

April 25, 1985

SECRETRECOMMENDED TELEPHONE CALL

TO: His Excellency Roberto Suazo Cordova,
President of the Republic of Honduras

DATE: Thursday, April 25, 1985

RECOMMENDED BY: Robert C. McFarlane *RCM*

PURPOSE: To reassure the Honduran Government regarding our intention to support the Nicaraguan democratic resistance forces.

BACKGROUND:

One of the most serious consequences of the House's action yesterday is the deep concern it has created in Honduras. ^{A high Honduran} and other high ^{military official} officials are threatening to deny sanctuary to the FDN and disarm the resistance forces on the Honduran border. This morning, ^{a senior military official} of the Honduran General Staff told Alfonso Robelo that this vote "finishes Honduran support." The Honduran military this morning stopped a shipment of ammunition to the FDN base at Las Vegas. The active GOM cooperation with FDN logistics, which we have seen in the past two months, must continue if the resistance is to survive.

It is imperative, therefore, that you make clear the Executive Branch's political commitment to maintaining pressure on the Sandinistas, regardless of what action Congress takes. President Suazo will need some overt and concrete sign of this commitment in order to forestall his military in taking action against the FDN. Two actions which would signal our commitment are:

- impose a trade embargo, using either IEPA or the Trade Expansion Act (we are urgently examining the alternatives and will send you a recommendation); and/or
- downgrade diplomatic relations.

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cc Vice President *RCM*

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BACKGROUND:

(Continued...)

While we consider and prepare for these specific measures, it is essential that you call President Suazo to reassure him that we intend to continue our support for the freedom fighters and that you are examining actions for which Congressional approval is not required.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

1. Yesterday's House vote for aid to the Nicaraguan democratic resistance.
2. Commitment to persist in effort to obtain funds from the Congress for continued U.S. support.
3. Urge GOE not to take any actions which would jeopardize the struggle for liberty and democracy in Nicaragua.

Date of Submission:

ALU0097-14

Action

~~Expressed his support of me & his belief we must~~
 continue to oppose Communism. Will call his
 this communitarian & his desire to deliver the amount.
 Pleads we must continue to support the freedom

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in Mexico. They are 1/2 mile of 1. I said that 3-4
 coming had not much about 4/5 mil. in aid (?) to other
 Shultz & Weinberger will not hold them.