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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 30, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: THE MEMBERS AND GUESTS OF THE WHITE HOUSE
OUTREACH WORKING GROUP ON CENTRAL AMERICA

FROM: Faith Ryan Whittlesey *FRW*
Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

SUBJECT: Meetings for December

Following is a listing of our principal speakers and room locations for the White House Central American Outreach Meetings for the month of December. As usual, all meetings will begin at 2:30 p.m. (In order to facilitate the clearance process, please arrive at the meeting location no later than 2:15 p.m.)

December 7, - "Honduras - Today and Tomorrow"

The Honorable John D. Negroponte,
United States Ambassador to Honduras
"The Decisions and Deliberations of the O.A.S."
The Honorable J. William Middendorf, II,
U.S. Permanent Representative to the
Organization of American States

ROOM #2008 - NEW EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING

December 14, - "Human Rights"

The Honorable Elliott Abrams,
Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau
of Human Rights & Humanitarian Affairs

ROOM #450 - OLD EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING

December 21, - "Central America: Its Economic and Strategic
Importance to the United States"

The Honorable Langhorne Motley,
Assistant Secretary of State for
Inter-American Affairs

ROOM #450 - OLD EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING

December 28, - MEETING CANCELLED (Due to Christmas/New Years'
Holiday period)

I am also enclosing copies of the six White House Digests which have been published to date so that you may be certain to have a complete set.

Let me take this opportunity to wish you a very happy holiday and a New Year filled with blessings and joy.

Enclosures a/s

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Enclosures a/s

October 28, 1983

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OUTREACH WORKING GROUP ON CENTRAL AMERICA

FROM: Faith Ryan Whittlesey, *FRW*
Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

SUBJECT: Meetings for November

Following is a listing of our principal speakers and room locations for the Central American Outreach Meetings for the month of November. As usual, all meetings will begin at 2:30 p.m.:

November 2 - "Grenada"

The Honorable James Michel,
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State
for Inter-American Affairs
Room #450 - Old Executive Office Building

November 9 - "El Salvador as Seen by Its Youth"

Fernando Aceto
Ana Vicky Morales
Ana Berrios
Eduardo Torres
Bertha Van Ripper
Marisa Fortin
(NOTE: Only two of the above students
will be speaking after having returned
from a speaking tour of the United States)
Room #450 - Old Executive Office Building

November 16 - "The Situation in the Caribbean"

General John Vessey,
Chairman
Joint Chiefs of Staff
Room #450 - Old Executive Office Building

November 23 - CANCELLED (Due to Thanksgiving Holiday)

November 30 - "KGB Disinformation in the Media and Other
Soviet Active Measures"

Mr. Arnaud De Borchegrave, noted author/lecturer
Room #2008 - New Executive Office Building

If you have any questions, please contact: Mrs. Joyce Thomann, Office of Public Liaison (202) 456-2657.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 3, 1984

MEMORANDUM TO: FAITH WHITTLESEY

THROUGH: Jack Courtemanche

FROM: Morton C. Blackwell //

SUBJECT: Request from Senator Denton

As you may recall, we were contacted by Senator Denton late in the afternoon of December 12, asking to speak to our Outreach Working Group Meeting of December 14. The Senator wanted to talk to the group about his recent trip to El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama. At the last minute, Senator Denton changed his mind and opted not to be a secondary speaker, but attended as an observer. (Elliott Abrams was our scheduled speaker for that date.)

We have scheduled Senator Denton to speak to the Outreach Group on Wednesday, January 25.

Attached is a memorandum prepared for your signature to M. B. Oglesby requesting his approval for Senator Denton to speak to our Outreach Working Group on Wednesday, January 25.

MCB:jet

1 Attachment a/s

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 4, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR M. B. OGLESBY

FROM: FAITH WHITTLESEY

SUBJECT: Central American Outreach Working Group Meeting

Senator Jeremiah Denton has asked to speak to our White House Outreach Working Group on Central America. He desires to apprise the group of the observations and insights which he gleaned from his recent trip to El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama during the period November 30 to December 7, 1983.

We have scheduled the Senator to speak at our meeting of Wednesday, January 25, at 2:30 p.m. in Room #450.

I hope this will meet with your concurrence.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 12, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: FAITH WHITTLESEY
THROUGH: Jack Courtemanche *JC*
FROM: Morton C. Blackwell *MCB*
SUBJECT: Request from Senator Denton

We have been contacted by Senator Denton's office. The Senator wants to brief the Outreach Working Group on his recent trip to El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama. We discussed with his office the Senator being the primary speaker for our program of January 4th, however, he did not want to wait that long before apprising our group of his findings and has specifically requested to speak at our meeting this Wednesday, December 14th.

Senator Denton is aware that Secretary Abrams will be the primary speaker. Nonetheless, he desires to speak at our December 14th meeting.

To shorten the program, I suggest that for this one meeting we dispense with our "Central American Update" from Constantine Menges. Senator Denton will, in effect, be giving our Central American Update himself.

Attached is a memorandum I have prepared for your signature to M. B. Oglesby regarding Senator Denton's request to brief our Outreach Working Group.

