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**WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

DATE: 3/28/85 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 3:00 P.M. TODAY

SUBJECT: RADIO TALK: NICARAGUA  
(3/28 - 12:00 noon draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	McMANUS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
REGAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MURPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEAVER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OGLESBY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
STOCKMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUCHANAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPEAKES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CHEW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SVAHN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FIELDING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TUTTLE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FRIEDERSDORF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	VERSTANDIG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FULLER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WHITTLESEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HICKEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ELLIOTT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HICKS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SIMS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
KINGON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
McFARLANE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**REMARKS:**

Please provide any edits directly to Ben Elliott by 3:00 p.m. today, with an information copy to my office. Thank you.

**RESPONSE:**

*noted by KATK*

David L. Chew  
Staff Secretary  
Ext. 2702

(Elliott)  
March 28, 1985  
12:00 Noon

Received SS

PRESIDENTIAL RADIO TALK: NICARAGUA  
SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1985

1985 MAR 28 PM 12:20

My fellow Americans, before getting into my subject, I want to speak about some special Americans. Four years ago, a man tried to take my life, and I wouldn't be here today were it not for your prayers, the great skill of the medical team at George Washington Hospital, and the bravery of heroes like Special Agents Tim McCarthy, Jerry Parr, Police Officer Thomas Delahanty, and Al Antennuci.

They and you continue to be in my thoughts, as is the man by my side who was injured that day, my Press Secretary, Jim Brady. Nancy and I ask for your continued prayers and support for Jim and his family, and also for the family of Al Antennuci, the man who helped wrestle my assailant to the ground. Mr. Antunnici died last May. He was a proud American who never asked a thing of others, but who willingly risked his own life to save another.

Now, another subject. This week, the House joined the Senate in approving production of the M.X.-Peacekeeper missile, thereby sending the Soviets an important signal: America will modernize our strategic forces and stand united behind our negotiating team at the arms talks in Geneva.

By keeping our strategic deterrent strong, we can ensure those weapons are never used and meet a crucial challenge to our shared bipartisan responsibility of preserving the peace.

But now another challenge to that shared, bipartisan responsibility, and one every bit as historic and urgent as the

M.X.-Peacekeeper vote, must be squarely faced. It's a challenge that I and members of my Administration will be presenting to you with the utmost seriousness in the days ahead, for it goes to the heart of American security -- the security of our land and waters, and of our economy and people.

I am talking about the Soviet-Cuban-Nicaraguan plan to destroy the fragile flower of democracy and force communism upon our small Central American neighbors, a plan that would spread for the first time to our own borders, but on a much larger scale, the same spectre of economic and financial collapse, the same threat of political terrorism, the same floodtides of refugees we've seen follow every communist takeover from the Ukraine, to Eastern Europe, to Afghanistan, Vietnam, Cambodia, Ethiopia and now Central America.

A key Soviet objective has long been to turn Central America into a beachhead of aggression. By tying us down in this hemisphere, by disrupting our vital sea lanes and crippling our ability to meet our commitments worldwide, the Soviets will find it much easier to project their power, intimidate other nations, and expand their empire.

I know many well-intentioned people would rather not accept these facts. But we who have the responsibility for governing cannot afford to be ostriches with our heads in the sand. We cannot deny that Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko described the region on our doorstep as "boiling like a cauldron," and urged revolution; or deny that the Soviets turned Grenada into a warehouse of violence; or deny that, in the last 5 years, they

provided more military assistance to Cuba and Nicaragua than we did to all of Latin America; or deny the support and manpower Cuba and Nicaragua get from such peace lovers as East Germany, North Korea, Libya, the PLO and Iran; or deny that the communist dictators of Cuba and Nicaragua have not only been quoted repeatedly pledging a revolution without frontiers to transform Central America into one communist state, but have been caught, forgive me, red-handed, trying to do just that.

Right now, Havana and Managua are waging a campaign of disinformation to cover up their deeds and reassure the American people with soft, reassuring words of peace. There is one simple way to prove their true intent. Recently, the leaders of the pro-democracy movement exiled from Nicaragua met in San Jose, Costa Rica and made this offer: the freedom fighters in Nicaragua will lay down their arms if the communist regime will negotiate, permit free elections and a genuine democracy. The answer came back quick, loud, and clear -- forget it.

That is why U.S. support for the freedom fighters is morally just and vital to our security. But if we refuse even this small price to help others supporting our cause, if we pull the plug and allow the freedom fighters to be wiped out by the same helicopter gunships the Soviets are using to murder thousands of Afghans, then we will find the ultimate price to protect peace and our way of life will be dear indeed.

Nearly 24 years ago, President Kennedy warned against communist penetration in our hemisphere and said, "I want it clearly understood that this government will not hesitate in

meeting its primary obligations which are to the security of this Nation." And Congress passed legislation to this effect.

For my part, I want it clearly understood today that those who refuse to meet this obligation will be held fully accountable for the consequences, for we will have sent an unmistakable signal that the greatest power in the world is unwilling and incapable of stopping communist aggression in our own backyard.

Until next week, thanks for listening and God bless you.

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

March 29, 1985

3077585  
SP930-10

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT C. MCFARLANE

FROM: OLIVER L. NORTH  
RAYMOND F. BURGHARDT

SUBJECT: Presidential Radio Talk on March 30: Nicaragua

Attached at Tab I is a memo from Bob Kimmitt to Ben Elliott forwarding the NSC recommended changes to the draft Presidential Radio Talk on Nicaragua scheduled for March 30 (see changes pages 3 and 4).

