

Keys to Understanding the Documents—Teacher Only

The teacher should either help the students make connections between the documents while they are reading their selections. Then a timeline of individual posters can be created involving all of the groups connections and understandings so the complete storyline is understood. (See student examples included in the lesson.)

GROUP 1

Students need to understand that the hostages taken from the U.S. embassy were due to the overthrow of the Shah of Iran and are different from later hostages in Lebanon. The movie *Argo* was about Americans escaping from the rioting Iranians and seeking asylum and being hidden by the Canadian Ambassador/Embassy. **VERY IMPORTANT**--An embargo is placed on Iran due to this hostage situation. The result is the U.S. cannot trade with Iran.

Group 2

Students need to understand the problems/hostilities that lie between Lebanon and Israel. This document shows the PLO taking refuge in Lebanon and the hostilities between the two nations. It is biased towards the Israeli side. Students need to understand that this is one of the two views.

Group 3

Students need to understand that there are several American hostages taken by the Lebanese Hezbollah party. This document is a personal description and clearly shows a different time period and the how other hostages are still being held.

GROUP 4

Students need to understand that this is during the Cold War and “Containment” of communism has been and is apart of our president’s foreign policy since Truman’s Doctrine. This document shows that the Nicaraguan Sandinistas are moving towards a Marxist (communist) government.

GROUP 5

Students need to understand that this is during the Cold War and “Containment” of communism has been and is apart of our president’s foreign policy since Truman’s Doctrine. This document is very important to show that Congress is moving **AWAY** from funding political parties in Central America--specifically the anti-Sandinista programs. Therefore, Reagan must get the money to fund anti-communism programs from elsewhere.

GROUP 6

Students need to understand that this is during the Cold War and “Containment” of communism has been and is apart of our president’s foreign policy since Truman’s Doctrine. These documents refer to the CIA involving themselves in a revolution against the Nicaraguan government and siding with the **ANTI-Sandinista** movement.

Group 7

Students need to understand that hostages were taken from the U.S. embassy because Iranians were angry over the U.S. allowing the Shah of Iran to seek medical treatment in the U.S. As a result of the hostage taking, the U.S. placing an embargo on Iran. During the time the hostages are being held, Iran wants to purchase more weapons and parts for weapons to fight Saddam Hussein in the Iran-Iraq War. Right before the Reagan inauguration, the hostages in Iran were released. It was during the Reagan administration that the second group of hostages was taken in Lebanon. This document refers to Israel being the middleman to get weapons to Iran

and avoid the U.S. embargo. This is a very secret agreement and the U.S. Congress does not know about this deal. In return Lebanon will use their friendly relations with Iran to get hostages released.

Group 8

Students need to understand that the \$17 million came from Iran who needed weapons to fight Saddam Hussein in Iraq and the money was paid to Israel for U.S. weapons. Israel was used as the middleman to bypass the U.S. embargo on Iran. Israel then transferred \$15 million to a Switzerland bank. Students should be able to make the connection that this money is needed for the CIA to support the anti-Sandinista movement in Nicaragua. Again Congress knows nothing about this deal.

Group 9

Students need to understand that money needed for CIA support of the anti-Sandinista movement in Nicaragua came from selling arms to Iran. This document reveals that the public is now becoming aware of the Iran-Contra scandal and how two men—U.S. Army Lt Col. Oliver North and the National Security Advisor, John Poindexter, are the ones who will be blamed for it. Reagan removes himself as having any knowledge during the time period.

Group 10

Students need to understand that money needed for CIA support of the anti-Sandinista movement in Nicaragua came from selling arms to Iran. This document reveals that the public is now becoming aware of the Iran-Contra scandal and how two men—U.S. Army Lt Col. Oliver North and the National Security Advisor, John Poindexter, are the ones who will be blamed for it. This document shows the TV announcement of the Iran-Contra scandal. Reagan claims to have no knowledge of what was happening at the time period.

