Nicaraguan Contras

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Historical Background



The Somoza Dynasty 1939-1979

Acquainted with liberals.

Massive amounts of corruption.

Fell to Sandinistans in 1979.

Sandinistan National Liberation Front (FLSN)

Goal 1 Goal 2

Create a socialist state in Nicaragua.

Get rid of U.S. involvement in Nicaragua.







Jimmy Carter Becomes President



FSLN overthrows Somoza Dynasty- 1979

Nicaraguan people quickly become nervous of what the FSLN is going

to do.



President Reagan



Iran purchased US arms at high prices.

Iran

Iran is the political enemy of the United States.

Israel and Iran are political enemies.

US Central Intelligence Agency

Money, new equipment, and arms were secretly sent to the Contras in Nicaragua.

Surplus and excess US weapons were sent from United States to Israel.

Contras in Nicaragua

Israel

Israel brokered the arms shipment to Iran for US dollars.

Reagan Doctrine

REAGAN DOCTRINE

- Anticommunist approach that guided policies
- Aimed at stopping spread of communism in world
- US military force and money will undermine communism
- Direct military, economic and political pressure → strain Soviet Union

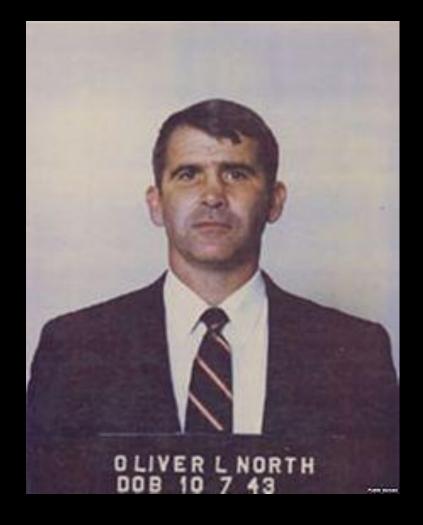




DEMONSTRATION SAT. APRIL 5, 4 TO 6 PM CORNER OF WILSHIRE & WESTWOOD

Boland Amendments I&II

Oliver North





International Relations Approaches

U.S

- Public: Idealist
- Private: Realist with dominance approach
- Continually shifting, not very clear at times
- Made unsuccessful for American government

Nicaragua

- Realist and Dominant towards its own people and the US

How did this shape your worldview?

Interviews

- "It was the first time my attention was brought to Nicaragua, but it didn't change my worldview." Mrs. Tredinnick (late teens-early twenties)
- "This only was an issue when this was happening; I didn't and still don't care about Nicaragua." Mr. Saylor (early thirties)
- "I never knew anything about Nicaragua and still don't." Mr. Staniorski