RECOMMENDATION

That you authorize Bob Kimmitt to sign and forward the memo at Tab I with Tab A attached.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_

Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

1335  
3/29

*Bud's recommended changes have already been given to Chew.*

Attachment

- Tab I - Kimmitt Memo to Elliott
- Tab A - Draft Presidential Radio Talk on Nicaragua w/Chew Staffing Memo of March 29, 1985

## MEMORANDUM

## NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION

March 29, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT C. MCFARLANE

FROM: RAYMOND F. BURGHARDT

SUBJECT: Presidential Radio Talk on March 30: Nicaragua

Attached at Tab I is a memo from Bob Kimmitt to Ben Elliott for the NSC recommended changes to the draft presidential radio talk on Nicaragua schedule for March 30.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you authorize Bob Kimmitt to sign and forward the WH Staffing Memo at Tab I.

Karna Small concurs.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

## Attachments:

Tab I WH Staffing Memo w/speech

OBE

Bud and John  
provided comment  
(directly to Chew.  
(See attached 2<sup>30</sup> draft.)  
RMI

3/29



NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL



ACTION

March 28, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT M. KIMMITT

FROM: RAYMOND F. BURGHARDT *RF*

SUBJECT: President's March 30 Radio Talk

Ben Elliott's draft speech looks great. The outline of the speech was agreed to at one of the Buchanan group meetings on Tuesday. I have only made one editorial change on page 3, which I have already passed on to Ben.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign your memo to Ben Elliott at Tab I.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

*OBE*

*OUT OF TOWN* *KS* *OUT OF TOWN* *Unavail* *OUT TOWN* *OUT TOWN* *ID*  
North, Small, Matlock, Linhard, Fortier, Menges, Douglass,  
C. Lehman, Steiner, and Covey concur.  
*CL* *Unavail* *Unavail*

Attachments:

- Tab I Memo to Ben Elliott
- Tab A Proposed draft

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT

FROM: ROBERT KIMMITT

SUBJECT: Presidential Radio Talk on March 30: Nicaragua

Attached at Tab A are the NSC recommended changes to the subject draft.

Attachment

Tab A - Revised Draft Presidential Radio Talk on Nicaragua

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

2525

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT

FROM: ROBERT M. KIMMITT

SUBJECT: President's March 30 Radio Talk

The NSC staff concurs in your proposed draft, with the changes as indicated.

Attachment:

Tab A Proposed draft

NORTH Input 10:25 29 Mar 85

(Elliott)

March 28, 1985

12:00 Noon

Received SS

PRESIDENTIAL RADIO TALK: NICARAGUA

SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1985

1985 MAR 28 PM 12 20

My fellow Americans, before getting into my subject, I want to speak about some special Americans. Four years ago, a man tried to take my life, and I wouldn't be here today were it not for your prayers, the great skill of the medical team at George Washington Hospital, and the bravery of heroes like Special Agents Tim McCarthy, Jerry Parr, Police Officer Thomas Delahanty, and Al Antennuci.

They and you continue to be in my thoughts, as is the man by my side who was injured that day, my Press Secretary, Jim Brady. Nancy and I ask for your continued prayers and support for Jim and his family, and also for the family of Al Antennuci, the man who helped wrestle my assailant to the ground. Mr. Antunnici died last May. He was a proud American who never asked a thing of others, but who willingly risked his own life to save another.

Now, another subject. This week, the House joined the Senate in approving production of the M.X.-Peacekeeper missile, thereby sending the Soviets an important signal: America will improve deterrence by modernize our strategic forces ~~and stand~~ <sup>standing</sup> united behind our negotiating team at the arms talks in Geneva.

By keeping our strategic deterrent strong, we can ensure those weapons are never used and meet a crucial challenge to our shared bipartisan responsibility of preserving the peace.

But now another challenge to that shared, bipartisan responsibility, <sup>must be faced, and it is</sup> ~~and~~ one every bit as historic and urgent as the

M.X.-Peacekeeper vote, ~~must be squarely faced~~. It's a challenge that I and members of my Administration will be presenting to you with the utmost seriousness in the days ahead, for it goes to the heart of American security -- the security of our land, ~~and waters, and of our~~ economy and people.

I am talking about the Soviet-Cuban-Nicaraguan plan to destroy the fragile flower of democracy and force communism upon our ~~small~~ Central American neighbors, a plan that would spread ~~for the first time~~ <sup>tyranny</sup> to our own borders. ~~but on a much larger scale, the same spectre of economic and financial collapse, the same threat of political terrorism, the same floodtides of refugees we've seen follow every communist takeover from the Ukraine, to Eastern Europe, to Afghanistan, Vietnam, Cambodia, Ethiopia and now Central America.~~ <sup>It is a plan which presents the same</sup> ~~Ukraine, to~~ <sup>Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia</sup> Eastern Europe, to ~~Afghanistan, Vietnam, Cambodia,~~ Ethiopia and now Central America.

A key Soviet objective has long been to turn Central America into a beachhead of aggression. By tying us down in this hemisphere, by disrupting our vital sea lanes and crippling our ability to meet our commitments worldwide, the Soviets will find it much easier to project their power, intimidate other nations, and expand their empire.

I know many well-intentioned people would rather not accept these facts. But we who have the responsibility for governing cannot afford to be ostriches with our heads in the sand. <sup>and ignore the facts.</sup> We ~~cannot deny~~ <sup>know</sup> that Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko described the region on our doorstep as "boiling like a cauldron," and urged ~~revolution, or deny~~ <sup>we know</sup> that the Soviets turned Grenada into a warehouse of violence. ~~or deny~~ <sup>we know</sup> that, in the last 5 years, they

provided more military assistance to Cuba and Nicaragua than we did to all of Latin America; or deny the support and manpower ~~Cuba and Nicaragua get~~ from such peace lovers as East Germany, North Korea, Libya, the PLO and Iran; or deny that the communist dictators of Cuba and Nicaragua have not only been quoted repeatedly pledging ~~a revolution without frontiers~~ to transform Central America into one communist state, but have been caught, forgive me, red-handed, trying to do just that.

