



Frank Ivancie, flanked by his wife and mother, was sworn in as Mayor of Portland by Chief Judge Herbert Schwab of the Oregon Court of Appeals. Mayor Ivancie told the crowd of supporters and well-wishers that this is "a job I am looking forward to with enthusiasm, faith and most of all, hope."



An estimated 800 persons crowded into the Council Chambers or watched on closed circuit television as Ivancie was sworn in as Mayor. A reception followed.

(Photos: Richard J. Brown)

## Debate over US intervention in El Salvador goes public

By Thomas Brom

PNS - Mounting concern over a possible U.S. military intervention in the El Salvador civil war has prompted a public debate in Washington centering around a 30-page quasi-official "dissent paper" urging a new and "moderate" U.S. policy toward Central America.

The document, purportedly sent from an informal working group of current and former officials of the Departments of State and Defense, CIA and the National Security Council, mysteriously appeared on Congressional desks and under the doors of foreign policy centers only days after Ronald Reagan's election victory.

Although the State Department denies the authenticity of the document, three Congressmen have made official inquiries of Secretary of State Muskie concerning both the authorship and content of the report. Non-government Latin American specialists in Washington confirm the accuracy of the foreign policy detail and nomenclature in the report.

"We understand the paper did not originate within the official 'dissent channel' of the State department, but rather was initiated by other agencies in government," said Bob Brauer, special counsel to Congressman Ron Dellums (Dem.-Ca.) one of the recipients of the report. "But we are far more interested in the content of the document than in its authors."

The dissent paper reviews the increasing U.S. support for the ruling junta in El Salvador, concluding that the official State Department

position is destined to produce a Vietnam-style disaster for U.S. foreign policy interests.

"No serious consideration appears to have been given to global security implications of an escalated regional conflict involving U.S., Cuban, Nicaraguan, Venezuelan and other participants," the report states. The authors call for recognizing the Democratic Revolutionary Front in El Salvador and withdrawing active military support for the junta as the best way to limit Cuba and Soviet influence in the region.

The release of the report appears to be a direct challenge to top Reagan foreign policy advisors who have publicly stated their intention to increase U.S. military assistance to the junta. But the writers also contend that policy changes in the Carter Administration dating from November, 1979 show a turn toward U.S. intervention. "There may still be time," the report concludes, "to change course during the transition period."

Although the apparent intent of the paper is to promote discussion of policy, specifics in the report have raised the hackles of the State Department. The author charge that U.S. intelligence is "kept informed of the plans and capabilities" of a paramilitary strike force in Guatemala composed of former members of the Nicaraguan National Guard, anti-Castro Cubans, Gutemalan military personnel and mercenaries. In addition, the report claims that rightist terrorist groups based in the U.S. "could not be maintained without

the tacit consent of at least four agencies: Immigration and Naturalization Service, CIA, FBI and U.S. Customs." The State Department denies these allegations.

The thrust of the document, however, is to underscore the futility of U.S. military intervention. Taking a regional view of the conflict, the authors point to Mexican recognition of the Democratic Revolutionary Front, and the consistent support the

Salvadoran guerrillas have received from the Catholic Church.

Rather than risk a regionalization of the conflict that could bring guerrilla war "from Columbia to the Mexican border," the dissidents propose a "Zimbabwe option" based on the successful intervention of the British government in Rhodesia. The Thatcher government decided to support the Black independence movement as the best means of maintaining its own interests and credibility in Africa.

"What is most clearly missing in the Salvadoran case," the report concludes, "is the will of the regional dominant power -- the U.S. -- to concede that the time has come to grant its recognition to the new emerging status quo."

The report notes that it was a Conservative government in Britain that brought the Rhodesian crisis to an end. "We hope that moderation and reason will prevail among President Reagan's appointees," it states.

Although the precise origin of the documents remains a mystery, the Influential Council on Hemispheric Affairs in Washington has reprinted the dissent paper and circulated it throughout the foreign policy establishment.

"We don't know where it came from," said one Latin American activist, "but if it was intended to raise issues on Central American policy at the top levels of government, it has succeeded."

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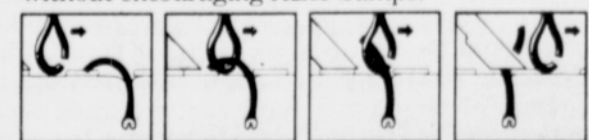
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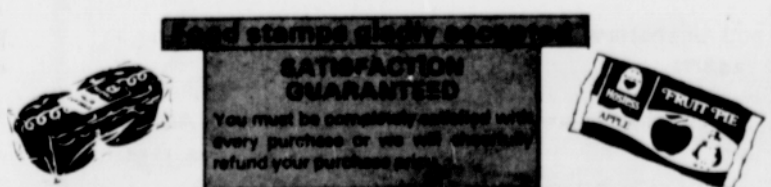
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