MCB:jet

1 Attachment a/s

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 12, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO M. B. OGLESBY

FROM: FAITH WHITTLESEY


SUBJECT: Senator Jeremiah Denton Speaking to the
White House Outreach Working Group on
Central America

We have been contacted today by Senator Denton's office. The Senator has asked to brief our Outreach Working Group on Central America regarding his recently completed trip to Central America (El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama).

He has asked to speak to the group at our meeting of Wednesday, December 14th because he believes the information he has is fresh now and thus the immediacy of his request.

I would like to accommodate his request. May I have your thoughts?

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
December 19, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: FAITH WHITTLESEY
THROUGH: Jack Courtemanche
FROM: Morton C. Blackwell 
SUBJECT: Proposed Mailing/Notification of January Meetings

Attached for your approval and signature is a memorandum notifying the members and guests of the White House Outreach Working Group of the meetings for January.

In addition, we are sending everyone a copy of Ambassador Negroponete's recent speech and the new joint DoD-State Department paper on Grenada.

If you would sign the memorandum using black ink/ballpoint and return it to Joyce, we will have it printed and distributed by Wednesday of this week thus giving everyone ample notification of the change in time for General Vessey's briefing.

MCB:jet

Enclosures a/s

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 19, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: THE MEMBERS AND GUESTS OF THE WHITE HOUSE
OUTREACH WORKING GROUP ON CENTRAL AMERICA

FROM: Faith Ryan Whittlesey,
Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

Enclosed is a copy of Ambassador John D. Negroponte's remarks to our White House Outreach Working Group meeting of December 7th. As well as a copy of the December 16th joint Department of Defense-State Department publication, "Grenada, A Preliminary Report."

We are very fortunate that we will have as our first speaker for the new year, General John Vessey, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. In order to accommodate General Vessey's schedule, we are going to CHANGE THE TIME of our regular outreach meeting for one meeting only to 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, January 4, 1984. PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR.

Following is a listing of our White House Outreach Working Group speakers for the month of January, 1984:

January 4 - 10:00 a.m.**, Room #450-OEOB **NOTE CHANGE IN TIME

SPEAKER: General John W. Vessey, Jr.,
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
TOPIC: "Central America, Its Importance to the
United States"

January 11, - 2:30 p.m., Room #450-OEOB

SPEAKER: Mr. William C. Doherty, Jr.,
Executive Director
American Institute for Free Labor Movement
TOPIC: "The Status Of and Prospects For the Labor
Movement in Central America"

January 18, - 2:30 p.m., Room #450-OEOB

SPEAKER: Mr. Arnaud De Borchgrave,
Author: The Spike, Monimbo
TOPIC: "The Role of Cuba in International Terrorism
and Subversion"

January 25, - 2:30 p.m., Room #450-OEOB

SPEAKER: Senator Jeremiah Denton

TOPIC: "Report on My Trip to Central America"

SPEAKER: Senor Wycliffe Diego,

Member, Council of Elders, MISURAS Indian
Organization

"Human Rights as Practiced by the Sandinistas"

In order to insure being in your seat for the opening of our meetings, please be at the 17th Street Entrance of the Old Executive Office Building at least 15 minutes prior to the start of the meeting. Please have some form of identification (driver's license, passport) with you to facilitate the clearance process.

Enclosures a/s

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 29, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: THE MEMBERS AND GUESTS OF THE WHITE HOUSE
OUTREACH WORKING GROUP ON CENTRAL AMERICA

FROM: Morton C. Blackwell *MB*

SUBJECT: The President's Call for Private Humanitarian
Assistance to Central America

I urge you to make use of the President's statement, enclosed, regarding the plight of hundreds of thousands of refugees and displaced persons in Central America -- people who have fled from oppression, persecution, and unrest.

Most of them face grim conditions. Malnutrition and lack of essential clothing, housing and medical care are among the problems facing these fleeing families. The countries of the region have little or no resources to share with these displaced persons.

Despite the best efforts of the United States and Central American government agencies, the key and most effective way to provide for these individuals and families is through church and private charitable organizations. Many of these refugees are afraid to register with governmental organizations.

As a participant in our White House Outreach programs on Central America and someone interested in making a positive contribution in this area, you have ways to communicate this great problem to many Americans who might help if they were aware of the need and told how they could help fill that need.

The President's statement tells the stark facts. Private humanitarian aid to this region will save lives and give hope to many homeless refugees.

For the President's call for humanitarian private aid to be effective, many people will have to be informed by you through magazine articles, newsletters, broadcasts and speeches. Do you have any means of letting more people know of this desperate need?

As the President said, if anyone does not know of an appropriate volunteer organization actively aiding displaced persons in Central America, they could contact:

AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR VOLUNTARY AGENCIES
200 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10003
Phone: (212) 674-6844 or (212) 777-8210

1 Enclosure

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

December 23, 1983

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

As we celebrate the many blessings of our great nation and share the spirit of Christmas, we should take the time to consider the plight of those not far from our shores in Central America. The turmoil there is taking an incredible human toll. There are more than 850,000 refugees and displaced persons in Costa Rica, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Mexico. In El Salvador alone, more than 400,000 men, women, and children have been forced to flee their homes by guerillas seeking control of the country through violence. Tens of thousands more have fled the brutal revolution of broken promises in Nicaragua.