Right now, Havana and Managua are waging a campaign of disinformation to cover up their deeds and reassure the American people with soft, reassuring words of peace. There is one simple way to prove their true intent. Recently, the leaders of the

pro-democracy movement ~~exiled from Nicaragua~~ met in San Jose, Costa Rica and made this offer: the freedom fighters in Nicaragua will ~~lay down their arms~~ if the communist regime will negotiate, permit free elections and a genuine democracy. The answer came back quick, loud, and clear -- forget it.

~~That is why~~ U.S. support for the freedom fighters is morally just and vital to our security. ~~But if we refuse even this small price to help others supporting our cause,~~ if we pull the plug and allow the freedom fighters to be wiped out by the same helicopter gunships the Soviets are using to murder thousands of Afghans, then we will find the ultimate price to protect peace and our way of life will be dear indeed.

Nearly 24 years ago, President Kennedy warned against communist penetration in our hemisphere and said, "I want it clearly understood that this government will not hesitate in

*is a threat to our security*  
*We know that*  
*approach in yesterday's WSJ-- in how they use a Newspeak to confuse their adversaries*  
*The Soviets, Cuba, Bulgaria*  
*because*  
*There is a clear indication of their*  
*another*  
*On March 1, a group of exiled Nicaraguans*

*representing a broad*

*stop fighting*

*this just*

*right*

meeting its primary obligations which are to the security of this Nation." And Congress passed legislation to this effect.

For my part, I want it clearly understood today that those who refuse to meet this obligation will be held fully accountable for the consequences, for we will have sent an unmistakable signal that the greatest power in the world is unwilling and incapable of stopping communist aggression in our own backyard.

Until next week, thanks for listening and God bless you.

**URGENT**

**WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

85 MAR 29 12:32

DATE: 3/29/85 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 1:30 TODAY

SUBJECT: RADIO TALK: NICARAGUA  
(3/29 - 12:30 p.m. draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	McMANUS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
REGAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MURPHY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEAVER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	OGLESBY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
STOCKMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUCHANAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPEAKES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CHEW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SS SVAHN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FIELDING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TUTTLE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FRIEDERSDORF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	VERSTANDIG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FULLER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WHITTLESEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HICKEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>ELLIOTT</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HICKS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
KINGON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
McFARLANE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide any edits directly to Ben Elliott by 1:30 p.m. today, with an information copy to my office.

RESPONSE: NSC concurs with changes noted on pages 3 and 4.

Robert M. Kimmitt  
Executive Secretary

David L. Chew  
Staff Secretary  
Ext. 2702



(Elliott)  
March 29, 1985  
12:30 p.m.

Received SS

EOS MAR 29 PM 12:31

PRESIDENTIAL RADIO TALK: NICARAGUA  
SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1985

My fellow Americans, before getting into my subject, I want to speak about some special people. Four years ago, a man tried to take my life, and I wouldn't be here today were it not for your prayers, the great skill of the medical team at George Washington University Hospital, and the bravery of heroes like Special Agents Tim McCarthy, Jerry Parr, Police Officer Thomas Delahanty, and Al Antenucci.

They and you continue to be in my thoughts, as is another man who was injured that day, my Press Secretary, Jim Brady. Nancy and I ask for your continued prayers and support for Jim and his family, and also for the family of Al Antenucci, the man who helped wrestle my assailant to the ground. Mr. Antenucci died last May. He was a proud American who never asked a thing of others, but who willingly risked his own life to save another.

Now, another subject. This week, the House joined the Senate in approving production of the M.X.-Peacekeeper missile, and sent an important signal: America will improve deterrence by modernizing our strategic forces, and we will stand united behind our negotiating team at the arms talks in Geneva. And, by strengthening deterrence, we can ensure those weapons are never used and meet a crucial challenge to our shared bipartisan responsibility of preserving the peace.

But now another crucial challenge must be squarely faced. It's a challenge that I and members of my Administration will be

presenting to you with the utmost seriousness in the days ahead, for it goes to the heart of American security -- the security of our land, waters, economy, and people.

I am talking about the Soviet-Cuban-Nicaraguan plan to destroy the fragile flower of democracy and force communism upon our small Central American neighbors, a plan that would, for the first time, spread tyranny to our own borders, carrying the same spectre of economic chaos, the same threat of political terrorism, the same floodtides of refugees we've seen follow every communist takeover from Eastern Europe, to Afghanistan, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Ethiopia, and now Central America.

A key Soviet objective has long been to turn Central America into a beachhead of aggression. By tying us down in this hemisphere, by disrupting our vital sea lanes and crippling our ability to meet our commitments worldwide, the Soviets will find it much easier to project their power, to intimidate other nations, and to expand their empire.

I know many well-intentioned people would rather not accept these facts. But we who have the responsibility for governing cannot afford to be ostriches with our heads in the sand. We know that Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko described the region on our doorstep as "boiling like a cauldron," and urged revolution; we know that the Soviets turned Grenada into a warehouse of violence; we know that, in the last 5 years, they provided more military assistance to Cuba and Nicaragua than we did to all of Latin America; and we know the support Nicaragua gets from Cuba, Bulgaria, East Germany, North Korea, Libya, the PLO and Iran is a

threat to our security, because the communist dictators of Cuba and Nicaragua have not only pledged to transform all Central America into one communist state, they have been caught, forgive me, red-handed, trying to do just that.

