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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 23, 1983

Ms. Becky Borders  
Executive Director  
Committee for Free and Open Elections  
Suite 515  
1500 Wilson Blvd.  
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Ms. Borders:

Thank you for your letter and enclosures.

Your letterhead reinforces the saying  
"politics makes strange bedfellows".

Best of luck in your worthy efforts.  
Let me know if I can be of any help.

Sincerely,



Morton C. Blackwell  
Special Assistant to the President

# COMMITTEE FOR FREE AND OPEN ELECTIONS

Suite 515, 1500 Wilson Boulevard  
Arlington, Virginia 22209



SENATOR EUGENE McCARTHY  
Chairman

STEWART RAWLINGS MOTT  
Secretary

JOHN T. DOLAN  
Treasurer

BECKY BORDERS  
Executive Director

(703) 522-2800

June 30, 1983

*Draft  
note of thanks*

Mr. Morton Blackwell  
Room 191  
Old Executive Office Building  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

It was a pleasure meeting you Tuesday evening at the NCPAC dinner.

The Committee for Free and Open Elections is actively working to defeat the "Clean Campaign Act of 1983", sponsored by Rep. David Obey in the Congress. We have incorporated a mixed bag of political groups to support us in our efforts.

I have enclosed a package of information concerning the Committee for Free and Open Elections.

Again, it was a pleasure meeting you.

Sincerely,

Becky Borders  
Executive Director

enclosures.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 19, 1983

Mrs. J. Warner Livingston  
522 Shell Point Village  
Ft. Myers, Fla. 33508

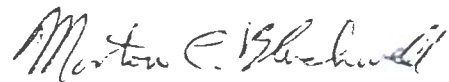
Dear Mrs. Livingston:

On behalf of the President, I am replying to your letter of June 14, 1983.

You are correct in your assertion that now is a time for action with respect to Central America. The countries in Central America must be trained and equipped to defend themselves militarily, and they must also be supported with economic and humanitarian assistance. This is the heart of the President's program, which he stated in his April 27, 1983 address to a joint session of Congress.

With the continued support of patriotic Americans like yourself, we can achieve a lasting solution in Central America. Thank you for your concern.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Morton C. Blackwell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "M" and "B".

Morton C. Blackwell  
Special Assistant to the President



ID # 145425

# WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

☐ O - OUTGOING☐ H - INTERNAL☒ I - INCOMINGDate Correspondence  
received (YY/MM/DD) 83106116NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: Mrs. J. Warner Livingston☒ PL Mail Report

User Codes: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT: Support of strong program in  
Central America

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)

Action  
CodeTracking  
Date  
YY/MM/DDType  
of  
Response

Code

Completion  
Date  
YY/MM/DDPL MORE

ORIGINATOR

DD 83106116PL VIPO

Referral Note:

R DD 83106116B 83107120PL BLAC

Referral Note:

R1 11 1

Referral Note:

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Referral Note:

## ACTION CODES:

A - Appropriate Action      I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary  
 C - Comment/Recommendation      R - Direct Reply w/Copy  
 D - Draft Response      S - For Signature  
 F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be      X - Interim Reply

## DISPOSITION CODES:

A - Answered  
 B - Non-Special Referral  
 C - Completed  
 S - Suspended

## FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

Type of Response = Initials of Signer  
 Code = "A"  
 Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

COMMENTS:

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter. Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOP). Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files. Refer questions about the Correspondence Tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590



JUN 16 1933

Mrs. J. Warner Livingston  
522 Shell Point Village  
Fort Myers, Florida 33908

June 14 '83  
FLAG DAY

Dear Mr President

I urge you to ignore the Moscow-inspired  
"peaceniks," and act now to stop the  
Russians. What ever became of the  
Monroe Doctrine? Why do we act like  
a boxer who got knocked down once  
(Vietnam) and is afraid to get up? The  
danger is NOW.

We must at least blockade Cuba - and  
if we won't stop Russia in Central America,  
get busy and put up defenses on our Mexican  
border to stop the hordes that will try to  
cross. There isn't too much time.

How come the Russians aren't afraid of us?  
Why don't we MOVE?

Sincerely  
J. Livingston

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 10, 1983

Ms. Carolyn Piper  
Public Affairs Office  
JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
Suite #2E-838, The Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Carolyn:

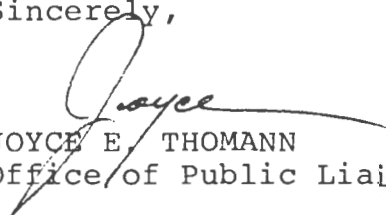
Enclosed is the letter of invitation to General Vessey which you and I discussed yesterday.

I apologize for not getting it to you this morning as I had hoped to be able to do. However, circumstances prevented my doing so. I hope this will not be too late to get to General Vessey for his decision.

If you would like any additional information, I will be happy to supply it. Please give me a call if you need anything else (456-2657).

Best regards.

Sincerely,



JOYCE E. THOMANN  
Office of Public Liaison

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON  
August 10, 1983

General John W. Vessey,  
Chairman  
JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
Suite #2E-857, The Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear General Vessey:

On behalf of Faith Ryan Whittlesey, Assistant to the President for Public Liaison, I would like to invite you to speak to the White House Outreach Working Group on Central America.

