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TAGS: PINT, NU, CU, PGOV

SUBJECT: FIDEL CASTRO SENDS LETTER TO GRN JUNTA

1. ON JULY 9, FIDEL CASTRO SENT A LETTER CONGRATULATING THE GRN JUNTA ON THE OCCASION OF THE JULY 19 ANNIVERSARY OF THE REVOLUTION. THE LETTER DOES NOT MENTION WHETHER CASTRO WILL ATTEND THE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IN MANAGUA, BUT IT IS OF INTEREST BECAUSE OF ITS MODERATE TONE WHICH EMPHASIZES POSITIVE ASPECTS OF GRN POLICY AND CUBAN SUPPORT FOR THEM. A TRANSLATION OF THE LETTER AS IT APPEARS IN THE JULY 11 PRESS FOLLOWS. BEGIN QUOTE

DEAR BROTHERS, MEMBERS OF THE JUNTA:

A. WE SHARE WITH ALL OUR HEARTS, THE HAPPINESS OF THE NICARAGUAN PEOPLE WHO WILL COMMEMORATE THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF ITS HISTORIC REVOLUTIONARY VICTORY. THE HISTORY OF A NEW NICARAGUA IS BEING WRITTEN WITH THE BLOOD OF 50,000 BRAVE AND SELF-SACRIFICING SOUS. THE COUNTRY NOW STANDS AS AN EXAMPLE OF COURAGE AND DIGNITY. LIBERTY HAS CREATED A FUTURE OF HOPE FOR THIS LONG SUFFERING AND HEROIC PEOPLE, A PEOPLE WHOSE TRIUMPH IS A CLARION CALL FOR ALL THE TYRANIZED AND EXPLOITED PEOPLES OF CENTRAL

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AMERICA AND OF THE CONTINENT. ONE YEAR IS A VERY SHORT TIME FOR A REVOLUTIONARY PROCESS WHICH HAS TO ENGAGE IN A TITANIC BATTLE OF NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION. BUT THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF NICARAGUA CAN FEEL PROUD OF WHAT THEY HAVE ACHIEVED IN THIS YEAR OF REVOLUTION. WE SEE WITH GREAT HAPPINESS HOW THE SANDINISTA VICTORY IS CONSOLIDATING ITSELF WITH IMPRESSIVE POPULAR SUPPORT. HOW THE STUDENTS AND WORKERS ARE MOBILIZING THEMSELVES TO SUPPORT THE CONQUESTS OF THE REVOLUTION, REMOVE THE RUINS OF WAR, AND REACH THE FIRST, BEAUTIFUL LAURELS OF

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED by *Harold M. Justice* DATE FEB 9 1989
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FOI, EO or PA exemptions _____ TS authority to:
 CLASSIFY as _____, OADR
 DOWNGRADE TS to () B or () C, OADR

PEACE, LIKE THE LITERACY CAMPAIGN WHICH IS NOW UNDERWAY. WE SEE, ALSO, THE ACTIVE INTERNATIONAL POLICY OF THE NICARAGUAN REVOLUTION, WHICH IS PLAYING A DIGNIFIED AND HONORABLE ROLE IN THE FRONT LINE OF THE PROGRESSIVE MOVEMENT AND OF WORLD REVOLUTION. THESE ARE SIGNS OF A BRILLIANT FUTURE OF STRUGGLE AND TRIUMPH FOR THE GLORIOUS COUNTRY OF SANDINO AND OF CARLOS FONSECA AMADOR. CUBA, DEAR BROTHERS, REJOICES OVER THESE SUCCESSES AND THESE BRIGHT PROSPECTS. OUR SOLIDARITY, FAITHFUL AND UNSHAKEABLE, WILL NEVER FAIL YOU. AS BROTHERS WE WILL CONTINUE TO OFFER YOU OUR MODEST SUPPORT IN THE COMPLEX TASKS WHICH LIE AHEAD OF YOU.

B. IN THIS FIRST ANNIVERSARY, YOU RECEIVE THE MESSAGE OF AFFECTION AND ADMIRATION OF THE ENTIRE CUBAN PEOPLE. OUR SPECIAL GREETINGS GO TO THE FAMILIES OF THOSE HEROES WHO FELL IN BATTLE AND TO ALL WHO FOUGHT IN THE REVOLUTION. OUR CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ENTIRE NICARAGUAN PEOPLE. WE EMBRACE ALL IN THE DAY OF VICTORY, OF LIBERTY AND OF THE REVOLUTION.

FRATERNALY
FIDEL CASTRO RUIZ

PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE AND OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA. END QUOTE.

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2. COMMENT: THIS LETTER SETS A MODERATE, POSITIVE TONE APPROPRIATE TO THE COMMUNICATIONS OF A CHIEF OF STATE. CASTRO MAKES NO MENTION, EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, OF ANTI-AMERICAN THEMES REPEATED CONTINUALLY BY HIS PROPAGANDA MACHINE, BUT RATHER EMPHASIZES CUBAN SUPPORT FOR GRN'S POSITIVE ACHIEVEMENTS. IT IS CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT HE EXPECTS NICARAGUA TO CONTINUE IN THE PATH IT IS NOW ON AND HE IMPLIES THAT HE WILL HELP KEEP IT THERE.
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