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Boland says CIA manual shows intention to overthrow Sandinistas

By Robert Healy
Globe Staff

WASHINGTON – The chairman of the House intelligence committee said yesterday that the manual produced by the Central Intelligence Agency that instructs Nicaraguan rebels on mob violence and political assassination shows that the secret war in Nicaragua "is not directed against Sandinista arms shipments," but is an effort "to overthrow" the government in Nicaragua.

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Rep. Edward P. Boland (D-Mass.) said that, "like the mining of the Nicaraguan harbors, the manual was not disclosed to the committee until after the fact, and then only when the committee asked about it." Boland said he was sure that the intelligence committee would have advised the CIA against the production of the manual.

"Like the mining, the manual is a disaster for United States foreign policy," Boland wrote in a letter to Rep. Thomas J. Downey (D-N.Y.) who first brought the manual to the attention of the intelligence committee.

[The Associated Press reported that Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.), vice chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, yesterday demanded an explanation from the CIA about the manual by tomorrow.]

The White House had nothing to add to the revelation about the 44-page pamphlet. The White House spokesman, Larry Speakes, said, "We don't customarily comment on the allegations involving intelligence or covert activities."

Downey had called for a congressional investigation of the production of the manual that says some officials of Nicaraguan leftist government can "be neutralized" with the "selective use of violence." The book also urged the hiring of professional criminals for "selective jobs" and coercing Nicaraguans into carrying out assignments against their will.

Boland said, "The document is a primer on guerrilla warfare. It was prepared by the CIA and provided to the contras in 1983."

Boland said the committee was investigating why the CIA produced and distributed it.

"I believe three things are clear so far from what the committee has learned," Boland said. "First, the document should never have been produced by any element of the United States government. It espouses the doctrine of Lenin, not Jefferson. It embraces the communist tactics the United States is pledged to defeat throughout the world. Its emphasis on deceiving the populace makes a mockery of American championship of democratic values."

Meanwhile, Rep. James M. Shannon (D-Mass.), who yesterday returned to Washington from the meetings of government leaders and guerrillas in El Salvador, called on President Ronald Reagan to repudiate the manual and dismiss William J. Casey as director of Central Intelligence.

Shannon said the instructions of "acts of terrorism" should have no place in our government and the production of the manual was "inconsistent" with the history and values of our people.

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