To aid you in understanding the purpose of the White House Outreach Working Group, I am enclosing a copy of an article which appeared in the Washington Post, June 17, 1983.

If your schedule permits, we would like for you to brief the group on Wednesday, September 7th, in the President's Briefing Room (Room #450, Old Executive Office Building). In order to accommodate your schedule, we propose to change the regularly scheduled time of the meeting from 2:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The format for our speakers is a presentation (either informally or from written notes). The meeting is then opened to questions from the group.

There is no press coverage of these meetings.

For your information, I am attaching a listing of groups which are represented at the majority of the meetings as well as a listing of previous speakers and their topics.

We hope your schedule will permit you to speak to the White House Outreach Working Group on Central America, Wednesday, September 7, 1983 beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Cordially,



MORTON C. BLACKWELL  
Special Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison

Enclosures a/s



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 9, 1983

Mr. Albert E. Strong, Director  
PROJECT HELPING HAND  
1377 "K" Street, N.W.  
Suite #78  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Strong:

Mrs. Faith Ryan Whittlesey asked me to let you know she was very pleased to hear from Steven Rhodes of your activities.

While private sector initiatives are generally handled by James K. Coyne, Special Assistant to the President for Private Sector Initiatives, Mrs. Whittlesey is particularly interested in your activities relating to refugees. The best estimates are that the United States would receive in excess of two million refugees if Marxist-Leninist regimes were established throughout Central America. This would place a crushing burden on government agencies, and private sector relief groups. We receive increasing indications of concern from the public regarding the refugee problem.

I would encourage you to communicate directly with Ambassador H. Eugene Douglas, United States Coordinator for Refugee Affairs, Suite #7526, Department of State, Washington, D.C. 20520. Ambassador Douglas is the most knowledgeable person in the country regarding refugee matters.

If there is anything specific which our office could do to help you, please let us know.

Cordially,



MORTON C. BLACKWELL  
Special Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison

cc: J. Steven Rhodes  
Assistant to the Vice President  
for Domestic Policy

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Iran

Refugees  
2 million  
10 million  
we get increasing  
indications  
of concern

Please staff  
their system  
to monitor  
for response  
Carolyn

cc: Faith Whittlesey



MAY 26 1983

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON

May 4, 1983

Mr. Albert E. Strong  
Director, Project Helping Hand  
1377 K Street, N.W.  
Suite 78  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Albert:

After reviewing your materials and discussing your program with members of my staff, I wanted you to know that I am forwarding a copy of your materials to Faith Ryan Whittlesey, who is Assistant to the President for Public Liaison. In her outreach to the public, Faith has an interest in a variety of public interest groups. Because of her efforts on behalf of the President, and because Tom Ellick and his people at the Fluor Corporation are very supportive of your organization, I would like for her to be aware of what you are doing.

Very truly yours

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "J. Steven Rhodes".

J. Steven Rhodes  
Assistant to the Vice President  
for Domestic Policy

P.S. I will also inform Dan Sullivan, Assistant to the Vice President for Scheduling, of your organization.





13 APR 1983

# Project Helping Hand

April 13, 1983

Chairman  
*Donald F. Sammis*  
Director  
*Albert E. Strong*

Mr. Steve Rhodes  
Office of the Vice President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Steve:

Currently, Project Helping Hand is extensively involved in several public/private partnership projects in California. As a result of this, we are privileged to have become familiar with examples of innovative programs that are meeting human needs in new and more effective ways. I thought I would take time out and write you about two exceptionally good programs Project Helping Hand is beginning to work with in Orange County.

## **Immigration and Refugee Planning Center Orange, California**

This organization was created as an innovative, private sector response to refugee resettlement and mainstreaming. It tackles head-on the issues of overload on public assistance, community tensions, and permanent job finding.

Project Helping Hand is especially interested in IRPC because the premise behind the entire operation is maximization of existing resources. IRPC is not a service provider in the narrow sense but a partnership builder between existing services in the community that are relevant to the problem. They are pioneering the facilitator role locally in Orange County in an exactly analogous way that Project Helping Hand is defining this new role nationally.

IRPC was created as a three-year Demonstration Project funded initially by Fluor Corporation which has continued to be one of the prime sponsors. Their first action was based on the realization that government agencies had been spending millions on refugees with little or no data. They therefore commissioned Data Marketing Institute to conduct an in depth opinion poll among the refugees themselves. This has resulted in a volume entitled "Capturing the Change" which discussed the findings of the polling. This book is now used in 28 states and three foreign countries.

Their second phase was to organize volunteer involvement from the community. The volunteers were then assigned to four Task Forces to address the major problems identified by DMI: 1) employment; 2) education; 3) welfare dependency; and 4) community tensions. Each committee has developed an action plan which is now being implemented.



Steve Rhodes  
April 13, 1983  
Page Two

Their third and current phase is employment of refugees. IRPC is a facilitator/catalyst who is 1) developing awareness among potential employers as to the advantages of hiring refugees; 2) helping employers solve the special problems associated with hiring cross-cultural employees; 3) identifying job training revenues and services and ensuring they have maximum impact on the refugee community.