Group 11

Students need to understand the public is aware of the Iran-Contra scandal and how two men—U.S. Army Lt Col. Oliver North and the National Security Advisor, John Poindexter, are blamed for it. This document shows how Lt. Col. Oliver North wrote a book in which he claims he was the victim and that President Ronald Reagan knew the entire thing.

Group 12

Students need to understand that the hostages taken from the U.S. embassy were due to the overthrow of the Shah of Iran and are different from later hostages in Lebanon. This document was written in 1995 about the last Lebanese hostage released in 1991. This will end the hostage negotiations in Iran and Lebanon.

GROUP 1

http://www.jimmycarterlibrary.gov/documents/r_ode/Ode_pages101thru115.pdf



Robert Ode
State Department
San City West, Ariz.
Consular section

Iran Hostage's Diary / Robert C. Ode

Robert C. Ode was one of the fifty-two American citizens taken hostage by Iranian students in November 1979 at the American embassy in Tehran. They were held for a total of 444 days and finally released, after lengthy negotiations, on January 20, 1981.

Ode (pronounced Odee) was the oldest of the hostages and was in fact retired from diplomatic service. He had taken a special assignment to go to Tehran and expected to be there only a few months when taken with the other embassy staff. He was allowed to keep a diary after a few months as captive, when conditions under which the hostages lived were loosened, although the conditions were never good. The hostages were separated into small groups that were not allowed to communicate. They were cut off from outside news and contact with the American government, while letters to and from their families were delivered late or not at all.

January 14, 1981 (438th Day)

The school kids next door also shout "Death to Russia" each morning. Such idiots! They want to take on the two greatest powers in the world. Pains in right hip today. Must be rheumatism or arthritis again like I had last year at this time. Laid in the tub this evening (unfortunately water not very hot) took a couple of aspirins and hit the sack early.

January 15, 1981 (439th Day)

Started off as another bad day! Hohman has made a number of snide comments lately—about my "pretending" to exercise, about his having to put up with my "shit" since last April (meaning my comments and opinions on various matters) and now this morning about my "bitching" concerning certain letters I receive when I get more mail than anyone else, etc. Seems this close

confinement brings out the true character in everyone and what used to be "joking" remarks have now turned into bitter, cutting ones. What he doesn't realize (or refuses to admit) is that he is one of the most opinionated individuals I have ever met and regards himself as a complete authority on most everything. I'm getting just as sick of his constant foul language as I'm sure he is getting sick of me and my ways. I'm also pretty tired of the others' constant reference to me as an "old man" or "gramps", or belittling me about my talking and the jokes I tell. While it appears to be meant as kidding, it too gets pretty caustic at times. So from here on, insofar as it possible, I'm not going to enter into any conversations expressing an opinion—or talk with Hohman about anything. Gave Col. Schaeffer a lesson in German pronunciation today. Jerry also acting strangely today, more or less accusing the rest of us of reading his mail! Why he would think any of us would be interested in doing that is more than I can imagine! This is a real happy ship!

[This was the last diary entry made by William Ode while a captive, shortly before the process began of flying them from Iran to Germany, where they were met by President Jimmy Carter. Ode later wrote the following account to fill in the gap in his diary entries in his last week in Iran.]

My Love of, and Life in, the Foreign Service

The voice came over the Algerian plane's speaker: "You are now leaving Iranian air space!" What a cheer went up from the American hostages on the plane! This was the moment for which we had waited 444 days. Now we knew we were really free! Even though we had been told by the Iranian terrorists that we were being set free, I'm sure all of the hostages didn't really feel that we were on our way to freedom until we actually were out of Iran. So much still could go wrong in the process of obtaining our freedom...but the confirmation that we were actually out of Iran and the Ayatollah Khomeini's jurisdiction made us finally realize that our ordeal was over! What a magnificent feeling! We were on our way at last! We were going home!

