

~~Confidential~~

notes on above El Salvador

In its first year, the Reagan Administration has drastically altered the direction of U.S. foreign policy toward Latin America to the point of sheer lunacy. President Reagan--with the aid of Secretary of State Alexander Haig-- have ~~x~~ formulated a "doctrine of sorts"--designed to end the spread of communism in Latin America--which requires the United States to support (economically and militarily) any government ~~XXX~~---so long as it is anti-communist.   
 that claims to be

I, too am concerned about the spread of communism ~~ix~~ in Latin America. However, I believe that the present policy of the Reagan Administration will, in fact, achieve exactly the opposite of what Mr. Reagan and Mr. Haig desire. Many of the people who live in ~~@~~ countries like, ~~x~~ El Salvador, Guatemala, Chile, Argentina and Nicaragua are victims of poverty, malnutrition, illiteracy and unemployment. ~~\*~~ Much of this strife is directly caused by governments that ~~the~~ the Reagan Administration is now so diligently supporting and aiding. My fear is that there will come a time when the peoples of these countries will revolt--as we are now seeing in El Salvador--against their respective countries and against the ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ principals of the United States---in favor of a communist alternative.

→ And who can blame them? In El Salvador, for example -

I do not buy the argument that ~~XXXX~~ right-wing repressive governments are somehow better than left-wing repressive governments. In fact, according to the State Department's annual human rights report, a number of communist countries have better human rights records than countries like South Africa, Argentina and Chile (countries ~~was~~ that the U.S. now supports). ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ WE should not ~~x~~ militarily prop up governments that are oppressing their peoples. The aid that should go to these countries should be in the form of food--so that the "people" will benefit. History should have shown us with the fates of Iran and Vietnam--that it is a futile and dangerous exercise to try to conduct foreign policy in the manner in which the President and Mr. Haig are advocating.

Our policy in Latin America should not consist of constant threats of military blockades and economic embargoes. To maintain such a policy is to, in effect, force ~~xxx~~ these countries to turn to the Soviet Union for aid. The Soviet Union would only be too happy to enlist new allies. Certainly, this is not in the best interests of the United States.

14 is Instead, the United States should pursue a foreign policy in which ~~we are~~ more selective as to who ~~is~~ supplies military aid. The U.S. should be more willing to---as in the case of El Salvador---serve as a mediating force in ~~xxxx~~ hopes of bringing about peaceful and fair settlements. I would like to think, that in the long run--the United States will prevail in international affairs---not as a result of military force---but because of the power of ideas..

Church efforts. should be applauded.

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## WHO MURDERED FOUR AMERICAN WOMEN IN EL SALVADOR

HON. JOE MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 1981

• Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, December 5 marked the first anniversary of the brutal murder of three nuns and a lay missionary in El Salvador. At the time, the Salvadoran Government claimed no responsibility for this inhumane act. Subsequent events, however, indicate that the Government did, in fact, share some of the responsibility. As we all found out last April, two Salvadoran National Guard soldiers, along with four others who were on patrol with them, murdered these four women.

What has the Salvadoran Government done to right this gross injustice? A special investigatory commission, headed by a Salvadoran army colonel, to look into the incident was formed and now appears to have been disbanded. Even President Jose Napoleon Duarte claims that any type of prosecution of those responsible is unlikely. In other words, nothing will happen.

And what of the actions on the part of the U.S. Government in regard to this matter? The sad truth is that we have done relatively little—save for a few symbolic and empty acts. The Reagan administration—it would appear—has chosen to ignore the murder of these four women and the murder of countless civilians in El Salvador. In fact, the administration has stepped up military aid to defend the Duarte military regime in order to preserve “self determination and freedom” in El Salvador.

Mr. Speaker, what a tragic deception this is. Duarte's brand of freedom means jail for anyone who has the audacity to tell the truth about what is going on in El Salvador. According to a recent report of the United Nations Human Rights Commission—an estimated 9,250 political murders were committed in the first 6 months of 1981.

The four women who were murdered in El Salvador were carrying out their religious convictions of aiding the poor and helpless. Let us remember them for their courage and determination in carrying the banner for social justice. And let us have the foresight and commonsense to not let their deaths have been in vain. •