Right now, Havana and Managua are waging a campaign of disinformation to cover up their deeds and reassure the American people with soft, reassuring words of peace. A secret Nicaraguan memo ~~leaked to~~ <sup>obtained by</sup> the Wall Street Journal revealed how the communists have used propaganda to smear their opponents, tighten censorship, and confuse the outside world.

There is another simple way to prove the regime's true intent. On March 1, exiled Nicaraguan leaders representing a broad pro-democracy movement met in San Jose, Costa Rica and made this offer: the freedom fighters in Nicaragua will agree to a cease fire if the communist regime will negotiate, permit free elections and a genuine democracy. The answer came back quick, loud, and clear -- forget it.

U.S. support for the freedom fighters is morally right and vital to our own security. If we refuse to help their just cause, if we pull the plug and allow the freedom fighters to be wiped out by the same helicopter gunships the Soviets are using to murder thousands of Afghans, then our ultimate price to protect peace, freedom, and our way of life will be dear, indeed.

Nearly 24 years ago, President Kennedy warning against communist penetration in our hemisphere said, "I want it clearly understood that this government will not hesitate in meeting its primary obligations which are to the security of our Nation."

For my part, I want it clearly understood today that ~~we~~<sup>those</sup> ~~we~~  
~~who~~ fail to meet this obligation, ~~history~~ will ~~hold us~~<sup>be held</sup> fully  
accountable for the consequences, for we will have sent an  
unmistakable signal that the greatest power in the world is  
unwilling and incapable of stopping communist aggression in our  
own backyard.

Until next week, thanks for listening and God bless you.

2528

Document No. \_\_\_\_\_

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM **URGENT**

DATE: 3/28/85 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 3:00 P.M. TODAY

SUBJECT: RADIO TALK: NICARAGUA  
(3/28 - 12:00 noon draft)

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REGAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MURPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEAVER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OGLESBY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
STOCKMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUCHANAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPEAKES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CHEW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SVAHN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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FULLER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WHITTLESEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HICKEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ELLIOTT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HICKS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SIMS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
KINGON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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**REMARKS:**

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**RESPONSE:**

David L. Chew  
Staff Secretary  
Ext. 2702

(Elliott)  
March 28, 1985  
12:00 Noon

Received SS

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SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1985

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provided more military assistance to Cuba and Nicaragua than we did to all of Latin America; or deny the support and manpower Cuba and Nicaragua get from such peace lovers as East Germany, North Korea, Libya, the PLO and Iran; or deny that the communist dictators of Cuba and Nicaragua have not only been quoted repeatedly pledging a revolution without frontiers to transform Central America into one communist state, but have been caught, forgive me, red-handed, trying to do just that.

Right now, Havana and Managua are waging a campaign of disinformation to cover up their deeds and reassure the American people with soft, reassuring words of peace. There is one simple

way to prove their true intent. *On March 3, 1984, a broad group of* ~~Recently, the leaders of the~~ *Nicaraguan*  
*democratic leaders* ~~pro-democracy movement~~ *exiled from Nicaragua* met in San Jose,

Costa Rica and made this offer: the freedom fighters in Nicaragua will *agree to a cease fire* ~~lay down their arms~~ if the communist regime will negotiate, permit free elections and a genuine democracy. The answer came back quick, loud, and clear -- forget it.

That is why U.S. support for the freedom fighters is morally just and vital to our security. *But* if we refuse even this small price to help others supporting *this (per karma)* our cause, if we pull the plug and allow the freedom fighters to be wiped out by the same helicopter gunships the Soviets are using to murder thousands of Afghans, then we will find the ultimate price to protect peace and our way of life will be dear indeed.

Nearly 24 years ago, President Kennedy warned against communist penetration in our hemisphere and said, "I want it clearly understood that this government will not hesitate in



meeting its primary obligations which are to the security of this Nation." And Congress passed legislation to this effect.

For my part, I want it clearly understood today that those who refuse to meet this obligation will be held fully accountable for the consequences, for we will have sent an unmistakable signal that the greatest power in the world is unwilling and incapable of stopping communist aggression in our own backyard.

Until next week, thanks for listening and God bless you.

**URGENT**

**WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

DATE: 3/29/85 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 1:30 TODAY

SUBJECT: RADIO TALK: NICARAGUA  
(3/29 - 12:30 p.m. draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	McMANUS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
REGAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MURPHY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEAVER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	OGLESBY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
STOCKMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUCHANAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPEAKES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CHEW	<input type="checkbox"/> P	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SS	SVAHN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FIELDING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TUTTLE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FRIEDERSDORF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	VERSTANDIG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FULLER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WHITTLESEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HICKEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>ELLIOTT</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HICKS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
KINGON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
McFARLANE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**REMARKS:**

Please provide any edits directly to Ben Elliott by 1:30 p.m. today, with an information copy to my office.

**RESPONSE:**

David L. Chew  
 Staff Secretary  
 Ext. 2702

(Elliott)  
March 29, 1985  
12:30 p.m.

Received SS

FBI MAR 29 PM 12:31

PRESIDENTIAL RADIO TALK: NICARAGUA  
SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1985

My fellow Americans, before getting into my subject, I want to speak about some special people. Four years ago, a man tried to take my life, and I wouldn't be here today were it not for your prayers, the great skill of the medical team at George Washington University Hospital, and the bravery of heroes like Special Agents Tim McCarthy, Jerry Parr, Police Officer Thomas Delahanty, and Al Antenucci.

They and you continue to be in my thoughts, as is another man who was injured that day, my Press Secretary, Jim Brady. Nancy and I ask for your continued prayers and support for Jim and his family, and also for the family of Al Antenucci, the man who helped wrestle my assailant to the ground. Mr. Antenucci died last May. He was a proud American who never asked a thing of others, but who willingly risked his own life to save another.

