

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE D-13

WASHINGTON POST
3 August 1983

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Watch on Castro: While the world spotlight has focused on U.S. military moves in Central America, Cuba's president, Fidel Castro, has been playing his own war games in the shadows. U.S. photo-reconnaissance cameras have photographed the unloading of 11 shiploads of heavy weapons in Nicaragua this year. Hi-tech intelligence also has verified the arrival of 1,200 Cuban military advisers on the scene. According to intelligence reports, one is a top Cuban general with combat experience in Angola.

• Castro has urged the Nicaraguan leaders to make no concessions to democracy. His secret advice, intercepted by U.S. intelligence, cited the late Salvador Allende, who died during a coup against his Marxist government in Chile. Allende's mistake, said Castro, was to continue democratic traditions rather than impose a left-wing dictatorship on the country.