Project Helping Hand is now in the discussion phase of planning a joint project with IRPC to help them document their methodology in a way that would allow their program to be replicated in other communities. One of our key missions is to take successful model programs and then develop learning/training technologies that allow others to implement that program elsewhere. Plus, due to our national scope, we possess the contacts and management capabilities to successfully establish a program in a new location.

To sum up, this program would be an attractive site for a visit for the following reasons:

- o Provides recognition of a partnership project that is private sector operated and funded.
- o Is solving a major public policy problem.
- o Provides a means of recognizing Fluor and other Orange County corporations.
- o Highlights the role of the facilitator.
- o Gives visibility to an important program struggling for funds.
- o Provides a "kick-off" for Project Helping Hand's involvement as a joint partner in replicating IRPC in other parts of the country.

#### **Christian Temporary Housing Facility Orange, California**

The Christian Temporary Housing Facility is pioneering a unique new approach to shelter for the homeless. This program provides a great example of a private sector response to some of the problems caused by the recession. CTHF combines the following features into one program.

##### **1. Family shelter**

Most shelters are segregated into male and female dormitories. Although this is appropriate for singles, it is inappropriate for families. CTHF is committed to helping families stay together.

Steve Rhodes  
April 13, 1983  
Page Three

2. Six to eight week duration of stay in shelter

Most shelters allow a maximum of a three day stay. The homeless are thus required to rotate from one shelter to the next. Because of CTHF's job-finding orientation (see below) the emphasis is on helping the "breadwinner" establish a base from which new employment can be found.

3. Job-Finding

As a condition of staying at CTHF, the main family job-holder (usually the male) must agree to an all-out search for a new job. Because of the extended stay allowed, he then has an address, a phone number, and assistance in transportation -- all practical but essential prerequisites to successfully finding work. CTHF job counselors assist every step of the way.

4. CTHF jobs during stay

To help foster self-sufficiency and to avoid idleness, CTHF provides clients with jobs within the facility which are paid. This helps reinforce the atmosphere of job orientation and moving away from dependency.

CTHF is an eight-year-old program. It is currently serving about 400 families per year. Although this is a significant number itself, in terms of the total needs of Orange County, not to mention the nation, it is small. There is a great need to expand this kind of service. CTHF is actively looking at ways to expand now. Project Helping Hand is working with CTHF to develop a joint venture in which this program would become an Orange County-wide public/private partnership project.

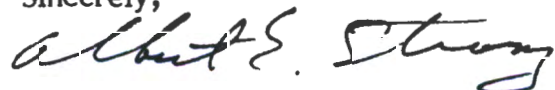
This program would be immensely benefited by the visibility and recognition that a visit by a major administration figure would bring. CTHF has an excellent support base of Orange County corporations and churches. It is family oriented, private sector based, and is helping to find jobs for the unemployed.

\* \* \* \* \*

Steve, if either or both of these programs are attractive enough to warrant the attention of the Vice President, please let me know. In either example I stand ready to ensure that any degree of involvement from key supporting Orange County individuals and organizations to these programs will be arranged. Just let me know if I can be of any further help.

Thanks for allowing me to share this information with you. I look forward to talking with you soon.

Sincerely,



Albert E. Strong  
President

13 APR 1983



# Project Helping Hand

April 13, 1983

Chairman  
*Donald F. Sammis*  
Director  
*Albert E. Strong*

Mr. Steve Rhodes  
Office of the Vice President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Steve:

I greatly appreciated the chance to meet with you. Your willingness to listen to some of my thoughts on the potential of private sector initiatives is a great encouragement to me.

Since we met I have been doing some thinking as to what are some of the most salient points I could glean from my experience in the field that might be of interest to you and the Vice President. The following are the fruits of that meditation in brief form.

## Observations Based on Field Interviews

1. The challenge to America to seek alternatives to government and to better utilize private sector resources is being heard and heeded. It is crucial that the challenge and the spotlighting of private sector initiatives continue.

New ideas, like seeds, must be planted and watered before they grow. It is crucial that the private sector initiatives theme continue to be enunciated so that the challenge is maintained. A great deal of fruit is just beginning to be borne due to the initial efforts.

2. There is not a "spending" gap with regard to welfare, there is an "effectiveness" gap.

From my interviews in the field I have found, contrary to much of the media's concerns, the actual poverty social workers widely recognize the ineffectiveness of past federal welfare spending. This Administration is on strong empirical grounds when it argues that the massive governmental approach to welfare has been a failure. The "gap" is not in terms of dollars. This is a shallow and simplistic way to view the problem. Private sector initiatives fit perfectly the reality of the 1980's and should be argued forcefully as a better way. There is no need to apologize for advocating these kinds of alternatives.

3. There is a great political opportunity in private sector initiatives.

My impressions from the field are that volunteers and professionals who are heavily involved in serving human needs are very pragmatic. They are not ideological as much as they are committed to serving their fellow man. What they are interested in is support and appreciation. I detect a real openness to the private sector initiatives theme. This Administration could use private sector initiatives as the vehicle to show it cares more about the poor, not less, because it is committed to finding new and better ways to help. Properly executed, this could be the greatest opportunity to make significant inroads into minority constituencies in a generation.

