

UNCLASSIFIED

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9 March 1983

Democratization Trends in Latin America (see attached table)

The trend toward democratic government in Latin America continues. Among the 32 independent states of Latin America, 17 are democratic and 6 others, including Brazil and Argentina, have begun a process to achieve full democratic government. Taken together, these 23 countries account for 268 million citizens, or nearly 71 percent of Latin America's population of 376 million. Since 1978 alone, 5 countries have made a peaceful transition from military regimes to elected democratic governments.

NIO/LA  
9 March 1983FORMS OF GOVERNMENT IN LATIN AMERICA

<u>Region</u>	<u>Democratic Rule (17)</u>	<u>Elections</u>		<u>Has Initiated a Process for Transition to Demo- cratic Government (6)</u>	<u>Elections</u>		<u>Authoritarian/One Party Rule (9)</u>	<u>Elections</u>	
		<u>Most Recent</u>	<u>Scheduled or Target</u>		<u>Most Recent</u>	<u>Scheduled or Target</u>		<u>Most Recent</u>	<u>Scheduled or Target</u>
		Central America	Belize Costa Rica *Honduras		Nov 79 Feb 82 Nov 81	84 86 85		El Salvador Panama Guatemala <sup>2</sup>	Mar 82 Oct 78 Mar 82
Caribbean	Antigua & Barbuda Bahamas Barbados Dominica *Dominican Republic Jamaica St. Lucia St. Vincent & the Grenadines Trinidad & Tobago	Apr 80 Jun 82 Jun 81 Jul 80 May 82 Oct 80 May 82 Dec 79 Nov 81	Jul 85 87 86 Jun 85 86 Oct 85 Aug 87 Mar 85 Nov 86				Cuba Grenada Guyana Haiti Suriname	Nov 81 Dec 76 Dec 80 Feb 79 Oct 77	86 85 83
South America	*Bolivia <sup>1</sup> Colombia *Ecuador *Peru Venezuela	Jun 80 May 82 Apr 79 May 80 Dec 78	86 May 86 Jan 84 May 85 Dec 83	Argentina Brazil <sup>3</sup> Uruguay <sup>4</sup>	73 Nov 82 71	Oct 83 Jan 85 Nov 84	Chile <sup>5</sup> Paraguay	70 Feb 83	88 Feb 88
	Total Population	94 million		Total Population	174 million		Total Population	108 million	

\* have become democracies since 1978

1 military government did not turn over control to civilians until 10 October 1982

2 Constituent Assembly elections are proposed for early 1984

3 elections for most offices held in November 1982; president to be elected indirectly in 1985

4 national elections and a plebescite on constitution are scheduled for November 1984

5 although democratic national elections are scheduled, the actions of the government to date raise questions (for NIO/LA) about its willingness to permit genuine, open competition

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CARIBBEAN BASIN: POPULATION AND COUNTRY STATISTICS

<u>Country or Region</u>	<u>Population (millions)</u>	
Mexico	73.8	
Central America (6)	20.8	
Guatemala	7.2	
El Salvador	5.0	
Honduras	3.7	
Nicaragua	2.5	
Costa Rica	2.3	
Belize	.1	
Panama	2	
Caribbean (14 independent countries and 11 dependent entities)	28.61	
Cuba	9.9	
Haiti	6.05	
Dominican Republic	6.01	
Jamaica	2.2	
Trinidad & Tobago	1.1	
Guyana	.9	
Suriname	.35	
Barbados	.25	
Bahamas	.24	
St. Lucia	.12	
St. Vincent	.12	
Grenada	.11	
Dominica	.08	
Antigua	.08	
Dependent Entities	1.1	
South America (10)	252	
Brazil	127.7	
Argentina	28.6	
Colombia	27.0	
Peru	18.6	
Venezuela	18.4	
Chile	11.3	
Ecuador	8.5	
Bolivia	5.6	
Paraguay	3.3	
Uruguay	3.0	
		377.21 TOTAL

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OVERVIEW OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL IMPROVEMENTS IN CENTRAL AMERICA  
1960-1978

Country	Population		Adult Literacy		Life Expectancy		Economic Growth**
	1960	1980	1960	1980*	1960	1980*	(% Increase in Real GNP)
	million		percent				1960-1977
COSTA RICA	1.2	2.2	NA	88	62	70.0	+5.7
EL SALVADOR	2.4	4.7	49	62	50	63	+5.3
GUATEMALA	3.8	7.3	31.5	46	47	57	+5.7
HONDURAS	1.8	3.7	45	57	46	57	+7.8
PANAMA	1.1	1.9	73	78	62	70	+6.3
NICARAGUA	1.4	2.6	NA	57	47	55	+6.2

AVERAGE INCREASE FROM  
1960 - 1980:

10 years

11%

\*Represents 1980 or estimate of most recent year

\*\*Since 1978, the combination of global economic problems and increased guerrilla violence and terrorism have combined to bring about far lower economic growth.

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TABLE C

GROWTH IN THE ARMED EXTREME LEFT IN CENTRAL AMERICA 1960-1982 (U)

	<u>1960-1970</u>	<u>1971-1977</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>
	<u>Armed Extreme Left</u>	<u>Armed Extreme Left</u>	<u>Armed Extreme Left</u>	<u>Armed Extreme Left</u>	<u>Armed Extreme Left</u>	<u>Armed Extreme Left</u>	<u>Armed Extreme Left</u>
TOTAL:	750	1,200	3,450	7,500	5,500	7,600	7,700
Nicaragua	150	300	2,000	4,500			
<u>Current Targets</u>							
El Salvador	0	300	850	2,000	3,500	4,500	4,500
Guatemala	600	600	600	1,000	2,000	3,000	3,000
Honduras	0	0	some	some	some	100	200
Costa Rica	some	some	some	some	some	some	some
SUB-TOTAL:	600	900	1,450	3,000	5,500	7,600	7,700