Meeting the desperate needs of the victims of aggression and oppression is a key part of what we are seeking to achieve in the region. Through our government programs, we have relieved some of the human suffering in the region. Much more can be done and much more needs to be done. Help from individual American citizens is very important. Government funding encourages the help of private voluntary organizations, but your personal support is essential to keep them going. The greatest need is to improve the delivery of aid to the needy and involve more of our own private voluntary organizations in this delivery effort.

You can make a difference and I encourage you to contact voluntary agencies working in Central America in which you have confidence. They need your financial support, and your technical and medical skills. If you would like to contribute or offer your services and don't know of a volunteer organization please write the American Committee for Voluntary Agencies, 200 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10003. I can't think of a better way to share the spirit of Christmas and work for peace on earth and goodwill toward mankind.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 29, 1983

Dear Mrs. Douglas:

This is in response to your recent letter to the President regarding torture in Latin America.

The suggestion that the United States government is somehow involved in teaching Latin Americans how to torture people is a fabrication. There is no truth to it.

I would suggest you try this. Simply ask the source of any such charge his opinion of the Sandinista government of Nicaragua. If the response comes back a denunciation of the United States policy toward Nicaragua, that will tell you something.

Then, for your second round of correspondence with the source, ask him if the following is not true:

The Sandinista government has broken the pledges of freedom and democracy it made in 1979 to the people of Nicaragua and to the Organization of American States. The nine members of the Sandinista Directorate are avowed Marxists who make no secret of their intention to force a Marxist-Leninist state on the people.

The Sandinista government has attacked and muzzled the Roman Catholic Church, confiscated the country's only synagogue and forced closure of any number of Protestant churches. Praiseworthy religious organizations such as the Salvation Army have been completely expelled from the country.

As you may have seen recently in the news, the Sandinista government has forced thousands of Indians off their historic homelands and into what amount to concentration camps, from which thousands have fled under fire from aircraft and mortars to refuge in nearby Honduras.

The list of Sandinista abuses could be extended indefinitely: record numbers of political prisoners, grossly swollen armed forces, etc.

It is also important to note that the United States government has been the largest donor of economic aid to the Sandinista government. From July 1979 to April 1981, the United States authorized \$117.1 million in economic assistance to the


Sandinista regime. (This compares with a total of \$30 million in military aid the United States gave the Somoza government during the period 1946 to 1979.) The cutoff finally came in compliance with U.S. law which states assistance must be stopped when it becomes clear that a recipient government is engaged in support of international terrorism.

The Sandinista government is harboring and very effectively aiding in many ways the Marxist insurgents in El Salvador, who are primarily successful in attacking El Salvador's economic infrastructure: farms, businesses, electrical power systems, water distribution, roads, transportation systems, etc.

One reason why Marxist-Leninist governments for many years had such success enslaving new populations is that they were able to operate across international boundaries from the sanctuary of countries already under their control. Perhaps the most interesting international development of recent years is that, for the first time in generations, most of the major insurgencies in the world are against Marxist-Leninist governments, as in Afghanistan, Angola, and Nicaragua.

I am enclosing some related information which I hope will be useful to you as well.

Sincerely,


Morton C. Blackwell,
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

Enclosures

Mrs. Kenneth R. Douglas
1811 12th Street
Moline, Illinois 61265

1811- 12th Street

Moline, Illinois 61265

November 20, 1983

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear President Reagan,

I want you to know I pray for you daily,
that God will guide you and give you wisdom
for the great task you have.

I am greatly disturbed by the things I
read in our Church paper, some of which I am
enclosing.

The Rev. Sam Araya has said the United States
Government is sending people into Latin American
Countries to teach how to torture people, and how to
keep the poor, poor etc. I find this difficult to
believe. Am I being naive? Can such an awful
thing be true?

May God have mercy upon us as a Nation
and bring us back to Himself.

Sincerely,

Ruth Douglas

Mrs. Kenneth Douglas

ember 13, 1983

Quad-Cities

Quad-Citians rally and march against Reagan

By Kevin Beese
Argus staff writer

While the temperature hovered near freezing Saturday, over 75 Quad-Citians joined together to march over a scorching issue. They were hot under the collar about the Reagan administration's foreign policy — especially its intervention in El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Grenada.

The protest began at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Rock Island with several keynote speakers. Doyle Evans, brother of U.S. Rep. Lane Evans, D-Rock Island, delivered a prepared statement from his brother.

"AMERICA'S FOREIGN policy concerning Central America are the most controversial matter facing this nation," said Evans. "We should continue to aid the countries of Central America, but we should keep ourselves out of direct contact. We should keep a step back from the issue to enable us an overview of the situa-

tion."

Evans also said that with intervention comes the possibility of nuclear war. The Illinois congressman, who favors a mutual, verifiable nuclear freeze, voiced his concern that, "The hours and money spent on producing nuclear arms, could better be used to help relocate displaced workers, educating our youth, and helping the unemployed."

Another speaker, who had more of an insight and purpose in the march, was Arturo Revelo Magana, a Salvadoran refugee and nephew of the president of El Salvador. Magana said he felt the need to protest "as they (the U.S. troops in El Salvador) are tearing up my country and killing my people."

MAGANA, WHO CURRENTLY resides in Davenport, told his audience that shortly before leaving his homeland he had an enlightening experience.