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ISRAEL'S "PEACE FOR THE GALILEE" OPERATION IN LEBANON: SOME INITIAL PERSPECTIVES

Daniel J. Elazar

Introduction

The Jerusalem Letter is not normally the forum for providing the kind of information which should be readily obtainable through the normal reporting of the mass media. However in the course of the Jerusalem Center's monitoring of foreign media coverage of recent Israeli operations in Lebanon, it has become abundantly clear to us that the pattern of distortion is so comprehensive as to raise suspicions that it was deliberately designed to create a mythic screen around the entire Lebanese situation which will be extraordinarily damaging to Israel's moral and political position in the world. Hence, the Jerusalem Letter feels duty-bound to provide a more balanced picture of the situation for its readers and others. What follows is the result of our independent assessment of the data available to us at the time of this writing.

Who Won the Foot Vote?

Americans are fond of saying that while the United States is criticized from so many corners of the world, there is no country more popular as a target of immigration, even on the part of many of its critics. In the last analysis, they note that what counts is how people vote with their feet, and the results of that vote are overwhelming.

There has been much discussion about refugees in Lebanon in the last several weeks, starting with the well-nigh uncritical acceptance of the mythic figure of 600,000 broadcast by the PLO. In what must be considered a great propaganda victory, the PLO managed to convince a great part of the world that 600,000 refugees had fled from an area in which no more than 300,000 people lived. As the dust settled and a better count could be made, it turned out that there were only about 20,000 refugees altogether.

What is more important is that after the first cease fire a new stream of movement began out of the last significant PLO dominated area in the country, West Beirut, principally southward to the Israeli occupied section of Lebanon. In other words the Lebanese, voting with their feet, thought that they would be most safe and comfortable under Israeli occupation. For days, eyewitnesses reported unceasing lines of automobiles loaded with family possessions heading southward past Israeli checkpoints, voting with their feet (or more literally with their wheels) as to which part of Lebanon was the most desirable. In the last analysis then, there is no doubt as to who won the foot vote, the implications of which should be clear to any impartial observer.

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Out of Lebanon: the Hostage Nightmare of Benjamin Weir

After being held hostage in Lebanon for 16 months, the Rev. Benjamin Weir, 61, was freed last month by his extremist Shi'ite captors and flown home to a tearful reunion in Norfolk, Va. with wife Carol and their four children. He was released, it appears, to bring a message to the Reagan Administration and the American public: that the six American hostages in Lebanon could face execution unless 17 terrorists imprisoned in Kuwait for the 1983 bombing attacks on the U.S. and French embassies in Kuwait were released. In the furor following that threat, the remarkable story of Weir's ordeal has been all but overlooked. Even now he chooses his words carefully, fearing that he might inadvertently endanger the lives of the remaining hostages. Weir, who is fluent in Arabic, went to Lebanon in 1953 as a Presbyterian missionary. He gave this account of what he calls his "Rip Van Winkle" experience to Correspondent Margie Bonnett Sellinger.

On May 8, 1984, Carol and I had just stepped out of our apartment in Beirut when I noticed a car coming up behind us on the narrow street. It slowed down and the door opened. A man stepped out, came toward me and said, "I want you." Then he held out his hand, so I automatically put out my hand to shake his hand. He grabbed my arm and started pulling me toward the car. Carol started screaming and I started yelling, but he was a lot stronger than I was and pushed me into the car. One man pointed an automatic pistol at my head and said, "Get down." Then they covered me with something and we were off through the streets.

From the moment I was put on the floor of the car, I had a strong sense that I was in the hands of God. The thought also ran through my mind, in kind of comic form, "Gee, this is a new experience; now I'll know what it's like to be kidnapped."

After a brief drive I was led blindfolded into a building where someone began taping me with white plastic tape from head to foot like a mummy. Several men lifted me in their hands and put me into what seemed like a metal box. I heard a truck motor start up.

