

3 April 1986

SANDINISTA MILITARY ACTIONS AND INTENTIONS

1. The 22/23 March incursions deep into Honduran territory appear to be part of an established Sandinista military strategy to seal its border with Honduras and attempt to destroy the UNO/FDN support system in Honduras.

2. Since early 1986, the Sandinistas have focused their military activities primarily on disrupting FDN infiltration efforts while at the same time attempting to prevent the resupply of insurgent units operating deep inside Nicaragua.

Executive Registry SC-02015-86

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7. The Sandinistas continue to serve notice in their public statements of a more belligerent posture on the border, contending that Teguicigalpa has yielded sovereignty to the contras in the area and that it is now a "no-man's" land. The most effective deterrent to continued Sandinista border operations will be when FDN troops have reestablished themselves in larger numbers behind Sandinista lines and can depend on aerial resupply. This will force Managua to disperse its troop concentrations and reduce the potential scope of border fighting.

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