Now, another subject. This week, the House joined the Senate in approving production of the M.X.-Peacekeeper missile, and sent an important signal: America will improve deterrence by modernizing our strategic forces, and we will stand united behind our negotiating team at the arms talks in Geneva. And, by strengthening deterrence, we can ensure those weapons are never used and meet a crucial challenge to our shared bipartisan responsibility of preserving the peace.

But now another crucial challenge must be squarely faced. It's a challenge that I and members of my Administration will be

presenting to you with the utmost seriousness in the days ahead, for it goes to the heart of American security -- the security of our land, waters, economy, and people.

I am talking about the Soviet-Cuban-Nicaraguan plan to destroy the fragile flower of democracy and force communism upon our small Central American neighbors, a plan that would, for the first time, spread tyranny to our own borders, carrying the same spectre of economic chaos, the same threat of political terrorism, the same floodtides of refugees we've seen follow every communist takeover from Eastern Europe, to Afghanistan, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Ethiopia, and now Central America.

A key Soviet objective has long been to turn Central America into a beachhead of aggression. By tying us down in this hemisphere, by disrupting our vital sea lanes and crippling our ability to meet our commitments worldwide, the Soviets will find it much easier to project their power, to intimidate other nations, and to expand their empire.

I know many well-intentioned people would rather not accept these facts. But we who have the responsibility for governing cannot afford to be ostriches with our heads in the sand. We know that Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko described the region on our doorstep as "boiling like a cauldron," and urged revolution; we know that the Soviets turned Grenada into a warehouse of violence; we know that, in the last 5 years, they provided more military assistance to Cuba and Nicaragua than we did to all of Latin America; and we know the support Nicaragua gets from Cuba, Bulgaria, East Germany, North Korea, Libya, the PLO and Iran is a

threat to our security, because the communist dictators of Cuba and Nicaragua have not only pledged to transform all Central America into one communist state, they have been caught, forgive me, red-handed, trying to do just that.

Right now, Havana and Managua are waging a campaign of disinformation to cover up their deeds and reassure the American people with soft, reassuring words of peace. A secret Nicaraguan memo ~~leaked to~~ <sup>obtained by</sup> the Wall Street Journal revealed how the communists have used propaganda to smear their opponents, tighten censorship, and confuse the outside world.

There is another simple way to prove the regime's true intent. On March 1, exiled Nicaraguan leaders representing a broad pro-democracy movement met in San Jose, Costa Rica and made this offer: the freedom fighters in Nicaragua will agree to a cease fire if the communist regime will negotiate, permit free elections and a genuine democracy. The answer came back quick, loud, and clear -- forget it.

~~Although~~ <sup>While</sup> U.S. support for the freedom fighters is morally right and vital to our own security, if we refuse to help their just cause, if we pull the plug and allow the freedom fighters to be wiped out by the same helicopter gunships the Soviets are using to murder thousands of Afghans, then our ultimate price to protect peace, freedom, and our way of life will be dear, indeed.

Nearly 24 years ago, President Kennedy warning against communist penetration in our hemisphere said, "I want it clearly understood that this government will not hesitate in meeting its primary obligations which are to the security of our Nation."

there are those who refuse to listen. just two days ago a Senate Committee voted to penalize other countries who help the freedom fighters. what could make the Sunshiners and their Soviet mentors happier?

For my part, I want it clearly understood today that ~~if we~~ <sup>those</sup> fail to meet this obligation, ~~history will hold us~~ <sup>will be held</sup> fully accountable ~~for the consequences.~~ <sup>for</sup> we will have sent an unmistakable signal that the greatest power in the world is unwilling and incapable of stopping communist aggression in our own backyard.

Until next week, thanks for listening and God bless you.

— 7525

NSUs-

These orig  
notes need to be  
added to the file  
(Record file)

KMS  
4/2/85

②



National Security Council  
The White House

System # I

85 MAR 29 P 2: 30

Package # 2525

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Bob Pearson	<u>1</u>	<u>P</u>	
Bob Kimmitt	<u>2</u>	<u>K</u>	
John Poindexter			
Paul Thompson			
Wilma Hall			
Bud McFarlane			
Bob Kimmitt			
NSC Secretariat	<u>3</u>		<u>N</u>
Situation Room			

I = Information	A = Action	R = Retain	D = Dispatch	N = No further Action
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cc: VP Meese Baker Deaver Other \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS

Should be seen by: \_\_\_\_\_

(Date/Time)



Em

National Security Council  
The White House

RECEIVED

System # I

Package # 2525

05 MAR 28 P 4: 11

(114) 1672

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Bob Pearson	<u>1</u>	<u>P</u>	
Bob Kimmitt	<u>2</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	
John Poindexter	<u>3</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	
Paul Thompson	<u>4</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	
Wilma Hall	<u>5</u>		
Bud McFarlane	<u>6</u>		
Bob Kimmitt			
NSC Secretariat	<u>4</u>	<u>BK</u>	<u>N</u>
Situation Room			

I = Information	<u>A = Action</u>	R = Retain	D = Dispatch	N = No further Action
-----------------	-------------------	------------	--------------	-----------------------

cc: VP Meese Regan Deaver Other \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS Should be seen by: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date/Time)

*You may wish to review. Dp,*

CB

National Security Council  
The White House

System # I

Package # 2525

85 MAR 29 P 1: 27

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Bob Pearson	<u>1</u>	<u>P</u>	
Bob Kimmitt	<u>2</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u> </u>
John Poindexter	<u>3</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u> </u>
Paul Thompson			
Wilma Hall			
Bud McFarlane			
Bob Kimmitt		<u>[Signature]</u>	
NSC Secretariat	<u>4</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>N</u>
Situation Room			