4. People tend to think that "private sector" means business only. This must be clarified and broadened.

At Project Helping Hand, we define the private sector as including not only business, but non-profit organizations, churches, volunteers and civic organizations. There is a growing consciousness among these entities as to their identifying with the private sector. We must emphasize the importance of all members of this sector. The huge and growing non-profit segment especially should be appealed to by this Administration. They are natural allies in the search for non-governmental solutions to society's problems.

5. Churches need to be exhorted and prodded to do more.

Churches and religious bodies of all kinds, but particularly white, Protestant, suburban churches need to be exhorted to do more. They are showing some promising signs of life, but if they were further challenged, I believe it would have a significant effect.

6. Recognize the need for and help explain the role of the "partnership facilitator."

The private sector can and will respond to community needs, but there must be a recognition of some initial problems that must be solved. Getting businesses, churches, and non-profits to work together is not easy. They speak different languages, have different priorities and are unfamiliar with one another. There is a "missing ingredient" in most cases, and that is the "partnership facilitator." To get the private sector to really produce results you need an entity, like Project Helping Hand, which plays a liaison role between potential partners, helps articulate a plan of action, negotiates respective contributions, and coordinates the project. There is a growing body of "facilitators" who are making private sector initiatives happen. They should be recognized and their role explained.



Possible Direct Actions to Enhance the Private Sector Initiatives Issue

1. Use the "Bully Pulpit" of the Presidency and Vice Presidency to Spur Action

The President and the Vice President, by virtue of their office, have a "pulpit." When they talk people listen. Use this opportunity to keep challenging, persuading, and teaching Americans to look beyond government for more creative solutions to community problems.

2. Visit Sites of Examples of Private Sector Initiatives

When there is an example of a true public/private partnership and initiative, the President or Vice President should visit it. Call attention to such examples and identify with them. People respond to models and recognition.

3. Take a Creative and Assertive View of Federal Human Service Spending

The vast federal budget provides a great opportunity to advance private sector initiatives if properly appreciated. Rather than continuing to support for years programs that become addicted to public funding, federal spending should be used much more sparingly and selectively. Project Helping Hand proposes the following guidelines for federal welfare spending which would vastly multiply its effectiveness.

1. See federal grants more as "seed money" than ongoing support.
2. Require matching private sector funds in almost all cases.
3. Funding to any one agency should not exceed three years of duration.

4. Expand and Strengthen the Office of Private Sector Initiatives

For the potential inherent in private sector initiatives the Office of the Special Assistant for this area is surprisingly limited in staffing and funding. Jay Moorhead and Michael Castine, and now James Coyne, have all been extremely dedicated and creative proponents of the President's vision. Yet they have little direct power or discretion to mobilize action or people. This office, properly funded and staffed, could be spearheading private sector partnership projects all over the country. The result would be much good being done and large amounts of political credit being gained for this Administration.

5. Mobilize Those Governors With Compatible Philosophies

Since New Federalism is a major theme of this Administration, it is only natural to see the governors and their respective states as extensions of this Administration in terms of fostering private sector initiatives. The Private Sector Initiatives Task Force made a little progress in encouraging

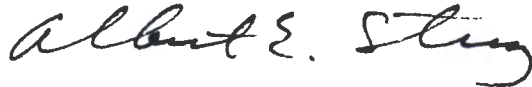
Steve Rhodes  
April 13, 1983  
Page Four

State Task Forces. Unfortunately, due to lack of continued effort, they have not really materialized into anything significant. There should be much more effort being put into a state by state effort to link the national rhetoric with local action.

I have tried to keep my comments as brief as possible. Naturally, there is more detail that could be added. If any of these points elicits further interest or clarification, I would be happy to discuss the subject further.

Again, Steve, thank you for your interest. I look forward to talking with you soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Albert E. Strong". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Albert E. Strong  
President

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 5, 1983

Ms. Cheryl Zeoli  
180 Prospect Street  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Dear Ms. Zeoli:

Mrs. Faith Ryan Whittlesey asked that I respond to your recent letter regarding United States policy in Central America.

Clearly we have a difference of opinion. You say you "reject the assumption that it is the right and duty of the U.S. to act forcibly because our security is threatened by movements of national liberation in Central America." I take it that your point is that you do not believe our security is threatened by the potential establishment of additional Marxist-Leninist totalitarian governments in that area, not that you dispute the right and duty of the United States to act when our security is threatened.

To aid you in understanding the President's policies for the region, I am enclosing copies of some White House Digests which contain information which may not have been available to you, as well as a copy of the President's speech to the Joint Session of Congress on April 27th.

Perhaps the most useful discussion we might have would be concerning your statement, "The empowering of totalitarian regimes by the U.S. threatens human interests in global peace, stability." As Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick has so often said, it is vital that we distinguish between authoritarian and totalitarian regimes. Neither is pleasant, but, in the hierarchy of evils, totalitarian regimes are significantly worse than authoritarian regimes. Right now, the Sandinista government of Nicaragua is systematically establishing a Marxist-Leninist totalitarian regime. Freedom of the press has been extinguished. The government is actively working to destabilize and overthrow the governments of several neighboring countries. Free labor unions have been suppressed and union members herded into the Sandinista labor confederations subservient to the government. Protestant churches have been harassed and preachers forced to flee the country. The Roman Catholic Archbishop has been forced to stop his customary broadcasts of religious services,

virtually all the Nicaraguan Jewish people have fled the country and the only synagogue in Managua has been taken over for a government-run youth center. There are many times the number of political prisoners than ever before in the country's history. Indigenous Indians have been forcibly removed from their homelands and are crowded into what amounts to concentration camps. The Sandinistas are currently setting up an official "block system" in which neighbors are spying on neighbors to report any lack of enthusiasm for the new regime.

