

Kissinger on Central America:

1. Keep Strong Military Stance

2. Help Region with Human Needs

Washington (NC) -- The Kissinger Commission on Central America has urged President Reagan to retain a strong U.S. military stance in the region, but not to rely solely on military solutions.

The commission report, issued Jan. 11, also urges the U.S. government to help the troubled region meet its human needs.

The report of the bipartisan commission supported the twin goals of "national security and human betterment."

The commission, chaired by former secretary of state, Henry A. Kissinger, was formed by President Reagan last July in the wake of growing opposition to the administration's Central American policy, particularly by church groups, including the U.S. Catholic bishops who criticized increasing U.S. military involvement in the region.

Archbishop James A. Hickey of Washington, speaking on behalf of the U.S. Catholic Conference, told the commission last October that the United States' first priority is to stop the drift toward war in the region.

The archbishop urged that the United States endorse the efforts of the Latin America Contadora group, stop supporting "contras," and show willingness to open serious diplomatic dialogue "designed to recast the U.S.-Nicaragua relationship."

"I find use of U.S. tax dollars for the purpose of covert destabilization of a recognized government to be unjustified and destructive of the very values that a democratic nation should support in the world," he said, adding that such actions seem to violate U.S. treaty pledges and commitments under the U.N. charter.

Archbishop Hickey said the United States should use its influence in El Salvador to bring about a cease-fire and negotiations "aimed at elections and stable government," and to bring about "the political, social and economic reconstruction of the country."

He said a regional political solution must be preceded by large-scale and lasting economic programs. Two Salvadoran prelates, Auxiliary Bishop Gregorio Rosa Chavez of San Salvador and Bishop Marco Rene Revelo of Santa Ana, also told the commission they back a political solution to the war in El Salvador.

The U.S. Catholic bishops, in a 1981 statement, urged political solutions to the region's problems rather than military force, particularly in El Salvador and Nicaragua, and since then church officials have repeated the stand.

Also in July, 50 Latin American bishops, meeting in Bogota, Colombia, asked "all foreign powers" to leave Central America and ignore requests for intervention.

The Kissinger report says that military aid to the Salvadoran government is necessary to eradicate Soviet-Cuban influence, and that aid to Nicaraguan insurgents is necessary to pressure the government in Nicaragua.

But the commission recommended that military aid to El Salvador be contingent on certification of human rights improvements, a position opposed by President Reagan, and left room for peace with Nicaragua within the framework of the promises made by the Nicaraguan government shortly after coming to power in 1979.

Kissinger and commission members Nicholas F. Brady and John Silber endorsed the certification recommendations as long as it doesn't lead to "a Marxist-Leninist victory."

The commission's two Hispanics, Mayor Henry G. Cisneros of San Antonio, Texas, and Cuban-born Carlos F. Diaz-Alejandro, an expert on Latin America, urged suspension of covert aid to Nicaraguan insurgents.

In comments published separately from the consensus report, Cisneros said negotiations should take place with moderate opposition factions within El Salvador, and the Sandinistas should be given the opportunity to make good on democratic initiatives they proposed in October.

Diaz-Alejandro said covert aid to insurgents worked against moderates in the Nicaraguan government.

The document makes passing reference to the Latin American Catholic bishops conferences in Medellin, Colombia, in 1968, and Puebla, Mexico, in 1979.

The report endorses Reagan's position that U.S. security interests could be affected if the United States removes its military force in the area.

It calls for increased military aid to El Salvador. The administration is expected to request an increase of \$100 million to \$140 million for El Salvador in January. Military aid to El Salvador is now set at \$64.8 million.

The Kissinger report also recommends a long-term program to deal with social, economic and other "human needs," including a five-year \$8 billion recovery aid plan to help people suffering from malnutrition, disease, illiteracy and lack of adequate housing.

It also calls for multilateral renegotiation of the foreign debts of the Central American nations and the revival of the defunct Central American Common Market, to raise productivity and living standards of people to keep them from turning to revolution because they have no stake in present systems.

The U.S. bishops, in their 1981 statement, also emphasized poor economic conditions as a key cause of the region's political violence.