"I was walking along the torn-up countryside of El Salvador when I was frightened by a large,

black rat. I grabbed a stick and tried to hit it. I missed and it lunged at me. I became even more frightened than before and I took off running. I soon stopped and began to laugh that something so small would cause me to be afraid.

"NOW MY COUNTRY is being attacked by another rat — but this one is big and white and his name is Reagan."

"It proves nothing if I would beat up a child. That would not prove that I was a man. In the same way, I cannot understand the reason the United States has intervened to prove its strength against a country which is in no way comparable to it."

The Salvadoran refugee continued, "Over 70,000 children in El Salvador are becoming orphans. The war in El Salvador and wars and invasions throughout Central America must be halted."

Magana, who entered this country in 1980, said Reagan should keep relations with the Central American countries, but not rule over them.

The march was part of a nationwide protest against the Reagan's administration handling of the Central American nations.

Preservation Copy

Bishop says Reagan policies push Latin America toward communism

GREENCASTLE, IN — Argentinian Methodist bishop Federico J. Pagura said he has no confidence in the Reagan administration's human rights policies and that American intervention policies are pushing Latin American countries toward communism.

Bishop Pagura spoke at an informal forum for DePauw University faculty Oct. 25. Later in the day he participated with UMC Bishop Roy Nichols of New York in a seminar on human rights. Pagura and four others received honorary degrees from DePauw, a UM-related university.

Bishop Pagura recently met with U.S. State Department officials to discuss the crisis in Latin America. He said he told the U.S. representatives that "the greatest mistake is to consider the situation in Nicaragua just a conflict between East and West, ignoring the fact that it is mostly a problem of long history of oppression and injustice through the dictatorship of Somoza, openly supported by the government of the United States." He denounced the Reagan administration's "big stick" policy and said the invasion of Grenada is the most recent example of this misguided policy.

"The present U.S. policy in Latin America is producing a growing sympathy toward those non-Christian movements that are struggling for justice in our countries," Bishop Pagura said. He said if such policies continue they will "push many Latin American nations toward communism."

In Nicaragua, Bishop Pagura said the Sandinistas are a national party where Christians and non-Christians are participating. He said there is a strong participation of Catholics and Protestants in the revolution, "the strongest we have ever seen."

The bishop said the communist party in "our countries is a minority." He said

what happened in Cuba was the result of a short-sighted vision of the U.S. government.

He hopes the U.S. will put into action its theoretical philosophy that there will be no interference with any nation, "but our history," he said, "says another thing. It says the U.S. has interfered permanently in our problems and search for freedom and justice and real democracy."

Bishop Pagura was bishop of Panama and Costa Rica before his appointment in his native Argentina. He is also president of the Council of Latin American Churches.

Is this true?

Johns Island

tutoring continues

For many Central Illinois youth, "Johns Island" has a summer sound. That's the time when conference work camp groups traditionally travel to the sea islands off South Carolina to tutor culturally deprived youngsters via the Remedial Reading Program (CI/UMR 10/28/83).

Summer of 1983 is over, and work campers have returned home, but tutoring continues this fall at Johns Island. Thirty children are enrolled in the after-school program according to Linda Gadson, administrator of Rural Mission, Inc., ecumenical ministry which operates the reading project.

Financial assistance is needed, Ms. Gadson said, to purchase materials for the fall/winter tutoring.

Johns Island, a conference Youth Service Fund beneficiary, is a conference Advance Special for 1984 (see Advance Special supplement, this issue of CI/UMR).



The United Methodist
REPORTER

of the Central Illinois Conference

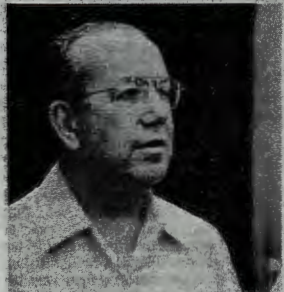
M-CLW
MRS K.F.
100

Human rights 'here and now' issue

By ELIZABETH GLIDDEN

"If we don't do something about torture where it is happening now, we are going to see it in this country," the Rev. Samuel Araya told the more than 100 persons who attended a Human Rights Workshop at Springfield Douglas UMC Oct. 18.

Sponsored by the conference Board of



"I'm not in the United States because I wanted to be; I was forced to leave my country," the Rev. Samuel Araya, a native of Chile, tells his Latin American workshop listeners.

STAFF PHOTO

Church and Society, the workshop featured Illinois Area Bishop Leroy C. Hodapp, chair of the general Board of Church and Society, and Guillermo Chavez, Washington, DC, director of the Department of Political and Human Rights of the same board.

Other workshop leaders included the Rev. Araya, director of the UM Quad Cities Hispanic Ministries, Moline; the Rev. Bradley F. Watkins, pastor of Peoria Bethel UMC and a member of the general Board of Church and Society; and Linda Jones, coordinator of the Committee on Human Rights, Chicago.

The Rev. Robert McDonald, senior pastor of the host church, set the tone for the day's events when he reminded participants in his opening devotions that most Christians were poor in the apostolic church. They were called "to share and to identify with those arrested for their faith," he said. "It's so easy for us to be comfortable today."

In his keynote address on theological implications of human rights issues, Mr. Chavez endorsed the idea that the church has become too comfortable. "As the Christian church, we had a good start," he said. "Somewhere along the way there was a distraction which took us away from the vision we had at the beginning. Our pace has been very slow with regard to the violation of human rights."