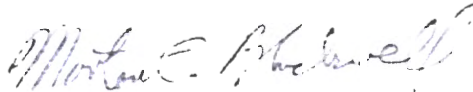
The previous regime was, no doubt, unsavory, but its transgressions of human rights pale by comparison to today's awful reality in Nicaragua. Revelations from the thousands of Nicaraguans who are fleeing their homeland bring new facts to light each day.

If communist regimes are set up in all the Central American countries, there will be an enormous flood of refugees to the United States. The best estimates are that roughly 10% of the population of the region, or two million refugees would quickly find their way to the United States.

The President's policies are designed to prevent the establishment by force of additional Marxist-Leninist regimes in Central America. We are working hard to foster free and democratic governments in the area. The vast majority of our assistance to the region is economic, not military, aid.

I hope these comments and the enclosed information will be of use to you.

Sincerely,



MORTON C. BLACKWELL  
Special Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison

MCB:jet

Enclosures a/s



18 June 1983

To: Faith Ryan Whittlesey, Director White House  
Office of Public Liaison, Central American  
Policy Outreach Group

I am deeply troubled by President Reagan's moral argument for U.S. direct action in the civil wars of El Salvador and Nicaragua. In the view of the President, failure to support through military means the government of El Salvador would allow the expansion of evil forces in the world - a moral failure for the United States. I reject the assumption that it is the right and duty of the U.S. to act forcibly because our security is threatened by movements of national liberation in Central America. (Movements which the Administration believes are controlled by Soviet forces.) The empowering of ~~totalitarian~~ regimes by the U.S. threatens human interests in global peace, stability. The President acts without moral authority as he seeks to preserve the forces of oppression in Central America.

Cheryl Zeoli

18 June 1983

To: Faith Ryan Whittlesey, Director White House  
Office of Public Liaison, Central American  
Policy Outreach Group

I am deeply troubled by President Reagan's moral argument for U.S. direct action in the civil wars of El Salvador and Nicaragua. In the view of the President, failure to support through military means the government of El Salvador would allow the expansion of evil forces in the world - a moral failure for the United States. I reject the assumption that it is the right and duty of the U.S. to act forcibly because our security is threatened by movements of national liberation in Central America. (Movements which the Administration believes are controlled by Soviet forces.)

The empowering of **totalitarian** regimes by the U.S. threatens human interests in global peace, stability. The President acts without moral authority as he seeks to preserve the forces of oppression in Central America.

Cheryl Zeoli

Staff to  
Morton  
Blackwell

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 29, 1983

Dear Congressman Siljander:

First, let me congratulate you on your recent engagement. Being able to share that news made it doubly delightful to have you participate in our White House Outreach Working Group on Central America, and I want to thank you for agreeing to participate in our outreach effort.

Your message to the assembled group was outstanding. Your clarion call to action and clear directions are precisely what we need to convey to the entire American population. It is my hope that through the efforts of our Outreach Working Group that we will be able to convey your message far and wide.

I am convinced, and the polls show, that when the American public is made aware of the true situation in Central America they, too, are supportive of the President's policies for that area.

Thank you too for your able handling of questions from the floor. As you could tell, there is a great interest and awareness among this group regarding Central America and they are very supportive of the President's policies.

Sincerely,

FAITH RYAN WHITTLESEY  
Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison

The Honorable Mark D. Siljander  
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Washington, D.C. 20515



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 29, 1983

Dear Congressman Weber:

Thank you so much for speaking to our White House Outreach Working Group on Central America. Your opening remarks about Minnesota having "less guerrillas, but probably as many Marxists" were priceless.

You certainly focused the attention of the audience on the main issue before us when you stated that "If we are going to win in Central America, we have to win in the Capitol -- and right now, we are losing the battle for Central America." Hopefully, with spokesmen as forthright and articulate as you coupled with our outreach efforts, we will be able to turn that situation around.

Thank you too for agreeing to take questions from the floor. I am sure you could sense the interest in what you had to say by the questions which were asked. Your willingness to speak out on the seriousness of the situation in Central America and your support of our outreach efforts are sincerely appreciated.

Sincerely,

FAITH RYAN WHITTLESEY  
Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison

The Honorable Vin Weber  
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Suite #318 - Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 29, 1983

Dear Tony:

Thank you so much for taking the time from your very hectic schedule to brief our White House Outreach Working Group on Central America. After having been up into the wee small hours of the morning to appear on Night Line, I am doubly grateful to you for the time which you so generously gave to us. I understand that you were terrific on Night Line, but knowing you, I wouldn't have expected less.

I appreciate your articulate summation and laying-out of the President's policies in Central America and I share with you your commitment when you said, "I am here to see the President's policy win."

Thank you again for your support of our outreach efforts on Central America.

Sincerely,

FAITH RYAN WHITTLESEY,  
Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison

P.S. It's great to have Doug here with us. I feel very comfortable with him on my staff.

