is growing sentiment among the military against supporting a Pinochet candidacy in 1989. Most of them do not want to risk the institution's reputation--nor their individual reputations--for such an unpopular cause.

- With the end of summer vacation, demonstrations are expected to increase in frequency and intensity.
- Cardinal Fresno has lost some of his momentum, and groups supporting the National Accord have been unable or unwilling to coordinate their efforts in recent months.
- Various leaders will be trying to unify and breathe new life into the movement in the next few weeks.
  - The radical right and the radical left may redirect violence toward US commercial and diplomatic interests.

If the radical left increases its level of violence, it could lead to the military's closing ranks in defense of President Pinochet and lead a slowing down of the transition to democracy. At stake are passage of the Electoral Registry and Political Parties Laws, now scheduled for later this year.

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WARNING ISSUE: Are there any signs of waning military support for President Pinochet in anticipation of a new round of protest demonstrations and associated violence? Will increasing pressure on the security forces lead to greater unification or divisiveness?

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### Costa Rica

3. President Monge's initiatives to stabilize the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan border, including the bilateral border agreement with Managua, reflect his perception that Costa Rica will have to live with Nicaragua whether the United States stays interested in the region or not. Costa Rica, however, wants only a cosmetic border inspection force while Nicaragua wants a full-blown "peacekeeping" force. Honduras will come under pressure -- especially from the Contadora and Contadora Support Groups -- to sign a similar bilateral agreement with Nicaragua, especially if US military aid to the Contras is not approved. Nevertheless, it is unlikely that the border force will be able to prevent the Nicaraguan insurgents from using Costa Rican territory. That will continue to be dependent on the government of Costa Rica, which thus far, has given no indication that it intends to crack down hard on the Contras.

WARNING ISSUE: The bilateral border agreement between Nicaragua and Costa Rica will allow the Sandinistas to focus future Contadora talks on the issue as well as push efforts to conclude a similar agreement with Honduras.

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### Jamaica

4. In recent months, Michael Manley, leader of the opposition, has pursued a tactic of not pressing Prime Minister Seaga to hold new elections soon. Instead, he has been trying to take advantage of widespread dissatisfaction with the economy and Seaga's slow pace in implementing painful reform measures to expand his own political base. Seaga would like to delay national elections but might be forced to hold them if upcoming local elections indicate that he does not have the votes to ask Parliament for the necessary delay. Any election--particularly a national election--has the potential for turning violent.

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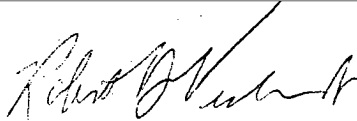
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WARNING ISSUE: Unless Seaga is able to rebuild his popularity over the next year or so, he may well be forced to hold national elections that he would lose.

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Next 2 Page(s) In Document Denied