For himself, said Mr. Chavez, "the point of departure in the theological area is always the biblical creation story." In creating the universe, "God set in motion a redemption process. We go from the void, chaos, and emptiness, to the order of things; from darkness to light, from the non-value of clay to the value of human beings made in the substance and in the likeness of God."

The ultimate purpose of God's creation, he said, is wholeness, and "as humans, and especially as Christians, we're part of the redemption process."

The end of the redemption process is a new created order which will require the transformation of social and political structures; God uses the Christian community for this transformation, said Mr. Chavez.

"We can no longer be exclusively American without considering the whole global community," he added. "We must develop a global dimension; we don't have an option about that."

The glory of God, he concluded, "is manifested only in the fullness of human beings; that is when God's presence will be evident amongst us."

Workshops permit in-depth study

Participants were able to attend any two out of five workshops offered: Latin America, led by Mr. Araya; Political Refugees and Immigration Policies, Mr. Chavez; Southeast Asia, Bishop Hodapp; Korea, Ms. Jones; Unemployment, Mr. Watkins.

A victim of political imprisonment in

his native Chile, Mr. Araya centered his workshop around human rights violations in Latin America and the U.S. role in bringing torture and instability to the Southern Hemisphere.

Mr. Araya said, "They're using a 'scientific method' of torture today. The idea in torture now is to make you docile, passive, to force you to withdraw from society."

"The military sets out to change people's mentality by the use of torture; that's why there is a 'school of torture.'" Some Nazis, he said, were sent to South America as "experts in torture" after World War II.

Only the church, he concluded, "and especially the Catholic church, is fighting against the military in Latin America."

Hispanics suffer in U.S.

Mr. Chavez, addressing the problem of undocumented workers and refugees, said Hispanic peoples in the U.S. "suffer from a low self-image." As a result, he said, the problem of working on their own survival often keeps Hispanics from identifying with the question of refugee survival.

The church, for its part, "needs to affirm people in their own culture. The melting pot idea is no longer true," he said. "This is a pluralistic country, and should be so."

The foreign policy of the U.S. is "so ambivalent that it can't give a fair hearing to refugees," he continued. Therefore the church needs "to consider giving sanctuary to refugees."

The question of sanctuary, he said, "is a very serious step with many implications. You have to give prayerful consideration to the implications. There has to be someone with the refugee 24 hours a day in case the Immigration and Naturalization Service comes."

He added that "the church has always been involved in protecting people. The Social Principles of The United Methodist Church and the Bible affirm that we must speak out when laws are unfair. More and more we need to become advocates" and "to influence this country's policy."

China influences U.S. policy

Bishop Hodapp gave participants in the Southeast Asia workshop a lesson in the recent history of that area.

"Our Southeast Asia policy is built on our China policy," he said. "Whatever China says, is what our Southeast Asia policy is."

"The Chinese have always invaded the South. They try it regularly, and eventually the Southeast Asians drive them north again. Southeast Asians are steeped in the idea that they must defend themselves against the Chinese."

The bishop, who visited Southeast Asia as part of a Church World Service investigative team in the fall of 1982, spent some time in delineating the differences between various cultures and areas of Southeast Asia. He pointed out that South Vietnam is still a western country, with an active black market, while Hanoi is austere and puritan, with no black market because there are no goods to attract black market profiteering.

The present Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea (formerly Cambodia) is "a great drain on Vietnam," he said. However, if the Vietnamese pulled out of Kampuchea, undoubtedly the forces of the cruel Pol Pot would return to devastate the small country again as they did during the four years of their reign from 1975-1979.

"When we say we can't live with communism, and consider it as one monolithic whole, we're denying ourselves an opportunity," the bishop said in commenting on contacts he had made with Vietnamese officials. "Communist governments are not 'one big whole.' Some would like to have normal relations with us. We are cutting off our own best long-range interests by our policies."

Koreans repressed

Ms. Jones, a member of the Executive Committee of the North American

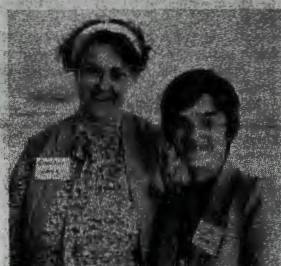
Coalition for Human Rights in Korea, outlined the prevailing conditions in many Third World countries supported by the U.S.:

- 1) rule by a small elite minority;
- 2) impoverishment, the gap between rich and poor growing;
- 3) dependence upon some other country, such as food, loans, oil, technology;
- 4) presence of multinational corporations, with large groups of young women employed but receiving less than two-thirds of subsistence level wages;
- 5) militarization of society;
- 6) an anti-communist world view;
- 7) pollution and destruction of the land, as a result of corporation practices or because the government is determined to maximize profits;
- 8) lack of basic human rights such as free speech, right of assembly, participatory elections, right to employment, right to raise one's own family with adequate health and housing;
- 9) use of imprisonment and torture.

Most of the first eight characteristics, Ms. Jones said, are true of Korea today, and the use of imprisonment and torture "has been the order of the day in Korea for the last twelve years."

