

PROTEST WAR TRAINING*

ON JAN. 11 THE U.S. BEGAN THE IMPORTATION OF 1,500 OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS OF THE BRUTAL, REPRESSIVE SALVADORAN MILITARY REGIME, FOR COUNTER-INSURGENCY MILITARY TRAINING.

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U.S. to Train 1,500 Salvadoran Soldiers

By RICHARD HALLORAN
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.— The Reagan Administration said today that it planned to train a battalion of 1,000 Salvadoran soldiers and a group of 500 to 600 Salvadoran junior officers, probably in the United States.

Fred C. Iklé, Undersecretary of Defense for Policy, also told a Senate subcommittee that the Joint Chiefs of Staff had prepared contingency plans for American military action in Central America if President Reagan were to order United States intervention.

Mr. Iklé further provided new details about what he described as Soviet and Cuban infiltration into Nicaragua and other Central American nations, asserting that the Soviet Union was spending \$3 billion a year to support Communist guerrillas in the region.

In addition, Mr. Iklé criticized European allies of the United States for being "much too insouciant and cavalier about the growing military threat in the Caribbean."

Programs to Begin in 1982

To help combat the leftist insurgency in El Salvador, Mr. Iklé said, the United States will begin two training programs "as early as possible in 1982."

He told the subcommittee, which is headed by Senator Jesse Helms, Republican of North Carolina, that the programs were recommended by a team sent to El Salvador in September "to assist the Salvadorans in developing a national military strategy."

He noted that the expense of the programs would require an increase in the money provided for El Salvador in the 1982 budget. "We will need the support of the Congress if we are going to fund this urgent need," he said. He said later that the Administration would request a supplementary appropriation of \$18 million for the training alone, plus an undecided sum for other military and economic assistance.

Pentagon officials said tentative plans called for the infantry battalion to receive about 10 weeks of basic and advanced training at the John F. Kennedy Center for Military Assistance at Fort Bragg, N.C. It has the installations and the Spanish-speaking instructors to conduct such training, the officials said.

Financial Considerations

The officer candidates would be trained at the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Ga., or the training center that the United States runs in Panama.

The Pentagon officials said that the training, which was tentatively scheduled to start during the second week of January, would be less expensive than shipping an American training team to El Salvador and building installations there. It would also be politically better, they said, since conducting training within the United States would be less likely to arouse criticism in Latin America.

DEMONSTRATE

MONDAY JAN. 18TH NOON

U. ARMORY [17TH & University]

[Jan. 17, 1982]

central american working group