The journey was longer this time, an hour and a half over rough roads. Then a man carried me upstairs into a building, took the tape off and chained me by my left leg to a radiator. The door was closed and I was alone. I was moved from location to location over the next 16 months, but I spent almost all that period in solitary confinement.

On a typical day I had the better half of 23 hours to myself. Right from the start I said, "I'm going to beat these guys at this game, whatever it is." I could see no profit in allowing myself to slip into a depression, so from the first day I tried to organize myself, my time and my thinking. I got into a pattern of trying not to wake up in a hurry but to be in touch with my dreams. I dreamed mostly about people, buffets and parties. In that way I was able to stay in touch with humanity, which was one of my greatest needs. I woke up when I heard the birds twittering outside, always with a sense of thanksgiving that I was alive, that I could pray and commune with God, that I could remember friends and family.

I used to recall as many different hymns as I could, and I found as I struggled that it was like unraveling a sweater—I'd get more and more as I worked at it. So I was able to build up a repertoire of things that were meaningful to me. I set up a calendar in my head, using holes in the wall and, later, ceramic tiles in the floor. I only went astray once by a day. For the first 35 days I had nothing to read until a guard finally brought me a New Testament in Arabic. That was a great, great boon for me. I was very much aware of my new status as a prisoner, but I also had a sense that I knew who I was, that I had my own simple respect and that I was the Lord's prisoner—to use the New Testament phrase. That gave me a sense of purpose and dignity.

I never saw my captors because I always wore a blindfold in their presence and knew very little about them. They never told me what group they belonged to. On rare occasions one of them would sit in the room and talk a bit, but it was pretty hard to develop a meaningful conversation. On the whole they were respectful and didn't really give me a bad time.

There was one incident, however, when they said to me, "Don't think anybody's going to come and rescue you, because we have put explosives in this building. If anybody approaches we're going to blow the place up." I believed them, and the next morning I woke up, and it was very quiet for a long, long time. I think my head started to play tricks on me. I began supposing that perhaps they had booby-trapped the building, and if anyone came in, it would blow up with me in it. So I decided I had better try to do something. I peeled back a plastic covering and was able to open a window. Off in the

distance I saw a man, and I started yelling to him. While I was doing that the door opened, and the guard came charging in. He was terribly angry and told me he could very easily shoot me. That night someone else came and told me they had decided not to kill me, but if I ever made a false move in the future, that would be my last.

Christmas came the 2nd of July, 1985, when Father Lawrence Jenco [director of Catholic Relief Services in Beirut, kidnapped Jan. 8, 1985] and I were put together for the first time. A while later, when we realized there were five of us in the same area, we asked for an opportunity to get together to worship. We were permitted to pray with our blindfolds on. On subsequent occasions we were allowed to take our blindfolds off. We would read the Bible, pray and celebrate Mass.

I have no idea how they chose me to be released. It came very suddenly. The leader of the group said he'd like my suggestion on who should relay their demand that the U.S. government enter into negotiations with them. I told him I thought either [Associated Press Beirut Bureau Chief] Terry Anderson or [Director of the American University Hospital] Dave Jacobsen would be the best choice. At the end of the day the leader came in and said, "We've decided you're going to go." I remember saying to him, "You know as well as I do that Father Jenco has a health problem, and I think he should go." But he just replied, "You're it—get ready."

I feel I have a mission to secure the release of the others. They're expecting me to do whatever I can. I've decided I'm going to keep the beard I grew in captivity for the time being. I'll be ready to take it off when the other hostages are free.