Dance Fever

Allan Toth, Nancy Marchese, Ray Diehl (front row,) and Joe Marchese, Lynn Toth, Alana DeCarlo, Alberta DeMarco, Richard DiMarco, and Egia Diehl have coordinated the Aquinas Crystal Ball. The festivities will begin with cocktails at 7 p.m. followed by roast beef dinner, Saturday, Feb. 4 at the Diplomat Party House, 1956 Lyell Ave. Music for dancing will be by Jan Cursio Orchestra. Cost, including open bar is \$20 per person. For reservations (deadline Jan. 21) call Agnes Schiano 621-1878, or Egia/Ray Diehl, 266-5582.

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Family Campers Go Public In Bid to Purchase Facility

A number of laymen promoting Family Camp and family-style retreat and renewal programs in the diocese are attempting to purchase Kamp Koinonia, the Yates County facility now owned by the United Methodist Church.

The camp has been leased for the past six years by the diocesan Christian Family Renewal Program for family retreats and youth leadership institutes.

Since last summer, however, a number of Catholics in the movement have been negotiating purchase of the facility.

Already, according to Don Fisher of St. Paul's Parish in Webster, chairman of the effort, \$10,000 has been paid. An additional \$30,000 has to be paid by Feb. 1 as a down payment; and to raise that sum the group is publicly appealing to laity throughout the diocese.

Once the camp is purchased, a brochure states, it will be incorporated as a "private, non-profit, religious 'Center for Christian Family Renewal.'"

The purpose of such a center, the brochure states is to "provide a secure home for summer Family Camps; establish Kamp Koinonia as a base for the generation of year-round 'family-renewal' programming and activities; and offer a 'home-base' to other 'renewal' movements within the Church."

Christian Family Renewal is under diocesan egis, with Deacon Joseph Fox and Father David Mura as its directors.

The current effort, while approved by diocesan officials, is strictly a lay affair, Fisher said.

Once the camp is purchased (\$200,000), an additional \$400,000 will be needed to update the facility over the next five years, Family Camp literature states.

The group is looking to several sources for funds but is pinning its hopes on diocesan laymen. Both Fisher and Emery E. McIvor, a parishioner at St. Paul of the Cross in Honeoye Falls, said last week that they are looking for direct contributions, pledges, and offers of volunteer help from workers in the construction trades.

Fisher may be reached at (716) 872-3638; McIvor at (716) 624-4305.

Publications Win Laurels

The 1983 Cardinal Mooney publications received awards from The Empire State School Press Association. The school's newspaper, the Crest, with Mrs. Mary Ellen Melder as adviser and editors Barbara Beattie and Steven Turner, received a first place rating in the newspaper division. The Myriad, Miss Eileen Foley, adviser and Robert Cunico, editor, took a second place in the literary magazine category and Apogee '83, edited by Lisa Gangarosa and Amy Sommers with Sister Mary Eymard, adviser, merited a second place spot in the yearbook division.

Deadline

Parish correspondents are reminded that items for At Your Parish must be typed and in the Courier-Journal offices before noon on Thursday preceding Wednesday publication. The address is 114 S. Union St., Rochester, N.Y. 14607.

TV Technology Solves Problem

When WXXI Channel 21 decided to televise Christmas Midnight Mass, celebrated by Bishop Matthew H. Clark from Sacred Heart Cathedral, workers discovered that something was in the way of their reception of the TV signal. That something was the main building of Nazareth Academy on Lake Avenue.

According to school sources the main school sits

atop the highest point within the city of Rochester and blocks out any broadcast between Flower City Park, where the Cathedral is located, and the Channel 21

studios on State Street. The problem was solved when workers used Nazareth's roof to install a relay "dish." The signal was then relayed from Sacred Heart to Nazareth and then to State Street.

Transplant Symposium Scheduled March 19

The second annual medical-clergy symposium on transplantation is scheduled from 9:15 a.m. to noon, Monday, March 19, at Strong Memorial Hospital.

Co-sponsored by the Genesee Ecumenical Ministries and the National Kidney Foundation of Upstate New York, last year's symposium was attended by a

broad spectrum of ministers, priests and rabbis and was hailed as very helpful, according to Rev. Robert C. Newell, symposium chairman.

The symposium was followed by the observance of a "Gift of Life" observance in churches and synagogues.

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