She reminded hearers that despite thousands of American lives and hundreds of thousands of Korean lives lost during the Korean conflict, the line dividing North and South Korea remains the same. Many Korean families, including Christian ones, are still divided as a result of that war. "Everybody in Korea wants to see that land reunited. They think their problems are because of two superpowers (the U.S. and Russia)," she said.

In the face of the apparent insolvency



Eleanor Long (l.) of Morrisonville and Linda Jones, Chicago, renew an old acquaintance at the Human Rights Workshop Oct. 18.

of Korea's present difficulties, Ms. Jones suggested to workshop participants that "we can blame the world situation and say it's too big to get hold of — or we can start little by little hacking away at it and do what we can."

Unemployment in inverse ratio to education

Mr. Watkins in his workshop on unemployment touched upon the problems of persons he called "the hard core unemployed" — those who are culturally deprived or who have low levels of skills. "The percentage of unemployment goes up as you come down the education ladder," he said. "Most people that we feed aren't out of work because of Caterpillar; they are hard core unemployed."

Among reasons for unemployment, he said, are new technology, the maximization of profit by corporations and the moving of factories, and a decrease in government funding. "When government dollars are removed, jobs are lost," he said, especially among ethnic minorities who have traditionally found their best or only available jobs with government-connected or supported agencies and projects.

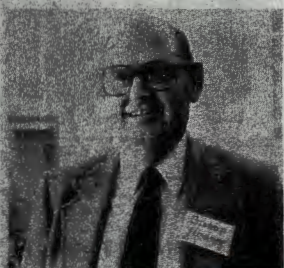
Church must educate for involvement

"What the local church should be doing about human rights" was the topic of Bishop Hodapp's concluding remarks to the entire group.

"To insist on human rights concerns in the local parish is very difficult," he told listeners. But he recommended a plan to educate local church members, based on

his experience as Program Director of the South Indiana Council on Ministries prior to his episcopal election in 1976.

"We instituted a Third World mission program," he said. "The whole idea initially was to bring someone from a



Bishop Leroy C. Hodapp, Springfield, chair of the UM general Board of Church and Society, shares his expertise on Southeast Asia with Human Rights Workshop participants.

Third World country to our conference Council staff to interpret the life of the church in his or her country. Sam Araya was the second of those who came.

"He arrived right during the upheaval in Chile; he was the only Chilean in this country who had been imprisoned in the stadium, a detention area for political prisoners. There were rumors of torture there, but he was the only person on the whole North American continent who knew from first-hand experience what was happening."

"When Sam got out into little country churches, we found that people began to become politically active, to write letters. He was obviously Christian. He had been there; he had suffered. He had a right to speak."

"They were willing to listen and to do something. Some people with little social conscience became incensed after a visit with Sam."

Most church people operate "on a very personal basis, not on great ideologies or abstractions," the bishop said. "We need to find 'everyday' Christian people from other lands and have them come and talk about what is happening in their countries."

"Somewhere in that idea is the clue to involvement."

Christians can educate themselves on human rights issues through contact with foreign students, and by the use of audiovisual materials, he suggested.

Without education of church members, said Bishop Hodapp, "our advocacy is totally useless. There is no use advocating unless someone is prepared to take action."

He acknowledged that local church members range from those who are in favor of involvement in human rights causes, or who are "kind of vaguely aware that there is an issue there but need education," to those who "really have no awareness that there are theological implications to human rights," or who are "openly opposed, and often violently, to church involvement in any issues that have social aspects." But, he said, "we must engage people at the level at which their understanding is. We must start where they are, and respect where they are."

Moreover, he said, "we're ultimately dependent on the clergy for education and consciousness-raising. Most people will never be challenged by this kind of meeting and its information unless the clergy do it. We'll never really affect our church apart from the conviction of the clergy on the subject."

During a dialogue period that followed, Bishop Hodapp gave an address for writing to President Reagan on human rights and other issues that is the best way to ensure the letter will at least be acknowledged: President Ronald Reagan, a/o Morton Blackwell, Special Assistant to the President for Public Liaison, 191 Old Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20006.

Letters sent directly to the president at the White House will probably not be acknowledged, and the writer will never know whether or not they were ever received or read by anyone, he said.

Preservation Copy

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

12/29/83

MEMO TO THE FILES

FROM: Joyce Thomann

The first page of the ltr to
Mr. Bloyd is representative
(identical) of all other letters
The second page of each letter
ONLY was copied for the purpose
of retaining the addressee.

The original in-coming corres.
was sent to Central Files along
with a copy of the Bloyd ltr
and second pages of the others.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 28, 1983

Dear Mr. Bloyd:

This is in response to your recent letter to the President regarding Nicaragua.

Unfortunately, the Sandinista government has broken the pledges of freedom and democracy it made in 1979 to the people of Nicaragua and to the Organization of American States. The nine members of the Sandinista Directorate are avowed Marxists who make no secret of their intention of forcing a Marxist-Leninist state on the people.

The Sandinista government has attacked and muzzled the Roman Catholic Church, confiscated the country's only synagogue and forced closure of any number of Protestant churches. Praiseworthy religious organizations such as the Salvation Army have been completely expelled from the country.

As you have seen recently in the news, the Sandinista government has forced thousands of Indians off their historic homelands and into what amount to concentration camps, from which thousands have fled under fire from aircraft and mortars to refuge in nearby Honduras.

The list of Sandinista abuses could be extended indefinitely: record numbers of political prisoners, grossly swollen armed forces, etc.