Mr. Walt Benjamin Thomas السيد وايلر بنجامين توماس
de nationalité Americaine الأمريكية من الجنسية
est autorisé à travailler au Liban en qualité de ممثل بالعمل في لبنان بصفة
à في جمعية الرسالة والعلاقات الحكومية
du 2/10/80 au 31/12/81 واحدة من ابتداء من 1980 إلى 1981/12/31
Renouvellement : تجديد
رئيس دائرة
مراقبة عمل الأجانب
الأعضاء : مصطفى أسلم
حدد هذه الإجازة لمدة 11 شهرا اعتباراً من 1/10/80 لغاية 31/12/81 رقم الملف 1029
رئيس دائرة
مراقبة عمل الأجانب
الأعضاء : مصطفى أسلم



GROUP 4

Deputy Director of the CIA Advises on the Situation in Nicaragua

In a memorandum to Director of Central Intelligence William J. Casey, CIA Deputy Director Robert Gates offers "straight talk" about Nicaragua. In the memo, Gates concedes that the CIA-backed Contras cannot overthrow the Sandinista government. He argues that the Contra war is "an essentially half-hearted policy," recommending instead that the Reagan administration initiate a "comprehensive campaign openly aimed at bringing down the regime," including "the use of air strikes." "The fact is that the Western Hemisphere is the sphere of influence of the United States," Gates states. "If we have decided totally to abandon the Monroe Doctrine... then we ought to save political capital in Washington, acknowledge our helplessness and stop wasting everybody's time." Gates was appointed Director of the CIA by President George H. W. Bush in 1991, and served as Secretary of Defense under Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama.

14 December 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT: Nicaragua

1. It is time to talk absolutely straight about Nicaragua. To recap where we are:

- Based on all the assessments we have done, the Contras, even with American support, cannot overthrow the Sandinista regime...
- The Nicaraguan regime is steadily moving toward consolidation of a Marxist-Leninist government and the establishment of a permanent and well armed ally of the Soviet Union and Cuba on the mainland of the Western Hemisphere. Its avowed aim is to spread further revolution in the Americas...

3. What is happening in Central America in many ways vividly calls to mind the old saw that those who forget the past are condemned to repeat it.

- In 1958-60 we thought that we could reach some sort of an accommodation with Castro that would encourage him to build a pluralistic government in Cuba. We have been trying to do the same thing in Nicaragua, with the same success...
- In Vietnam, our strategy consisted of a series of measures applied very gradually and over a long period of time. With each step of new US involvement the gradual approach enabled the enemy to adjust to each new turn of the screw so that by the end of the war, even in the face of the most severe bombing, the Vietnamese had developed enormous tolerance. Half measures, half-heartedly applied, will have the same result in Nicaragua.

...[Gates recommends that the best policy would be "overtly trying to bring down the regime through the following measures]:

- Withdrawal of diplomatic recognition of the regime in Managua and the recognition of a government in exile.
- Overt provision to the government in exile of military assistance, funds, propaganda support and so forth including major efforts to gain additional support in international community, including real pressure.
- Economic sanctions against Nicaragua, perhaps even including a quarantine...
- Politically most difficult of all, the use of air strikes to destroy a considerable portion of Nicaragua's military buildup... This would be accompanied by an announcement that the United States did not intend to invade Nicaragua but that no more arms deliveries...would be permitted...

8. These are hard measures. They probably are politically unacceptable. But it is time to stop fooling ourselves about what is going to happen in Central America...

9. The fact is that the Western Hemisphere is the sphere of influence of the United States. If we have decided totally to abandon the Monroe Doctrine, if in the 1980s taking strong actions to protect our interests despite the

hail of criticism is too difficult, then we ought to save political capital in Washington, acknowledge our helplessness and stop wasting everybody's time.

...

11. All this may be politically out of the question. Probably. But all the cards ought to be on the table and people should understand the consequences of what we do and do not do in Nicaragua. Half measures will not even produce half successes. The course we have been on (even before the funding cut-off) -- as the last two years suggest -- will result in further strengthening of the regime and a Communist Nicaragua which, allied with its Soviet and Cuban friends, will serve as the engine for the destabilization of Central America...

SOURCE | CIA, Memorandum from DDI Robert M. Gates to DCI William J. Casey, "Nicaragua," SECRET, 14 December 1984, George Washington University, The National Security Archive, *The Iran-Contra Affair 20 Years On*, <http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/NSAEBB/NSAEBB210/index.htm>.

