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United States Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

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MEMORANDUM TO

May 12, 1990

MR. BRENT SCOWCROFT
National Security Affairs Advisor
The White House

MR. JOHN P. WALTERS
Chief of Staff and National Security Advisor
Office of National Drug Control Policy

✓ BRIG. GEN. THOMAS E. WHITE, JR.
Executive Assistant to the Chairman JCS
Joint Chiefs of Staff

COL. GEORGE P. COLE, JR.
Executive Secretary
Department of Defense

MR. ROBERT S. ROSS, JR.
Executive Assistant to the Attorney General
Department of Justice

MR. H. LAWRENCE SANDALL
Executive Secretary
Central Intelligence Agency

SUBJECT: PCC Meeting on Military Assistance and the Andean Strategy in Peru

Please transmit the attached summary of the Policy Coordinating Committee (PCC) meeting on military assistance and the Andean Strategy in Peru that took place May 2, 1990.

J. Stapleton Roy
J. Stapleton Roy
Executive Secretary

Attachment:
Summary of PCC Meeting with Interagency Distribution List

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Washington, D.C. 20520

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MEMORANDUM

May 2, 1990

TO: PCC Participants on Military Assistance and the Andean Strategy in Peru

FROM: ARA - Bernard Aronson, ^{ZA} PCC Chairman

SUBJECT: Summary of PCC on Military Assistance and the Andean Strategy in Peru

I. Introduction:

Assistant Secretary Aronson discussed his concerns about the public and congressional reaction to American forces training Peruvian battalions in counter-insurgency techniques. He believes we must manage military assistance in such a way that would allow us to sustain the President's policy outlined in NSD-18. NSD-18 makes human rights observance a major criterion in evaluating performance. We must be seen as strengthening a civilian democratic government and not strengthening the military at its expense. Unless we are careful how training of the Peruvian military is undertaken, congressional support could erode.

II. Battalion Training Site Status:

Lt. Gen. Thomas Kelly, Director of Operations, Joint Chiefs of Staff, briefed on the status of the battalion training sites. No decision had been made. Training for six battalions in basic infantry tactics is planned. It is estimated that as many as 190 U.S. military personnel could be required to build a new facility. It could also be built (less well, but cheaper) by civilian contractors. A new facility in the Upper Huallaga Valley (UHV) would take four to five months to build. The site evaluated is 10 kilometers from Santa Lucia. Other options would be to train the battalions at three existing sites (Mazamari, Iquitos, and Pucallpa). Gen. Thurman prefers Mazamari where existing police training takes place. Howard Hart of the CIA/CNC described the serious threat to Santa Lucia and advised against building the facility in the UHV.

INM Assistant Secretary Levitsky detailed both advantages and disadvantages to having the training facility in the UHV. Also those trained outside the UHV sometimes do not have operational responsibilities. In the UHV the battalions would be on the

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spot and thus ensure that the military was engaged in the drug war. The disadvantages would be the security threat against the U.S. military in the UHV. Gen. Kelly responded that more important than where the training occurs is the commitment of the Peruvian military to employ units in the UHV and to patrol the area in the immediate vicinity of Santa Lucia.

Regarding training in the U.S., Gen. Kelly indicated that it had been done with Salvadoran troops. There was discussion about the feasibility of training in the U.S. Although costs would be higher, it would be more effective. ARA DAS Skol noted there could be political resistance in Peru to training its military in the U.S.

No final decision has been made on where a battalion training site should be located.

III. Status of Congressional Consultations:

Assistant Secretary Aronson again noted that congressional support for U.S. anti-drug policy in Peru can evaporate quickly, especially if there are U.S. military casualties or human rights abuses committed by U.S.-trained troops. The human rights lobby is likely to focus more on Peru if we train there and may try to cut off U.S. aid. ONDCP Chief of Staff Walters added that the Administration has not been aggressive enough on the Hill in explaining what was planned and that we must very explicitly explain that interdicting cocaine in Peru entails helping the Peruvian Army against Sendero Luminoso in the UHV. Assistant Secretary Levitsky said that some congressional committees had been fully briefed on administration plans in Peru since last September. Other committees have now begun to focus on the problems in Peru. The Western Hemisphere Affairs Subcommittee will become more interested and should be kept informed of anti-narcotics efforts involving the military. Levitsky suggested that a high level official write an Op-Ed piece on the subject.

IV. Summary:

Assistant Secretary Aronson closed by emphasizing four issues that need to be kept in mind with regard to battalion training in Peru:

- 1) Security for U.S. personnel, both military and civilian.
- 2) Maintaining a strong separation between training and advising.
- 3) Integrating human rights into the training course.
- 4) Configuring the assistance in such a way as to strengthen civilian authority and to minimize an adverse impact on Peruvian internal politics.

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INTER-AGENCY DISTRIBUTION OF PCC MEETING REPORT

- Gen. Arnold Schlossberg, Jr., Under Secretary for Reserve
Affairs, Department of Defense
- Lt. Gen. Thomas Kelly, Director of Operations,
Joint Chiefs of Staff
- Mr. William Pryce, Special Advisor to the President for Latin
American and Caribbean Affairs, National Security Council
- Mr. Randy Beers, Director of International Programs,
National Security Council
- Mr. Don Johnson, Director of Latin American and Caribbean
Affairs, National Security Council
- Mr. John Walters, Chief of Staff,
Office of National Drug Control Policy
- Ms. Nancy Dorn, Deputy Assistant Secretary (OSD/IA),
Department of Defense
- Mr. David Westrate, Assistant Administrator of Operations,
Drug Enforcement Administration
- Mr. Howard Hart, Chief of Counterterrorism,
Central Intelligence Agency
- Mr. Charles Saphos, Chief of Narcotics Section,
Department of Justice

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