

3-20-1987

Senators Warn Reagan Administration Central America Policy Must Be Changed

Deborah Tyroler

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/noticen>

Recommended Citation

Tyroler, Deborah. "Senators Warn Reagan Administration Central America Policy Must Be Changed." (1987).
<https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/noticen/527>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Latin America Digital Beat (LADB) at UNM Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in NotiCen by an authorized administrator of UNM Digital Repository. For more information, please contact amywinter@unm.edu.

Senators Warn Reagan Administration Central America Policy Must Be Changed

by Deborah Tyroler

Category/Department: General

Published: Friday, March 20, 1987

On March 18, the Senate voted 52 to 48 against blocking the final \$40 million installment of last year's contra aid package. Forty Democrats and eight Republicans voted to halt aid, while 14 Democrats and 38 Republicans voted release of the final installment. According to Senate majority leader Robert Byrd, "This vote is not a victory for the administration's course of action in Central America. It is an alarm bell. It says the American people themselves have grave reservations about the administration's policy." Senate Republican leader Bob Dole said, "After this vote is taken, the real vote lies ahead. Let us be honest, those of us who support aid to the contras have not done a good job. The administration has not done a good job. We had better start doing a better job now." Democrat Senator Alan Cranston, vocal critic of the administration's Central America policy, claimed that at least ten Senators who voted in favor of aid were "open" on approving the \$105 million request later this year. The Senate vote was on a "resolution of disapproval" to bar the President from releasing the final \$40 million of the \$100 million package Congress approved last year. Last year the Senate voted 53-47 in favor of the presidential request for \$100 million in contra aid. Although the Democrats won eight Senate seats in the November elections, several of the Senators who voted against aid last year were defeated or retired.

-- End --