CREATOR | Robert M. Gates

ITEM TYPE | Government Document

CITE THIS DOCUMENT | Robert M. Gates, "The Deputy Director of the CIA Advises on the Situation in Nicaragua," *HERB: Resources for Teachers*, accessed April 29, 2016, <http://herb.ashp.cun>

GROUP 5

Reagan Administration Officials Debate How to Support the Contras

Democrats in Congress strongly disagreed with Reagan's support of the rightwing Contras in Nicaragua. To prevent further U.S. intervention in Nicaragua, they passed the Boland Amendments that outlawed federal spending on the conflict. Reagan and high-ranking members of his administration, including the Vice President George H. W. Bush, Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger and National Security Advisor Robert McFarlane, debated ways to circumvent the Boland Amendments. Vice President Bush later organized a deal between the U.S. and Honduras for U.S. aid to the Honduran military in exchange for Honduran support of the Contras.

SECRET

NATIONAL SECURITY PLANNING GROUP MEETING

June 25, 1984: 2:00--3:00 P.M.: Situation Room

SUBJECT: Central America

PARTICIPANTS [abridged]:

The President

The Vice President

Secretary [of State] George P. Shultz

Secretary [of Defense] Caspar W. Weinberger

C.I.A. [Director] William J. Casey

Ambassador [to the United Nations] Jeane J. Kirkpatrick

Joint Chiefs of Staff General John W. Vessey, Jr.

[Attorney General] Edwin Meese, III

[National Security Advisor] Robert C. McFarlane

Minutes

Mr. McFarlane: The purpose of this meeting is to focus on the political, economic, and military situation in Central America...

There seems to be no prospect that the Democratic leadership will provide for any vote on the Nicaraguan program...

Secretary Shultz: ...I would like to get money for the Contras, but another lawyer...said that if we go out and try to get money from third countries, it is an impeachable offense.

...[The lawyer's] argument is that the US government may raise and spend funds only through an appropriation by the Congress.

Secretary Weinberger: ...[The lawyer] should realize that the United States would not be spending the money for the anti-Sandinista program; it is merely helping the anti-Sandinistas obtain the money from other sources. Therefore, the United States is not, as a government, spending money obtained from other sources.

Mr. Meese: ...I want to emphasize that it's important to tell the Department of Justice that we want them to find the proper and legal basis which will permit the United States to assist in obtaining third party resources for the anti-Sandinistas...

Vice President Bush: How can anyone object to the US encouraging third parties to provide help to the anti-Sandinistas under the finding? The only problem that might come up is if the United States were to promise to give these third parties something in return so that some people could interpret this as some kind of exchange.

...

Mr. McFarlane: I propose that there be no authority for anyone to seek third party support for the anti-Sandinistas until we have the information we need, and I certainly hope none of this discussion will be made public in any way.

President Reagan: If such a story gets out, we'll all be hanging by our thumbs in front of the White House until we find out who did it.

SOURCE | United States Central Intelligence Agency, *The Freedom Fighter's Manual* (New York: Grove Press, [1985]).

CREATOR | Central Intelligence Agency

ITEM TYPE | Pamphlet/Petition

CITE THIS DOCUMENT | Central Intelligence Agency, "The C.I.A. Advises Nicaraguans How to Sabotage the Sandinista Government," *HERB: Resources for Teachers*, accessed April 30, 2016, <http://herb.ashp.cuny.edu/items/show/1579>.

GROUP 6

C.I.A. Advises Nicaraguans How to Sabotage the Sandinista Government

The C.I.A. airdropped thousands of these 15-page illustrated manuals telling "Nicaraguans who love their country and cherish freedom" how they could sabotage the Sandinista-led government. The leftist Sandinistas had overthrown a military dictatorship in 1979; the U.S. supported rightwing Contras in their efforts to remove the Sandinistas from power. A Contra fighter in Honduras, where the C.I.A. based its anti-Sandinista efforts, gave a copy of the manual to a reporter in 1984.

