


**EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
ROUTING SLIP**

TO:		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		✓	17 NOV 1983	<i>[Signature]</i>
2	DDCI		✓		
3	EXDIR				
4	D/ICS				
5	DDI		✓		
6	DDA				
7	DDO		✓		
8	DDS&T				
9	Chm/NIC				
10	GC				
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/EEO				
14	D/Pers				
15	D/OLL				
16	C/PAO				
17	SA/IA				
18	AO/DCI				
19	C/IPD/OIS				
20	<i>Nio/LA</i>		✓		
21					
22					
SUSPENSE		_____ Date			

Remarks


 Executive Secretary
11/16/83
 Date



UNITED STATES COORDINATOR
FOR REFUGEE AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20520

83-5546

November 15, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. ROBERT KIMMITT
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

MR. CHARLES HILL
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MR. GERALD PAGANO
AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MR. THOMAS B. CORMACK
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COLONEL JOHN STANFORD
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

FROM : Ambassador H. Eugene Douglas

SUBJECT: Establishment of Inter-Agency Group on Assistance to
Refugees and Displaced Persons in Central America

Improved Coordination for Humanitarian Aid Is Needed.

There are nearly 200,000 refugees now in Central America (defined as persons outside their own country). There are also several times that number of persons displaced by armed conflict and civil strife within their own countries.

Better coordination and information-sharing is needed to ensure that our resources are used most efficiently and serve U.S. policy objectives effectively. Although the needs of refugees and displaced persons in Central America are closely related, the assistance programs of them often come from different sources in our Government and through different organizations in the field.

Accordingly, under the authority of NSDD-93, I have decided to form an Inter-Agency Group on Assistance to Refugees and Displaced Persons in Central America.

What the Working Group Will Do.

The Inter-Agency Group will coordinate activities and exchange information on development and program requirements in Central America. The Group's primary functions are as follows:



L-117
NSDD 93

-2-

1. Review humanitarian needs in Central America and responses by agencies to such needs.
2. Coordinate Inter-Agency decisions on humanitarian assistance at the Washington level for dissemination to individual missions by appropriate agencies.
3. Share information on Congressional activities and implications for humanitarian assistance.
4. Formulate common strategies for working with and through international organizations.
5. Develop coordinated responses to emergency situations.
6. Discuss means of promoting public/international awareness of U.S. humanitarian assistance programs in Central America.

How the Working Group Will Operate.

The Inter-Agency Group will include participants at the Deputy Assistant Secretary level. It will be chaired by the Bureau for Refugee Programs, Department of State, with active participation from AID, Department of Defense, and the NSC. Other Departments and agencies will also be requested to participate, as appropriate.

The Inter-Agency Group will have a sub-group on Displaced Persons, which will be chaired by a senior official designated by AID.

Interaction between the working group and missions in the field would be governed by the normal procedures of the functional and geographic offices of both State and USAID.

The Inter-Agency Group will report to the Chairman of the Senior Interagency Group (SIG/RP) on a periodic basis.