
Central America

Summer timetable set for Moscow's plans

by Gretchen Small

An intelligence report, outlining details of a planned, all-out, Sandinista military offensive against rebel forces based along the Nicaraguan-Honduran border, was placed on President Reagan's desk upon his return from Europe, security sources in Washington report. The report specifies, that the Sandinista offensive is currently planned to start on, or about, June 15, and that East German and Soviet advisers are to play an active role in the Nicaraguan military's campaign.

Reportedly, two policy options to counter the Soviet escalation have been prepared for the President: one, for U.S. military forces to go in, guns blazing, in a preemptive strike against the Nicaraguan military; the other, for U.S. military forces to go in, guns blazing, *after* the rebel forces have been nearly destroyed.

Neither option threatens the Soviet estimation that the United States will react in a fixed, bull-headed, way to Soviet provocations. Unless those options for response are altered, Moscow is now confident of its July-August timetable for successful completion of its goal of removing U.S. military forces from Europe, and into a Western Hemisphere conflagration.

Mexican security sources report that 60,000 Nazi-Communist shocktroops, training under the National Action Party (PAN), have also been given June 15 as their target date to go into action, unleashing a wave of violence before Mexico's midterm elections on July 7. State Department officials working on Mexico say the Department is basing its Mexico operations on the expectation of civil war after the elections, including in its planning, consideration of possibly redeploying U.S. military forces from Europe to the Mexican border.

The networks of Henry Kissinger and his buddy George Shultz, backed by liberal monies flowing from the coffers of the Reverend Moon cult, are moving rapidly to lock the Reagan administration into this Soviet operation, as evidenced in the ravings displayed at the May 15 CSIS conference (see page 64).

A special 20-man team of Army officials, operating under the Readiness Command headed by Gen. Wallace Nutting, has been charged with drawing up U.S. army contingency plans for intervention into Central America, according to a May 4 *New York Times* report. Specified as the strategic underpinnings of the project is the idea that the main concern

of U.S. strategic interests lies in combat missions in the "Third World," and not in defending Europe—the advocated by Kissinger and the CSIS crew.

Embargo—part of set-up

President Reagan's announcement of a commercial embargo against Nicaragua on May 7 was a product of the Kissinger strategy, reversing the opportunity for securing momentum toward peace in the area, which had been opened by Reagan's own proposal for a rebel ceasefire inside Nicaragua, offered less than a month before. That Reagan initiative had been welcomed by the United States' Ibero-American allies. Members of the Contadora Group—a coordinating body for Ibero-American policy in Central America formed by Venezuela, Colombia, Mexico, and Panama—immediately urged both Nicaragua and the United States to press forward on direct peace discussions.

The embargo, signaling the start of escalated retaliation against Nicaragua, has met with universal condemnation from Brazil, to Peru,

American country but Pinochet's Chile supported a condemnation of the embargo at the May 13 meeting of the Latin American Economic System (SELA).

The atmosphere of confrontation following the embargo collapsed Contadora efforts to force Honduras and Nicaragua to reduce military actions against each other, leading instead to increasing crisis along their border. On May 10, the Honduran government declared an 150 km strip along the border an emergency zone, and declared its Security Council in permanent session until the crisis is resolved, following Sandinista incursions against rebel bases in Honduras. Negotiations between the United States and Honduras on drafting a Mutual Security Pact, which would specify U.S. military support in case of violations of Honduras's border integrity, have also been stepped up.

The Soviets are now positioning themselves to "mop up" in Ibero-America in the wake of a U.S. military intervention into Central America, and against Mexico. Anti-Americanism is already sweeping the region, in reaction to continued U.S. support for the destruction wreaked by the International Monetary Fund.

Nationalist defense of sovereignty in Ibero-America crosses all ideological barriers, as was seen in the fury produced by American support for British colonialism during the 1982 Malvinas War. The damage done to hemispheric relations by that violation of U.S. treaties with Ibero-America, has not yet been repaired; as the Soviets well know, U.S. military intervention into Central America, will rip up any remaining treaty commitments with the U.S. South American allies.

The warning delivered by Rockefeller's friend, Venezuelan businessman Gustavo Cisneros, last December, when he told the Spanish magazine *Cinco Días*, that if U.S. troops invade Nicaragua, "I will be the first to go out to burn the American flag," is merely indicative of planned Soviet actions.