I = Information    A = Action    R = Retain    D = Dispatch    N = No further Action

cc: VP Meese Baker Deaver Other \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS                      Should be seen by: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date/Time)

*Bud was provided an earlier draft 3/20.*

Rec'd  
3/28/85

NSC/S PROFILE

UNCLASSIFIED

ID 8502525

RECEIVED 28 MAR 85 13

TO MCFARLANE FROM CHEW, D

DOCDATE 28 MAR 85

KEYWORDS: NICARAGUA  
CHEW REFERRAL

MEDIA

**URGENT**

SUBJECT: PRES 30 MAR RADIO TALK / NICARAGUA

ACTION: MEMO KIMMITT TO ELLIOTT DUE: 28 MAR 85 STATUS S FILES WH

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

BURGHARDT

NORTH-OUT TOWN

MENGES -OUT TOWN  
'TIL 4/1

CANNISTRARO

P.3  
change  
SMALL concurs

DOUGLASS - concurs

PEARSON

MATLOCK - OUT OF  
TOWN 'til 4/1

LEHMAN, C concurs

KIMMITT

LINHARD

STEINER

CHILDRESS

FORTIER OUT of town

COVEY

RINGDAHL

COMMENTS \*\*\* EDITS REQUESTED BY 3:00 PM TODAY \*\*\*

REF# LOG NSCIFID ( HW )

ACTION OFFICER (S)	ASSIGNED	ACTION REQUIRED	DUE	COPIES TO
Kimmitt	X 3/28	For Signature	3/29	
	- 3/29	OBE per <del>Kim</del> Poindexter		
	C 3/29	OBE/Action completed per Kimmitt		

RB, ON, PK

DISPATCH \_\_\_\_\_ W/ATTCH FILE WH 100

RECEIVED 28 MAR 85 13

TO MCFARLANE

FROM CHEW, D

DOCDATE 28 MAR 85

BURGHARDT

28 MAR 85

CHEW, D

29 MAR 85

KEYWORDS: NICARAGUA

MEDIA

CHEW REFERRAL

SUBJECT: PRES 30 MAR RADIO TALK / NICARAGUA

ACTION: MEMO KIMMITT TO ELLIOTT

DUE: 28 MAR 85 STATUS C FILES WH

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

BURGHARDT

NORTH

MENGES

CANNISTRARO

SMALL

DOUGLASS

PEARSON

MATLOCK

LEHMAN, C

KIMMITT

LINHARD

STEINER

CHILDRESS

FORTIER

COVEY

RINGDAHL

COMMENTS \*\*\* COMMENTS DUE BY 1:30 TODAY \*\*\*

REF#

LOG

NSCIFID

( HW JF )

ACTION OFFICER (S) ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED DUE COPIES TO

*C 4/12 Rec'd Original Notes for file*

DISPATCH

W/ATTCH FILE

*WH JF*

## WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM



DATE: 3/28/85 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 3:00 P.M. TODAY

SUBJECT: RADIO TALK: NICARAGUA  
(3/28 - 12:00 noon draft)

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	McMANUS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
REGAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MURPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEAVER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OGLESBY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
STOCKMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUCHANAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPEAKES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CHEW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SVAHN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FIELDING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TUTTLE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FRIEDERSDORF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	VERSTANDIG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FULLER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WHITTLESEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HICKEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ELLIOTT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HICKS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SIMS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
KINGON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
McFARLANE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:  
 Please provide any edits directly to Ben Elliott by 3:00 p.m. today, with an information copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:  
*no comments*  
*JA*

David L. Chew  
 Staff Secretary  
 Ext. 2702

(Elliott)  
March 28, 1985  
12:00 Noon

Received SS

PRESIDENTIAL RADIO TALK: NICARAGUA  
SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1985

1985 MAR 28 PM 12:20

My fellow Americans, before getting into my subject, I want to speak about some special Americans. Four years ago, a man tried to take my life, and I wouldn't be here today were it not for your prayers, the great skill of the medical team at George Washington Hospital, and the bravery of heroes like Special Agents Tim McCarthy, Jerry Parr, Police Officer Thomas Delahanty, and Al Antennuci.

They and you continue to be in my thoughts, as is the man by my side who was injured that day, my Press Secretary, Jim Brady. Nancy and I ask for your continued prayers and support for Jim and his family, and also for the family of Al Antennuci, the man who helped wrestle my assailant to the ground. Mr. Antunnici died last May. He was a proud American who never asked a thing of others, but who willingly risked his own life to save another.

Now, another subject. This week, the House joined the Senate in approving production of the M.X.-Peacekeeper missile, thereby sending the Soviets an important signal: America will modernize our strategic forces and stand united behind our negotiating team at the arms talks in Geneva.

By keeping our strategic deterrent strong, we can ensure those weapons are never used and meet a crucial challenge to our shared bipartisan responsibility of preserving the peace.

But now another challenge to that shared, bipartisan responsibility, and one every bit as historic and urgent as the

M.X.-Peacekeeper vote, must be squarely faced. It's a challenge that I and members of my Administration will be presenting to you with the utmost seriousness in the days ahead, for it goes to the heart of American security -- the security of our land and waters, and of our economy and people.

I am talking about the Soviet-Cuban-Nicaraguan plan to destroy the fragile flower of democracy and force communism upon our small Central American neighbors, a plan that would spread for the first time to our own borders, but on a much larger scale, the same spectre of economic and financial collapse, the same threat of political terrorism, the same floodtides of refugees we've seen follow every communist takeover from the Ukraine, to Eastern Europe, to Afghanistan, Vietnam, Cambodia, Ethiopia and now Central America.