It is also important to note that the United States government has been the largest donor of economic aid to the Sandinista government. From July 1979 to April 1981, the United States authorized \$117.1 million in economic assistance to the Sandinista regime. (This compares with a total of \$30 million in military aid the United States gave the Somoza government during the period 1946 to 1979.) The cutoff finally came in compliance with U.S. law which states assistance must be stopped when it becomes clear that a recipient government is engaged in support of international terrorism.

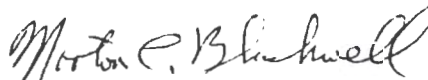
The Sandinista government is harboring and very effectively aiding in many ways the Marxist insurgents in El Salvador, who are primarily successful in attacking El Salvador's economic infrastructure: farms, businesses, electrical power systems, water distribution, roads, transportation systems, etc.

One reason why Marxist-Leninist governments for many years had such success enslaving new populations is that they were able to operate across international boundaries from the sanctuary of countries already under their control. Perhaps the most interesting international development of recent years is that, for the first time in generations, most of the major insurgencies in the world are against Marxist-Leninist governments, as in Afghanistan, Angola, and Nicaragua.

President Reagan has said that we have no obligation to protect the Sandinista government against its own people. I can assure you that the U.S. attitude toward it would improve if that government stopped supporting international terrorism, held free elections, and restored the religious, press, economic, travel and other freedoms now denied Nicaraguans.

Enclosed is some related information which may be of interest and use to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Morton C. Blackwell".

Morton C. Blackwell,
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

Enclosures

Mr. Kenny Bloyd
Rural Route #2
Canton, Illinois 61520

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Morton C. Blackwell,
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

Enclosures

Mr. Clyde Mosher
508 North Broadway
Lewistown, Illinois 61542

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Morton C. Blackwell,
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

Enclosures

Ms. Lynn C. Sifrit
120 North Third Avenue
Canton, Illinois 61520

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Sincerely,

Morton C. Blackwell,
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

Enclosures

Mr. S. Jay Curry,
Instructor - Sociology
SPOON RIVER COLLEGE
R.R. #1
Canton, Illinois 61520

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Sincerely,

Morton C. Blackwell,
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

Enclosures

Sister Jeanette Pitts
365 North Third Avenue
Canton, Illinois 61520

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Sincerely,

Morton C. Blackwell,
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

Enclosures

Mr. Rodney Orr
430 North Avenue F
Canton, Illinois 61520

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Morton C. Blackwell,
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

Enclosures

Ms. Sylvia A. Juraco
326 West Olive Street
Canton, Illinois 61520

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Sincerely,

Morton C. Blackwell,
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

Enclosures

Miss Janet Taylor
268 West Olive
Canton, Illinois 61520

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 5, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: FAITH WHITTLESEY

THROUGH: Jack Courtemanche

FROM: Morton C. Blackwell

SUBJECT: Regional Outreach Briefings on Central America

On Friday afternoon, December 2, I met with Otto Reich and others of his State Department colleagues regarding our planning for White House outreach briefings in selected major United States' cities. We left in agreement on the following points:

1. The State Department Public Affairs Office would arrange for co-sponsorship in each city. Co-sponsors would be groups such as the World Affairs Council, the Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis, Rotary, etc. The idea is to find sponsors that would not be identified with either end of the political spectrum but towards the center.
2. The invitations would be from the White House and, depending upon the speakers, would read something like: "The White House Office of Public Liaison, the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Department of Defense and the Agency for International Development, in cooperation with the Pittsburgh World Affairs Council and the Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce cordially invite you to attend a briefing on United States policy in Central America."
3. The list of invitees would be initially provided by the local sponsoring organization. The list would be submitted to the White House to make sure that the major opinion leaders in each locality are included. This would include the prominent educators, clergy, union leaders, business leaders, and local editors, publishers, and broadcasters. The idea here is for the invitation list to reach out beyond those normally invited to foreign policy briefings.

4. Target cities. We plan eventually to cover all twenty-four of the cities we have been discussing for some time, but we will start with one pair of cities. Either Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, or Cincinnati and St. Louis, depending upon the availability of appropriate sponsors.
5. Sponsors. For the first pair of cities, we will not shoot for "superstars" such as Secretary of State Shultz, or Secretary of Defense Weinberger, but will go for a reasonably balanced team of three sponsors, one each from the defense area, the diplomacy area and the development area.
6. Funding for the hall will be provided by the local sponsoring organization. Each agency will fund the travel expenses of its personnel. The invitations will be issued by the White House.
7. Scheduling. Otto Reich's office will coordinate this with the State Department Bureau of Public Affairs, in consultation with the White House Office of Public Liaison and other appropriate offices. It was agreed that we would not schedule any cities in the month immediately prior to each respective state's Presidential primary. The first pair of cities would be covered in mid-January, after which we would evaluate this pilot and make appropriate changes in procedures.

All in all, it was a very successful meeting. I expect that we will, by the end of next week, have obtained sponsors, sites, and speakers for the first two cities Outreach Briefing.

MCB:jet

cc: Outreach Working Group Members

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

A Q U E S T I O N N A I R E

Please take a few moments to complete this questionnaire and return it to: The Office of Public Liaison, Room #191-OEOB, The White House, Washington, D.C. 20500. Thank you.

