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MX 3210A

2 June 1987

SUBJECT: Talking Points for Morris Busby to Use with SecState

<< Recent information [redacted] indicates that the war is having a growing effect on the populace in Military Regions 1, 5 and 6.

<< [redacted] Sandinista forces in these regions are experiencing morale and communications problems. Higher casualties and increased spontaneous sabotage actions were cited as well as the deteriorating economy. In several areas, [redacted] there is growing opposition to the Sandinista regime.

<< In addition, a decision on whether to reinforce troops in Military Region 6 was being referred by senior Nicaraguan commanders [redacted]

<< FDN forces continued to strike at lightly defended infrastructure targets, blowing up electrical towers near Sebaco and Ocotal on 26 May. Power was expected to be out for several days.

<< In addition to attacking infrastructure targets, resistance forces are engaging successfully Sandinista field units and garrisons. [redacted]

[redacted] FDN troops badly mauled a BLI company on 19 May in Military Region 6. Other reports indicate successful ambushes against Sandinista patrols and attacks against armed cooperatives and garrisons throughout the country.

<< Fighting between Sandinista and FDN troops in the San Andres de Bocay area has been occurring since 25 May. Elements of at least one Sandinista BLI are involved in the fighting, and the FDN air force has flown at least one combat sortie trying to take out a BM-21 rocket launcher with a 2.75mm rocket fired from an O-2 aircraft.

<< [redacted] UNO/KISAN has about 950 combatants inside Nicaragua, but not all are fully supplied or armed. This represents an increase of some 300 over the figure reported in April. However, their military activity, thus far, has been minimal.

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-- During the period, three of our four drop aircraft were in the U.S. for maintenance. Six aerial resupply missions were flown, delivering 18,490 pounds of combat supplies., and on 29 May, a leaflet drop was conducted at La Rosita. Two of these missions reported observing ground fire. Thus far, 116 flights have been flown, delivering 584,081 pounds of cargo (292 tons).

-- The DC-6, DC-3 and Cessna 337 aircraft purchased for the FDN are undergoing refit, and should be available for operation around 15 June.

-- During the month of May, three C-141 resupply flights were flown into Honduras, delivering 249,774 pounds of ordnance, demolitions and quartermaster supplies.

-- Tranche III ordnance and ammunition requirements for approximately \$9 million worth of equipment were received from the field on 29 May. Meanwhile, Tranche III quartermaster supplies have begun arriving at Midwest Depot. Three resupply flights are scheduled to ship these items on 3 and 4 June.

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