Ambassador Langhorne Motley  
Assistant Secretary of State  
for Inter-American Affairs

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 29, 1983

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Thank you so much for being willing to speak to members of the Religious Broadcast community as a part of our White House Outreach Working Group on Central America program.

I am doubly indebted to you. First, for coming to us almost directly from your hospital bed, and secondly for giving the group what I have heard from my Assistant, Morton Blackwell, was such an outstanding presentation. I only regret that I was unable to hear your talk, but it certainly gave me great pleasure to be able to introduce you to the group.

Thank you too for agreeing to appear before our regular Outreach Working Group on Wednesday, August 3rd. I look forward to seeing you then and hope that your recovery continues speedily and steadily.

Sincerely,

FAITH RYAN WHITTLESEY  
Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison

The Honorable John F. Lehman  
Secretary of the Navy  
Department of the Navy  
Washington, D.C. 20350

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 29, 1983

Dear Congressman Hartnett:

Thank you so much for agreeing to address our White House Outreach Working Group on Central America.

I know everyone agreed with your statement that, "We intend to do something to keep Communism from spreading and if we don't have the will to do it here, we should retire from diplomacy."

From what you said, it is apparent to me that you will be one of the standard bearers in the fight to keep the whole of Central America free, self-governing and as economically viable partners in the free world.

Thank you too for taking questions from the floor. As you could tell, there is a great interest and awareness among this group regarding the very serious situation which we face in Central America and they are very supportive of the President's policies.

Sincerely,

FAITH RYAN WHITTLESEY  
Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison

The Honorable Thomas F. Hartnett  
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Suite #228 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 29, 1983

Dear Senor Maldonado:

Thank you for participating in our White House Outreach Working Group on Central America. I only wish that your stay in this country would have enabled you, and your colleagues, to be here for a longer period of time so that we could have scheduled your appearance for a day when our Agenda was not so full.

I regret that I was unable to stay to hear your remarks. However, my Assistant, Morton Blackwell, has told me of your outstanding presentation. I know everyone appreciated your saying that in your opinion and in the opinion of your fellow businessmen who were trying to keep El Salvador for Salvadorans that it was the training and assistance provided by the United States that was helping in that effort.

Your apparent commitment to the freedom of your country was so eloquent, I am told, and I want to thank you for sharing it with us.

Sincerely,

FAITH RYAN WHITTLESEY  
Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison

Senor Juan Vincente Maldonado  
Executive Director  
National Association for Private Enterprise

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 29, 1983

Mr. Keith L. Miceli  
Executive Vice President  
Association of American Chambers of Commerce  
in Latin America  
1615 H Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20026

Dear Keith:

Thank you so much for your kind letter of July 12th. As you know, we asked Senor Maldonado to participate in one of our Outreach Working Group programs.

I am so sorry that I was unable to stay for his presentation but my Assistant, Morton Blackwell, has told me how very interesting and informative it was. Additionally, as you may have heard, because of a very heavy schedule that day, I was not able to get to the briefing room in time to meet all the members of the Productive Alliance Delegation. Hopefully, I will have another opportunity to do so.

I sincerely appreciate the support which you have given to our Outreach effort and thank you for bringing Senor Maldonado to our attention.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

FAITH RYAN WHITTLESEY  
Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison

AACCLA

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE IN LATIN AMERICA

1615 H St. N.W. Washington, D.C. 20062 (202) 463-5485 COCUSA Telex: RCA 248302

July 12, 1983

President  
John T. Funke

Vice Presidents  
F. Bruce Cuthbertson  
Thomas L. Hughes  
Patrick N. Hughson  
Richard Johnson  
Alexander Perry, Jr.  
David A. Wicker

Treasurer  
J. F. Downey

Executive Vice President  
Keith L. Miceli

The Honorable Faith R. Whittlesey  
Assistant to the President for  
Public Liaison  
2/WW  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Faith:

As a member of the "Outreach" group, I want to commend you for your leadership in bringing about greater public awareness of events in the troubled Central American region. This important public diplomacy effort is absolutely necessary if we are to achieve the necessary domestic and Congressional support for the President's policies.

As you may know, my own organization has 21 American Chambers of Commerce throughout Latin America, including six in Central America. Consequently, we have an interest and stake in U.S. policy which protects and promotes U.S. national interests--economic, political and security.

With this in mind I want to bring your attention to the fact that a small delegation of Salvadoran business leaders who represent the Productive Alliance--a broadly based private sector organization--will be in Washington the week of July 25.

In view of the gravity of the situation in El Salvador and the key role that the private sector must play to bring about economic and political stability, it seems both timely and appropriate to have them address the Outreach group on current events in their troubled country. If you are agreeable, I will be happy to work out the details with your staff.

Sincerely,



Keith L. Miceli

Enclosure



# ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE IN LATIN AMERICA

1615 H St., N.W. / Washington, D.C. 20062 (202) 463-5485 COCUSA Telex: RCA 248302

President  
John T. Plunket

Vice Presidents  
R. Bruce Cuthbertson  
Thomas L. Hughes  
Patricia N. Hughson  
Richard Johnson  
Alexander Perry, Jr.  
David A. Wicker

Treasurer  
J.R. Downey

Executive Vice President  
Keith L. Michel

## PRODUCTIVE ALLIANCE DELEGATION

Miguel Angel Salaverria  
President  
Coffee Growers' Association -

Eduardo Funes Hartmann  
President -  
Manufactures' Association

Conrado Lopez Andeu  
President -  
Salvadoran Chamber of Commerce

Ricardo Siman  
Board Member -  
Salvadoran Chamber of Commerce

Juan Vicente Maldonado  
Executive Director -  
National Association for Private Enterprise

*Mal do na do*



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 21, 1983

Dear Dick:

Thank you for speaking to our Outreach Working Group on Central America. As you could tell from the questions and the audience's unwillingness to let you leave the room, your poll results generated a great deal of interest.