-
1. How many Wednesday Central America briefings, approximately, have you attended?
 2. Please comment on the usefulness of the briefings you have attended.
 3. What topics would be of interest to you for future speakers to address?
 4. Who would be of particular interest to you as a speaker?
 5. Would you recommend changing the format of the briefings? If so, how?
 6. Have the materials which have been distributed to date been useful to you?
 7. What additional types of materials/information would be useful to you?
 8. Has your organization engaged in any outreach activities? For example: speakers/programs on Central America, op-ed pieces, newsletters, articles in publications of your organization, etc. Please specify.

9. As a part of the White House Outreach program, we have established a Central America Speakers Bureau. Have you/your organization already used our Central America Speakers Bureau?
10. Would your group need a speaker for one of its future meetings?
11. Are there groups you believe should be invited to the White House to receive a special briefing on Central America? If so, please identify.
12. Please use this space for any additional remarks/comments/suggestions you would like to make.

Thank you for your time and interest.

Optional: If you wish, please identify yourself and your organization.

Name: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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Name: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 28, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO: THE MEMBERS AND GUESTS OF THE WHITE HOUSE
OUTREACH WORKING GROUP ON CENTRAL AMERICA

FROM: Faith Ryan Whittlesey, *FRW*
Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

SUBJECT: Meetings for November

Following is a listing of our principal speakers and room locations for the Central American Outreach Meetings for the month of November. As usual, all meetings will begin at 2:30 p.m.:

November 2 - "Grenada"
The Honorable James Michel,
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State
for Inter-American Affairs
Room #450 - Old Executive Office Building

November 9 - "El Salvador as Seen by Its Youth"
Fernando Aceto
Ana Vicky Morales
Ana Berrios
Eduardo Torres
Bertha Van Ripper
Marisa Fortin
(NOTE: Only two of the above students
will be speaking after having returned
from a speaking tour of the United States)
Room #450 - Old Executive Office Building

November 16 - "The Situation in the Caribbean"
General John Vessey,
Chairman
Joint Chiefs of Staff
Room #450 - Old Executive Office Building

November 23 - CANCELLED (Due to Thanksgiving Holiday)

November 30 - "KGB Disinformation in the Media and Other
Soviet Active Measures"
Mr. Arnaud De Borchegrave, noted author/lecturer
Room #2008 - New Executive Office Building

If you have any questions, please contact: Mrs. Joyce
Thomann, Office of Public Liaison (202) 456-2657.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 14, 1983

not sent

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

FROM: FAITH RYAN WHITTLESEY
SUBJECT: Department of Defense Display of
Captured Documents and Weapons

I want to commend you for the Department's public display of captured documents and weapons at Andrews Air Force Base.

It occurs to me that this is a perfect opportunity to let the public know also of the other efforts that are being made in Central America and the Caribbean Basin countries. In that regard, I would like to suggest that, as a part of the public display, a small booth or table be established where already public U.S. Government information materials such as those attached could be made available to the general public. In that manner, we can begin to get some attention, not only to the recent rescue operation in Grenada, but also to the political and economic development efforts which this Administration has made as well as to some of the problems that still remain unresolved.

Attachments-7

ATTACHMENT LISTING:

1. White House Digests:
 - a. June 1, 1983 - Nicaragua's Sandinistas: Having It All Ways
 - b. July 6, 1983 - Soviet/Cuban Threat and Buildup In the Caribbean
 - c. July 13, 1983 - Central America: Facts Not Widely Known
 - d. Aug. 10, 1983 - Human Rights in Cuba
 - e. Aug. 24, 1983 - Nicaraguan Repression of Labor Unions
2. Joint Department of State/Department of Defense paper, May 27, 1983, "Background Paper: Central America"
3. Remarks of the President to a Joint Session of the Congress, April 27, 1983
4. Department of State Gist:
 - a. June 1983 Central America: US Policy
 - b. April 1983 El Salvador's Land Reform
 - c. May 1982 US Interests in the Caribbean Basin
 - d. Nov. 1982 El Salvador
 - e. July 1983 El Salvador: Certification Process
5. Department of State, Current Policy Issues:
 - a. #522 - Speech by President Reagan, "America's Commitment to Peace"
 - b. #518 "The Cuban Revolution and Its Impact On Human Rights"
 - c. #509 "Economic Growth and U.S. Policy in Central America"
 - d. #503 "Elections in El Salvador"
 - e. #502 "Comprehensive Strategy for Central America"
 - f. #499 "Saving Freedom in Central America"
 - g. #478 "Struggle for Democracy in Central America"
 - h. #477 "Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act"
 - i. #476 "Nicaragua: Threat to Peace in Central America"
 - j. #467 "Bilateral Assistance for Latin America and the Caribbean, FY 1984"
 - k. #464 "Strategic Importance of El Salvador and Central America"
 - l. #443 "Dealing with the Reality of Cuba"
 - m. #414 "Building the Peace in Central America"
 - n. #412 "U.S. Approach to Problems in the Caribbean Basin"
 - o. SR #103 - "Cuban Armed Forces and the Soviet Military Presence"
6. Department of State, "Atlas of the Caribbean Basin", September 1982
7. Agency for International Development paper, "U.S. Economic Aid to Latin America," November, 1983