¡Soldado nicaraguense! ¡Miliciano nicaraguense! Una forma muy eficaz de sabotear a la tiranía marxista es negandote a servir militarmente sus designios de opresión imperialista. Da un paso decisivo hacia la libertad de Nicaragua incorporandote, con tus armas si puedes, a las filas de los combatientes por la libertad. Nicaragua libre te espera. Ven a formar filas junto a tus hermanos, dignos herederos de Sandino.

NICARAGUAN SOLDIER!
NICARAGUAN MILITIA!
A VERY EFFECTIVE WAY TO
SABOTAGE THE MARXIST TYRANNY IS
TO REFUSE TO SERVE MILITARILY
IN THE SCHEMES OF IMPERIALIST
OPPRESSION. TAKE A DECISIVE
ACTION TOWARD THE FREEDOM OF
NICARAGUA BY INCORPORATING
WITH YOUR ARMS IF POSSIBLE,
IN THE RANKS OF YOUR BROTHERS,
WORTHY HEIRS OF SANDINO.



SOURCE | United States Central Intelligence Agency, *The Freedom Fighter's Manual* (New York: Grove Press, [1985]).

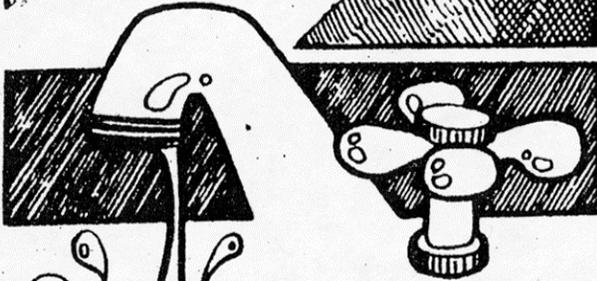
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LEAVE LIGHTS ON

DEJAR LAS LUCES ENCENDIDAS

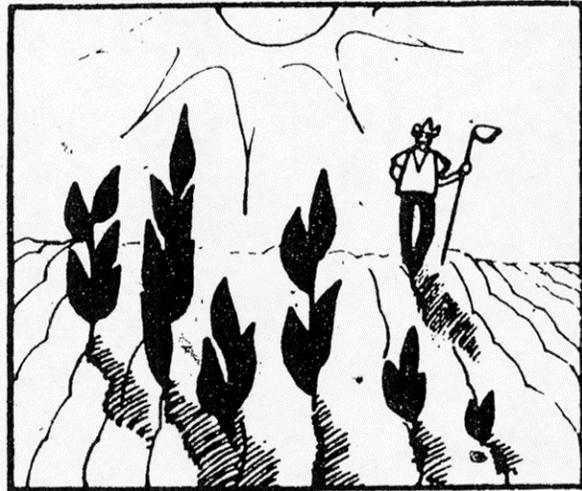


DEJAR ABIERTOS
LOS GRIFOS
DE AGUA

LEAVE WATER
TAPS ON

PLANT FLOWERS ON STATE FARMS

SEMBRAR FLORES EN
LAS GRANJAS DEL ESTADO



HOARD AND STEAL
FOOD FROM THE
GOVERNMENT

ACAPARAR
Y ROBAR
ALIMENTOS
DEL GOBIERNO



SOURCE | United States Central Intelligence Agency, *The Freedom Fighter's Manual* (New York: Grove Press, [1985]).

CREATOR | Central Intelligence Agency

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~~TOP SECRET~~

UNCLASSIFIED

SENSITIVE

RELEASE OF AMERICAN HOSTAGES IN BEIRUT

Background. In June 1985, private American and Israeli citizens commenced an operation to effect the release of the American hostages in Beirut in exchange for providing certain factions in Iran with U.S.-origin Israeli military materiel. By September, U.S. and Israeli Government officials became involved in this endeavor in order to ensure that the USG would:

- not object to the Israeli transfer of embargoed materiel to Iran;
- sell replacement items to Israel as replenishment for like items sold to Iran by Israel.