In my view, your polling has been very helpful because your questions framed the issues in terms which I am sure have never been used before. From the results of your poll, it seems clear to me that when the American public understands what is at stake, the majority of them come down on the side of the President's policies.

Thank you too for meeting with the smaller group prior to going into the field with your questions. That was extremely helpful to me.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

FAITH RYAN WHITTLESEY  
Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison

Dr. Richard Wirthlin  
Decision Making Information, Inc.  
6803 Poplar Place  
McLean, Virginia 22101

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 21, 1983

Mr. Clyde A. Wheeler, Jr.  
Vice President - Government Relations  
SUN COMPANY, INC.  
Suite #820  
1800 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Clyde:

Thank you for your very helpful letter of July 5th with suggestions for actions in support of the President's policy in Central America.

I am glad you were able to attend our briefing for business leaders on July 13th in the Indian Treaty Room.

We are already working on meetings with State Legislators. We are also targeting border states and community leaders in key media areas for special attention by White House briefings and by providing Administration speakers for key leader's meetings in these areas.

We are not now budgeted for "truth squads," but I understand that a coalition of conservatives, the Central American Freedom Alliance is, with Richard Viguerie's help, planning to fund a "flying truth squad."

Attached are copies of the four White House Digest papers which have been issued through our Outreach Working Group on Central America.

If there are any other topics which you think should be covered in this series, please let me know.

Again, thanks.

Cordially,

FAITH RYAN WHITTLESEY  
Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison

Enclosures

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 20, 1983

Dr. John Hutchinson  
Graduate School of Management  
University of California at Los Angeles  
Los Angeles, California 90024

Dear Mr. Hutchinson:

On behalf of Faith Ryan Whittlesey, I am answering your recent letter.

Thank you for your letter and enclosures. I am enclosing with this letter copies of the White House Digest, a publication of the Office of Public Liaison that deals with Central America. I hope that you will find them useful.

Thank you for your support and goodwill. Please let me know if we can help you in the future.

Sincerely,

  
Morton C. Blackwell  
Special Assistant to the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 14, 1983

Dr. George S. Benson  
President and Executive Director  
Harding University National Education Program  
Box 760  
Searcy, Arkansas 72143

Dear Dr. Benson:

This is in response to your recent letter to the President. You correctly point out the need to achieve the benefits of wide-spread land ownership and to avoid the deadening influence of socialism.

El Salvador is currently undergoing one of the most comprehensive agrarian reforms ever attempted in Latin America. Thus far, the program has benefitted nearly one half million peasants. This program continues, and at the end of this year, another 35,000 Salvadorans, including family members, are expected to hold land titles. The continued support of agrarian transformation by the Government of El Salvador is best evidenced by the Constituent Assembly's March 3, 1983 decision to extend all aspects of the "land-to-the-tiller" phase of the reform. The program is not without problems, but the AID officials monitoring the process tell us that the results to date are very encouraging.

Enclosed is a copy of a full report on the agrarian reform conducted by Checchi and Co., on contract to the Agency for International Development. I hope that you will find it useful and illuminating.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely,



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

Enclosure:

Agrarian Reform in El Salvador



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 14, 1983

Dr. George S. Benson  
President and Executive Director  
Harding University National Education Program  
Box 760  
Searcy, Arkansas 72143

Dear Dr. Benson:

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With cordial regards,

Sincerely,



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

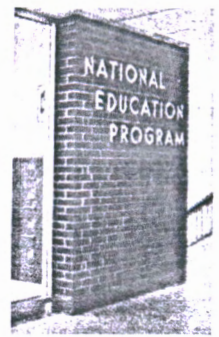
Enclosure:

Agrarian Reform in El Salvador

#145 7.26

the ational ducation rogram

Phones: 268-2420 or 268-6161, Ext. 233  
OFFICES: American Heritage Center  
Harding University, Box 760  
Searcy, Arkansas 72143



GEO. S. BENSON  
PRESIDENT AND  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

8318737

June 4, 1983

President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. President:

I keep listening to your appearances on TV, am amazed at your ability to use the English language and your remarkable skill in influencing people.

America has not had a man in the White House since Franklin D. Roosevelt that could charm people and command their support as you are able to do on TV. Please understand however, I do not liken you to Roosevelt in any other manner. He was promoting socialistic principles and started the movement that has done so much damage to our country over these 50 years. You, on the contrary, are presenting sound principles to try to turn the tides and restore the damage that has been done over these 50 years.

I admire you very much and hope you can get enough cooperation from Congress to get through enough of your program to save this nation.

The problem of El Salvador also is troubling me deeply. It is important to find a way to get a bigger percentage of the populous there on your side.

