

NEWS

U.S. SENATOR BARRY GOLDWATER/A

SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON

PRESS RELEASE

APRIL 12, 1983

HEARING ON BOLAND AMEN

There has been a good deal of confusion and in the press recently regarding the issue of what is operating within the constraints of the law. Confusion seems to arise within the context of all activities directed against the Marxist-inspired in Nicaragua.

As Chairman of the Senate Select Committee I called for a full Committee hearing today to hear our witnesses included, but were not limited to, Director of Central Intelligence; Mr. John N. McV of Central Intelligence; Mr. Stanley Sporkin, Gen Ambassador Thomas O. Enders, Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of Inter-American Affairs; and numerous other high-ranking officials of the Intelligence Community and the Department of State. The hearing lasted from 11:00 a.m. this morning until approximately 1:00 p.m. this afternoon, and provided us with a complete update on material presented at a previous full Committee hearing in February 1983 on the same subject.

The statute in question is the Boland Amendment which was enacted last year. This Amendment to the Continuing Resolution states the following:

"None of the funds provided in this Act may be used by the Central Intelligence Agency or the Department of Defense to furnish military equipment, military training or advice, or other support for military activities, for the purpose of overthrowing the government of Nicaragua or provoking a military exchange between Nicaragua and Honduras."

Thus, a key element of this law relates to the purpose of the U.S. Government and not to the expressed purpose of the recipients of any such support.

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