

DATE

4 May 1988

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REMARKS:

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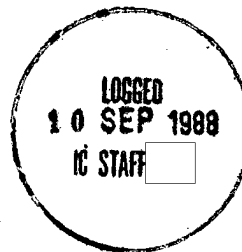
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ICS 4242-88
2 May 1988



MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director, Intelligence Community Staff

VIA: Director, Planning and Policy Office *RAK*
Deputy Director, Planning and Policy Office

FROM: Senior Policy Officer, Planning and Policy Office

SUBJECT: LIC Country Approval

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1. ACTION REQUESTED DD/ICS approve the list of Third World countries and regions circulated for IG(LIC) member consideration (see Attachment). IG(LIC) member approval of the proposed list is required to allow further Intelligence Community analysis leading to LIC Working Group development of a prioritized list requiring attention from the LIC community.

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2. BACKGROUND

- a. SIG(LIC) approved preparation of a priority list of countries of policy importance to the United States which face actual and potential low intensity conflicts at the 8 March 1988 meeting.
- b. A LIC Intelligence Working Group subcommittee chaired by the DDI/OGI representative developed a methodology to identify potential LIC countries and prepared a "straw man" list for dissemination to policy community officials.

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3. DISCUSSION

- a. The "first-cut" effort of the subcommittee resulted in submission of a draft survey to be critiqued by the LIC Working Group as a first step in obtaining IG(LIC) approval. The suggested list was based on input from selected DoD, CIA, and DOS personnel that was further evaluated against NIE 7-86, Outlook for Sudden Change in Key Developing Countries.

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CL BY: SIGNER
DECL: OADR
DR FR: NSCG

SUBJECT: LIC Country Approval

b. The LIC Working Group formally reviewed the subcommittee proposed survey at a 18 April meeting and developed a list which is based on such issues as proximity to maritime choke points, key natural resources and minerals, trade, narcotics, terrorism, and military access to basing rights.

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c. The refined list is currently in circulation (see Attachment) to IG(LIC) members from the Acting Chairman, LIC Working Group, for concurrence as a baseline for additional evaluation under the aegis of the Intelligence Working Group. Future steps to be taken include:

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- Desk level officers in DIA, CIA, NSA, and State/INR for each country on list will be asked to identify existing and potential LIC problems in their country and describe what impact these problems may have on US interests in their region.

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- The list will be presented to the IG and SIG after the LIC Working Group reaches consensus for evaluation and approval. Upon approval by the SIG, the prioritized list will be used to guide the LIC Working Group long-term policy integration effort by helping identify where attention can most profitably be placed.

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d. Approval of the list will provide a starting point designed to focus analytical efforts on countries of economic, political, and strategic importance to the United States. DIA and CIA representatives (DDI and DDO) have recommended approval of the circulated list.

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4. RECOMMENDATION DD/ICS approve the list of countries identified in the Attachment. Decision can be indicated below. The LIC Working Group Acting Chairman will be notified telephonically by the LIC Intelligence Working Group Chairman of the decision.

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Attachment:
Straw Man Country List

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SECRET

SUBJECT: LIC Country Approval

APPROVED:

[Redacted Signature]

Deputy Director, Intelligence Community Staff

4/5/88
Date

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SUBJECT: LIC Country Approval

DISTRIBUTION: (ICS 4242-88)

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DCI/ICS/PPO (2 May 1988)

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE LOW INTENSITY CONFLICT WORKING GROUP

FROM:

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SUBJECT: Straw Man Country List

Please review the attached memo and country list with your IG member. Emphasize that we are refining a straw man that will be used as the basis for additional analysis. Once we have developed a recommended priority list, we will seek full interagency clearance.

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(Attachment)

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE INTERAGENCY GROUP FOR LOW INTENSITY CONFLICT

FROM: [redacted]

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SUBJECT: "Straw Man" List of Important Third World Countries [redacted]

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Issue

To approve a list of important Third World countries and regions to serve as a starting point for identifying priority low intensity conflict situations which threaten US interests.