MacArthur captured the love of the Japanese people in a very short time. They came to admire him and to almost wholeheartedly support his recommended policies. At the time it seemed apparent to me that the stroke that turned the Japanese populous in his favor so quickly was his immediate demand that those big land estates be broken-up and the land divided among the people. I am wondering if it might be advisable with regard to El Salvador for our aid and everything we do for them to be conditioned on

the breaking-up of those farms and giving the farmers the land that they are farming. Of course, I know we are calling for human rights but I don't know whether human rights is understood to include this kind of move or not.

It was my privilege to learn in China and in Japan how much the people valued having a bit of land and how much they disliked the big land-holders.

The Communists, when they invaded China, promised the people that they would break-up those big land-holdings and distribute them to the people. Instead, they broke them up and the government kept all of the land.

I have also wondered if it would be advantageous every time an American official was killed down there to immediately send fighters to drop some bombs on known strongholds of the enemy and to let them know that that is what would happen anytime an American officer was killed or threats were made to kill them. Something needs to be done pretty quickly to turn the tide of that war if we are going to save El Salvador and prevent a domino effect following as countries to the North will naturally be attacked, one by one.

It may be that America's intentions are to insist on those big farms being broken up but I haven't heard it spelled out in specific terms; it could be done by putting our aid on condition that that be done and that wouldn't mean placing American forces in El Salvador in order to get it done.

There may be good reasons, Mr. President, why none of the things I have suggested would be wise to do. But after observing foreign affairs for sixty years I can't help dreaming a bit about what might be done in El Salvador.

Very respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Geo S Benson", written in a cursive style.

Geo. S. Benson, President

P.S. We are still distributing those excellent speeches of yours on "THE TRUTH ABOUT COMMUNISM" ; we still wish you could find time to do one more 30-min. section to bring them up-to-date. Is there any possibility?

GSB

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 27, 1983

Mr. Robert N. Pyle,  
President  
INDEPENDENT BAKERS ASSOCIATION  
Post Office Box 3731  
Washington, D.C. 20007

Dear Mr. Pyle:

Both Johathan Vipond and Mary Jo Jacobi have passed your letter regarding Mr. George Rosenthal on to me. For your information, I am enclosing a copy of my recent letter to Mr. Rosenthal as well as copies of the materials which I sent to him.

I also want to extend the invitation to attend the Wednesday meeting of the White House Outreach Working Group on Central America to you. If you are interested, please contact Joyce in my office, (456-2657).

Thank you for bringing Mr. Rosenthal's letter to our attention.

Sincerely,

*Morton C. Blackwell, by jet*

MORTON C. BLACKWELL,  
Special Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison

MCB:jet

Enclosures a/s



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 17, 1983

Mr. Richard Wirthlin  
DECISION MAKING INFORMATION, INC.  
6803 Poplar Place  
McLean, Virginia 22101

Dear Dick:

Faith asked that I write to confirm your conversation with her and express her appreciation for your willingness to speak on July 7, to our White House Outreach Working Group on Central America.

The meeting is at 2:30 p.m. in the Old Executive Office Building. Because the group is enlarging so rapidly, we will have to inform your office later as to the exact room.

The Working Group is comprised of government officials. On Wednesdays we meet with invited representatives of organizations concerned about the worsening situation in Central America and its potential impact on the security of the United States. Outside invitees are generally supportive of the Administration's policies in Central America.

The group has a great interest in polling data on Central America. They were quite disturbed with the "polling" published by the Washington Post on May 25, 1983, believing the questions were framed in a leading and unprofessional manner.

In addition to your polling data, they would be interested in your assessment of the questions used in the Post poll.

Cordially,



MORTON C. BLACKWELL  
Special Assistant to the President  
For Public Liaison

MCB:jet

cc: Faith Ryan Whittlesey

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 8, 1983

Mr. Victor Blanco, Chairman  
INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION  
2010 Wilshire Boulevard  
Los Angeles, California 90057

Dear Mr. Blanco:

Velma Montoya of the White House Office of Policy Development has told me of your interest in Central America and asked that I inform you of the White House Outreach Working Group on Central America which is chaired by Mrs. Faith Ryan Whittlesey, Assistant to the President for Public Liaison.

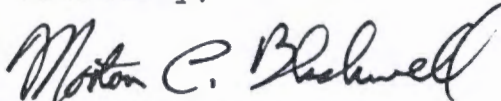
The White House Outreach Working Group on Central America meets regularly on Wednesdays at 2:30 p.m. in the Old Executive Office Building for the purpose of discussing the developing situation in Central America. The Working Group is comprised of government officials. On Wednesdays we invite to meet with us representatives of organizations concerned about the worsening situation in Central America, its potential impact on the security of the United States and the Administration's policies with regard to the entire Central American crisis.

For your information, I am enclosing some documents which have been developed by the Outreach Working Group as well as some documents which were presented at our meeting of this date by Ambassador-at-Large, H. Eugene Douglas and Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs, Richard McCormack.

We would be most pleased to have you at our meetings when it is possible for you. If you can attend, please call my office in advance so that your name can be placed on the White House clearance list. My number is (202) 456-2657.

If you cannot attend, but would like to receive materials generated/discussed by the Working Group, let me hear from you.

Cordially,



MORTON C. BLACKWELL,  
Special Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison