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Letter

**U.S. intervention
needs explanation**

Ever so quietly and with subtle persistence, the United States government has established a large-scale military presence in Central America — and the momentum of this U.S. intervention is now escalating at a dangerously rapid pace.

Military bases, airfields and radar outposts are being constructed in Honduras — all under the cover of successive military exercises being directed by the United States.

The American CIA also has directed and trained Nicaraguan counter-revolutionaries (the Contras) to carry out sabotage operations. Attacks on Puerto Corinto and Puerto Sandino in October 1983, destroyed millions of gallons of oil and gasoline, as well as hundreds of tons of food and medicine, and the destruction continues. The U.S.-directed mining of Nicaragua's harbors (Puerto Sandino and Puerto Corinto on the Pacific coast and El Bluff on the Atlantic coast) damaged foreign ships from six nations doing business with Nicaragua. All this is intended by the United States in order to totally destabilize, terrorize, intimidate, isolate and over-

throw the fledgling Sandinista government in Nicaragua.

Why should America be so concerned with what is happening in a tiny, impoverished country in Central America?

The Reagan Administration would like to have Americans believe that the Nicaraguan government represents some type of "Communist threat" to the United States, and U.S. forces are in Central America to promote democracy and to prevent this "Communism" from taking control of the area. But when this issue is examined more closely, one discovers that this explanation couldn't be farther from the truth. In reality, the major enemy inside Central America is not "Communism" but rather poverty, disease, and state-sponsored repression (often by U.S.-supported governments).

The revolution that happened in Nicaragua in 1979 and the one that now is occurring in El Salvador is a people's attempt to attain more democratic rights and freedoms within their societies. In essence, America is losing control of this region, and is trying to regain it by using military force.

In response to the growing military escalation against Nicaragua, Nicaraguan ambassador

Javier Chamorro Mora charged that Reagan was elevating himself to the position of "legislator, judge, and executioner of the whole international political life of a sovereign country." While Nicaragua has repeatedly sought after a peaceful and negotiated settlement to this growing crisis (offers that have always been rejected by the Reagan Administration), increasing U.S.-sponsored terrorism inside Nicaragua is forcing the people of Nicaragua to take all the steps they can to adequately safeguard and defend their country.

Indeed, the conflict in Central America is becoming another Vietnam. At this moment, Reagan's foreign policy in Central America is pursuing a strategy of provocation that is leading America to war. But for all its military might, the U.S. government will never be able to achieve an easy victory against the people of Nicaragua, just as it could not against the Vietnamese people during the war in Vietnam 15 years ago.

The American public must become more aware of this reality and not be so easily misled and fooled by the mindless anti-Communist rhetoric coming from our government.

**Jim Anderson
Lincoln**

Letter Policy

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Letters will be selected for publication on the basis of clarity, originality, timeliness and space available. The Daily Nebraskan

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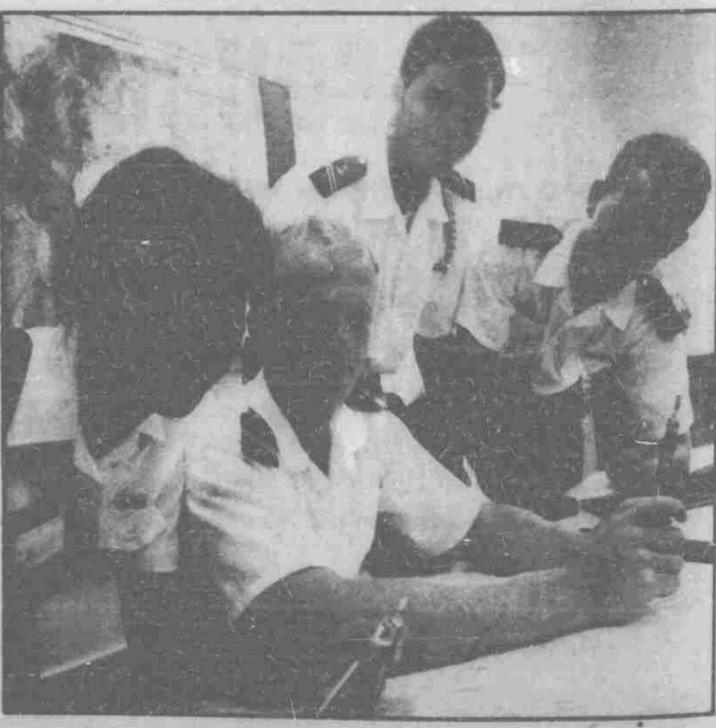
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