A key Soviet objective has long been to turn Central America into a beachhead of aggression. By tying us down in this hemisphere, by disrupting our vital sea lanes and crippling our ability to meet our commitments worldwide, the Soviets will find it much easier to project their power, intimidate other nations, and expand their empire.

I know many well-intentioned people would rather not accept these facts. But we who have the responsibility for governing cannot afford to be ostriches with our heads in the sand. We cannot deny that Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko described the region on our doorstep as "boiling like a cauldron," and urged revolution; or deny that the Soviets turned Grenada into a warehouse of violence; or deny that, in the last 5 years, they

provided more military assistance to Cuba and Nicaragua than we did to all of Latin America; or deny the support and manpower Cuba and Nicaragua get from such peace lovers as East Germany, North Korea, Libya, the PLO and Iran; or deny that the communist dictators of Cuba and Nicaragua have not only been quoted repeatedly pledging a revolution without frontiers to transform Central America into one communist state, but have been caught, forgive me, red-handed, trying to do just that.

Right now, Havana and Managua are waging a campaign of disinformation to cover up their deeds and reassure the American people with soft, reassuring words of peace. There is one simple way to prove their true intent. Recently, the leaders of the pro-democracy movement exiled from Nicaragua met in San Jose, Costa Rica and made this offer: the freedom fighters in Nicaragua will lay down their arms if the communist regime will negotiate, permit free elections and a genuine democracy. The answer came back quick, loud, and clear -- forget it.

That is why U.S. support for the freedom fighters is morally just and vital to our security. But if we refuse even this small price to help others supporting our cause, if we pull the plug and allow the freedom fighters to be wiped out by the same helicopter gunships the Soviets are using to murder thousands of Afghans, then we will find the ultimate price to protect peace and our way of life will be dear indeed.

Nearly 24 years ago, President Kennedy warned against communist penetration in our hemisphere and said, "I want it clearly understood that this government will not hesitate in



meeting its primary obligations which are to the security of this Nation." And Congress passed legislation to this effect.

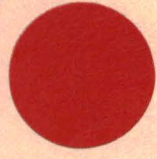
For my part, I want it clearly understood today that those who refuse to meet this obligation will be held fully accountable for the consequences, for we will have sent an unmistakable signal that the greatest power in the world is unwilling and incapable of stopping communist aggression in our own backyard.

Until next week, thanks for listening and God bless you.

*Sg*

ID # 307758 CU  
SP930-10

### WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET



- O - OUTGOING
  - H - INTERNAL
  - I - INCOMING
- Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD)   /  /

Name of Correspondent: Dave Chew

MI Mail Report      User Codes: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: Radio Talk - Nicaragua

#### ROUTE TO:

#### ACTION

#### DISPOSITION

Office/Agency	(Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>CUHOLL</u>		<u>ORIGINATOR</u>	<u>85103128</u>		<u>C</u>	<u>85103128</u>
<u>CUAT17</u>		<u>D</u>	<u>85103128</u>		<u>C</u>	<u>85103129</u>
<u>CUFIEL</u>		<u>R</u>	<u>85103129</u>	<u>FF</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>85103129</u>
			<u>  /  /  </u>			<u>  /  /  </u>
			<u>  /  /  </u>			<u>  /  /  </u>

- ACTION CODES:**
- A - Appropriate Action
  - C - Comment/Recommendation
  - D - Draft Response
  - F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure
  - I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
  - R - Direct Reply w/Copy
  - S - For Signature
  - 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, OEOB).  
 Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.  
 Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

# RECORDS MANAGEMENT ONLY

## CLASSIFICATION SECTION

No. of Additional Correspondents: \_\_\_\_\_ Media: 0 Individual Codes: 1110

Prime Subject Code: SP 930-10 Secondary Subject Codes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

Code	Date	Comment	Form
C	_____	Time: _____	P. _____
DSP	_____	Time: _____	Media: _____

### SIGNATURE CODES:

- CPn - Presidential Correspondence
  - n - 0 - Unknown
  - n - 1 - Ronald Wilson Reagan
  - n - 2 - Ronald Reagan
  - n - 3 - Ron
  - n - 4 - Dutch
  - n - 5 - Ron Reagan
  - n - 6 - Ronald
  - n - 7 - Ronnie

### CLn - First Lady's Correspondence

- n - 0 - Unknown
- n - 1 - Nancy Reagan
- n - 2 - Nancy
- n - 3 - Mrs. Ronald Reagan

### CBn - Presidential & First Lady's Correspondence

- n - 1 - Ronald Reagan - Nancy Reagan
- n - 2 - Ron - Nancy

### MEDIA CODES:

- B - Box/package
- C - Copy
- D - Official document
- G - Message
- H - Handcarried
- L - Letter
- M - Mailgram
- O - Memo
- P - Photo
- R - Report
- S - Sealed
- T - Telegram
- V - Telephone
- X - Miscellaneous
- Y - Study

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 29, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT  
AND DIRECTOR OF SPEECHWRITING

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING *Orig. signed by FFF*  
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Radio Talk: Nicaragua

We have reviewed the above-referenced draft Presidential radio address, and have no legal objections to it.

