

5 May 1987

SUBJECT: Talking Points for Morris Busby to Use with SecState

-- The meeting of the Interparliamentary Union (IPU) took place in Managua 26 April through 2 May 1987. Efforts to expose the IPU delegates to the Nicaraguan democratic opposition and to denigrate the Sandinista government included protest marches, rallies, working meetings between opposition leaders and delegates, and propaganda. The Sandinistas reacted with repression on several occasions, including the occupation of the offices of the opposition newspaper "La Prensa" and the arrest and harassment of opposition leaders. Some IPU delegates promulgated a manifesto expressing solidarity with the opposition, and questioned several Sandinista leaders closely on abuses of human and civil rights.

-- The negotiations to expand the external Nicaraguan Democratic Resistance (NDR) gained momentum during the period after the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) agreed to be more flexible. Specifically, the FDN was induced to dissolve its political directorate and integrate its functions with the overall NDR leadership, and to integrate the FDN's military component into a national army.

-- The FDN has begun establishing a logistics pipeline to support the mobile forward command post in the Bocay valley. Supplies are being moved down the Rio Bocay from San Andres de Bocay to Wina, from where they will be moved overland to the troops or cached.

-- Nicaraguan Southern Opposition Bloc (BOS) leader Alfredo Cesar reneged on his commitment to take a polygraph examination. There are allegations that BOS and/or Cesar may have received funds derived from narcotics trafficking, and it was determined that Cesar must pass a polygraph examination before any further USG funds are provided to BOS.

-- [redacted] FDN forces overran a Sandinista garrison in central Zelaya, killing 40, wounding 15, and capturing seven soldiers and a variety of equipment, including two SA-7 missiles. [redacted]

[redacted] believe the entire base was destroyed. [redacted] the Sandinistas

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-- UNO/South forces continue to prepare for a major offensive to begin in early May; potential targets for all the major commanders have been identified and the commandantes have been fully briefed.

-- Defense minister Ortega claimed last week that two special commando units attacked the FDN's military training center and inflicted heavy casualties. In addition, Ortega said that a major counterinsurgency operation was underway in the Wina area. This latter action probably is aimed at the FDN's mobile command post located in the Bocay valley.

-- During the period, nine aerial resupply missions were flown delivering 25,859 pounds of cargo to resistance forces. Cumulative totals thus far are 74 missions delivering 415,760 pounds of cargo.

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