

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 22, 1989

National Security Directive 25

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: U.S. Policy Toward the February 1990 Nicaragua
Election (S)

The February 1990 election in Nicaragua can be a referendum on Sandinista rule if it is free and fair. The role of the United States Government can be a major positive factor in that referendum. Therefore, I hereby direct the following actions.
(S)

- There shall be no covert assistance to political or other groups in Nicaragua in the upcoming election campaign. (S)
- The Department of State shall undertake a vigorous overt program to support a free and fair election process. Every effort will be made, consistent with U.S. law, to assist the democratic opposition to compete effectively with the Sandinista regime. (S)
- If the Sandinistas block overt assistance, the Secretary of State and the DCI should seek rapid consideration of other options. (S)

cc The Vice President
The Assistant to the President for National
Security Affairs

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by R. Soubers, National Security Council

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