We note, however, that the language of the last paragraph of those remarks, which states, "I want it clearly understood today that those who refuse to meet this obligation [to defend the national security] will be held fully accountable for the consequences," may, in light of the recent MX debates, be viewed by some as "congress-bashing." Accordingly, we suggest that this language be specifically reviewed and approved by White House Legislative Affairs.

cc: David L. Chew

FFF:SMC:sc 3/29/85

cc: FFFielding<sup>v</sup>  
SMCooksey  
Subj.  
Chron.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 29, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

SHERRIE M. COOKSEY *SMC*

SUBJECT:

Presidential Radio Talk: Nicaragua

David Chew requested that we provide any comments or edits on the above-referenced draft Presidential remarks (which were received in my office at 2:30) directly to Ben Elliott by 3:00 p.m. today.

As we discussed, the last paragraph of these proposed remarks contains the statement, "I want it clearly understood today that those who refuse to meet this obligation [to defend the security of the Nation] will be held fully accountable for the consequences." Because concerns about "congress-bashing" and the meaning of "accountability" were raised during the recent MX debates, you felt it appropriate to recommend to Ben Elliott that the above-referenced sentence be carefully reviewed and approved by Legislative Affairs.

Attached for your review and signature is such a memorandum.

Attachment

## WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 3/28/85 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 3:00 P.M. TODAY

SUBJECT: RADIO TALK: NICARAGUA  
 (3/28 - 12:00 noon draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	McMANUS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
REGAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MURPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEAVER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OGLESBY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
STOCKMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUCHANAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPEAKES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CHEW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SVAHN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FIELDING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TUTTLE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FRIEDERSDORF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	VERSTANDIG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FULLER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WHITTLESEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HICKEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ELLIOTT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HICKS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SIMS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
KINGON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
McFARLANE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**REMARKS:**  
 Please provide any edits directly to Ben Elliott by 3:00 p.m. today, with an information copy to my office. Thank you.

**RESPONSE:**

1985 MAR 28 PM 12:40

David L. Chew  
 Staff Secretary  
 Ext. 2702

(Elliott)  
March 28, 1985  
12:00 Noon

Received SS

PRESIDENTIAL RADIO TALK: NICARAGUA  
SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1985

1985 MAR 28 PM 12:20

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They and you continue to be in my thoughts, as is the man by my side who was injured that day, my Press Secretary, Jim Brady. Nancy and I ask for your continued prayers and support for Jim and his family, and also for the family of Al Antennuci, the man who helped wrestle my assailant to the ground. Mr. Antunnici died last May. He was a proud American who never asked a thing of others, but who willingly risked his own life to save another.

Now, another subject. This week, the House joined the Senate in approving production of the M.X.-Peacekeeper missile, thereby sending the Soviets an important signal: America will modernize our strategic forces and stand united behind our negotiating team at the arms talks in Geneva.

By keeping our strategic deterrent strong, we can ensure those weapons are never used and meet a crucial challenge to our shared bipartisan responsibility of preserving the peace.

But now another challenge to that shared, bipartisan responsibility, and one every bit as historic and urgent as the

M.X.-Peacekeeper vote, must be squarely faced. It's a challenge that I and members of my Administration will be presenting to you with the utmost seriousness in the days ahead, for it goes to the heart of American security -- the security of our land and waters, and of our economy and people.

I am talking about the Soviet-Cuban-Nicaraguan plan to destroy the fragile flower of democracy and force communism upon our small Central American neighbors, a plan that would spread for the first time to our own borders, but on a much larger scale, the same spectre of economic and financial collapse, the same threat of political terrorism, the same floodtides of refugees we've seen follow every communist takeover from the Ukraine, to Eastern Europe, to Afghanistan, Vietnam, Cambodia, Ethiopia and now Central America.

A key Soviet objective has long been to turn Central America into a beachhead of aggression. By tying us down in this hemisphere, by disrupting our vital sea lanes and crippling our ability to meet our commitments worldwide, the Soviets will find it much easier to project their power, intimidate other nations, and expand their empire.

I know many well-intentioned people would rather not accept these facts. But we who have the responsibility for governing cannot afford to be ostriches with our heads in the sand. We cannot deny that Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko described the region on our doorstep as "boiling like a cauldron," and urged revolution; or deny that the Soviets turned Grenada into a warehouse of violence; or deny that, in the last 5 years, they



provided more military assistance to Cuba and Nicaragua than we did to all of Latin America; or deny the support and manpower Cuba and Nicaragua get from such peace lovers as East Germany, North Korea, Libya, the PLO and Iran; or deny that the communist dictators of Cuba and Nicaragua have not only been quoted repeatedly pledging a revolution without frontiers to transform Central America into one communist state, but have been caught, forgive me, red-handed, trying to do just that.

Right now, Havana and Managua are waging a campaign of disinformation to cover up their deeds and reassure the American people with soft, reassuring words of peace. There is one simple way to prove their true intent. Recently, the leaders of the pro-democracy movement exiled from Nicaragua met in San Jose, Costa Rica and made this offer: the freedom fighters in Nicaragua will lay down their arms if the communist regime will negotiate, permit free elections and a genuine democracy. The answer came back quick, loud, and clear -- forget it.

That is why U.S. support for the freedom fighters is morally just and vital to our security. But if we refuse even this small price to help others supporting our cause, if we pull the plug and allow the freedom fighters to be wiped out by the same helicopter gunships the Soviets are using to murder thousands of Afghans, then we will find the ultimate price to protect peace and our way of life will be dear indeed.

Nearly 24 years ago, President Kennedy warned against communist penetration in our hemisphere and said, "I want it clearly understood that this government will not hesitate in

meeting its primary obligations which are to the security of this Nation." And Congress passed legislation to this effect.

For my part, I want it clearly understood today that those who refuse to meet this obligation will be held fully accountable for the consequences, for we will have sent an unmistakable signal that the greatest power in the world is unwilling and incapable of stopping communist aggression in our own backyard.

Until next week, thanks for listening and God bless you.