Background

The National Security Decision Directive for Low Intensity Conflict, signed in June 1987 by President Reagan, states that "a process must be established to ensure that low intensity conflict situations are recognized early." In response, the Senior Interagency Group for LIC has approved the preparation of a priority list of countries of policy importance to the United States which face actual and potential low intensity conflicts. [redacted]

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The Intelligence Sub-Group of the LIC Working Group has been tasked to do the analysis to support making the priority list. Their methodology is to first identify a manageable number (30-40) of Third World countries and regions of significant policy importance to the U.S. The sub-group will next conduct an in-depth analysis of each country and region on the list to determine the level of threat that low intensity conflict poses to U.S. interests in that country/region. The Intelligence Sub-Group will then report its assessments to the LIC Working Group which will develop a recommended priority list of those countries and situations that should receive special attention from the LIC community. This priority list will be submitted to the IG and the SIG for discussion and approval. [redacted]

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Discussion

The LIC Working Group has reviewed the sub-group's proposed starting list of important Third World countries. After making some changes, the Working Group reached consensus that the list at Tab A contains those countries/regions that the

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sub-group should focus on in the second phase of their analysis.

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Note that this list is only a starting point designed to focus analytical efforts on countries of economic, political, and strategic importance to the United States. We ask that you approve the list or suggest additions and/or deletions. Please submit your responses, through your LIC working group representative, to by Tuesday, May 3.

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Attachments

Tab A Country List
Tab B Rationale

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TAB A

Initial List of Important Countries/Regions in the Third World

Latin America

Argentina

Bolivia

Brazil

Caribbean Region

Chile

Colombia

El Salvador

Guatemala

Honduras

Mexico

Panama

Peru

Africa

Horn of Africa

Liberia

Nigeria

Southern Africa

Sudan

Zaire

Near East South Asia

Afghanistan

Cyprus

Egypt

Gulf Coop. Council States

India

Iran

Iraq

Jordan

Lebanon

Maghreb Region

Syria

East Asia and Pacific

Indonesia

Philippines

Singapore

South Pacific Region

Thailand

SEE EXPLANATORY NOTES NEXT PAGE

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NOTES:

Countries in the following groups were not considered:

NATO

Major non-NATO Allies (Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Israel, South Korea)

Warsaw Pact

These countries were excluded because they are not Third World states and their alliance with the United States or the Soviet Union places them beyond the intended scope of LIC strategy.

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SECRET**TAB B****Country List/Rationale****LATIN AMERICA**

Argentina - economic (debtor), regional security and stability, democratic interests, nuclear proliferation

Bolivia - narcotics

Brazil - economic power and debtor status, weapons production/sale, democratic interests, regional stability

Caribbean - geostrategic location, narcotics

Chile - foreign subversion (Soviet and Cuban), democratic interests

Colombia - narcotics, geostrategic location, democratic interests

El Salvador - symbolic, democratic interests, geostrategic location

Guatemala - geostrategic location, democratic

Honduras - symbolic, geostrategic location, democratic, U.S. military basing

Mexico - immigration, geostrategic location, democratic, debts, oil, common border

Nicaragua - key to central American stability

Panama - canal, military basing

Peru - narcotics, geostrategic location, democratic

AFRICA

Horn of Africa - geostrategic location, military basing

Liberia - geopolitical, communications facilities, military access

Nigeria - oil, Libyan and Iranian meddling, democratic interests

Southern Africa - strategic minerals, geostrategic location, economic, potential for creation of hostile states

Sudan - Soviet and Libyan influence

Zaire - U.S. military, strategic minerals, geostrategic location

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NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan - Soviet occupation, geostrategic location

Cyprus - geopolitical, regional stability, NATO impact

Egypt - economic, geopolitical, Mideast Peace Plan

GCC States - oil, allies, economic, geostrategic location

India - democratic, geostrategic location, Soviet influence, nuclear proliferation

Iran - oil, state adventurism, geostrategic location

Iraq - regional stability

Jordan - pro-west, regional stability

Lebanon - terrorism, narcotics, regional stability

Maghreb - state adventurism, geostrategic location, threat to U.S. facilities in Med., control Gibraltar, friends in Tunisia and Morocco

Pakistan - nuclear proliferation, military facilities/ally, supports Afghan resistance

Syria - terrorism, regional player/stability, Soviet connection

EAST ASIA/PACIFIC

Indonesia - geostrategic location, oil

Philippines - U.S. military basing, traditional ally, geostrategic location

Singapore - economic, geostrategic location

South Pacific Region - allies, maritime environment

Thailand - regional stability, ASEAN leader, support to Cambodian resistance

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