On September 13, the Israeli Government, with the endorsement of the USG, transferred 508 basic TOW missiles to Iran. Forty-eight hours later, Reverend Benjamin Weir was released in Beirut.

Subsequent efforts by both governments to continue this process have met with frustration due to the need to communicate our intentions through an Iranian expatriate arms dealer in Europe. In January 1986, under the provisions of a new Covert Action Finding, the USG demanded a meeting with responsible Iranian government officials.

On February 20, a U.S. Government official met with [REDACTED]

the first direct U.S.-Iranian contact in over five years. At this meeting, the U.S. side made an effort to refocus Iranian attention on the threat posed by the Soviet Union and the need to establish a longer term relationship between our two countries based on more than arms transactions. It was emphasized that the hostage issue was a "hurdle" which must be crossed before this improved relationship could prosper. During the meeting, it also became apparent that our conditions/demands had not been accurately transmitted to the Iranian Government by the intermediary and it was agreed that:

- The USG would establish its good faith and bona fides by immediately providing 1,000 TOW missiles for sale to Iran. This transaction was covertly completed on February 21, using a private U.S. firm and the Israelis as intermediaries.
- A subsequent meeting would be held in Iran with senior U.S. and Iranian officials during which the U.S. hostages would be released.
- Immediately after the hostages were safely in our hands, the U.S. would sell an additional 3,000 TOW missiles to Iran using the same procedures employed during the September 1985 transfer.

~~TOP SECRET~~
Declassify: OADR

UNCLASSIFIED

ARJ000U

EXHIBIT
CW-283A

SENSITIVE

Released on 5/2/94
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National Security Council

1041

UNCLASSIFIED~~TOP SECRET~~SENSITIVE

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In early March, the Iranian expatriate intermediary demanded that Iranian conditions for release of the hostages now included the prior sale of 200 PHOENIX missiles and an unspecified number of HARPOON missiles, in addition to the 3,000 TOWs which would be delivered after the hostages were released. A subsequent meeting was held with the intermediary in Paris on March 8, wherein it was explained that the requirement for prior deliveries violated the understandings reached in Frankfurt on February 20, and were therefore unacceptable. It was further noted that the Iranian aircraft and ship launchers for these missiles were in such disrepair that the missiles could not be launched even if provided

From March 9 until March 30, there was no further effort undertaken on our behalf to contact the Iranian Government or the intermediary. On March 26, [redacted] made an unsolicited call to the phone-drop in Maryland which we had established for this purpose. [redacted] asked why we had not been in contact and urged that we proceed expeditiously since the situation in Beirut was deteriorating rapidly. He was informed by our Farsi-speaking interpreter that the conditions requiring additional materiel beyond the 3,000 TOWs were unacceptable and that we could in no case provide anything else prior to the release of our hostages. [redacted] observed that we were correct in our assessment of their inability to use PHOENIX and HARPOON missiles and that the most urgent requirement that Iran had was to place their current HAWK missile inventory in working condition. In a subsequent phone call, we agreed to discuss this matter with him and he indicated that he would prepare an inventory of parts required to make their HAWK systems operational. This parts list was received on March 28, and verified by CIA.

Current Situation. On April 3, Ari Gorbanifahr, the Iranian intermediary, arrived in Washington, D.C. with instructions from [redacted] to consummate final arrangements for the return of the hostages. Gorbanifahr was reportedly enfranchised to negotiate the types, quantities, and delivery procedures for materiel the U.S. would sell to Iran through Israel. The meeting lasted nearly all night on April 3-4, and involved numerous calls to Tehran. [redacted]

[redacted] A Farsi-speaking CIA officer in attendance was able to verify the substance of his calls to Tehran during the meeting. Subject to Presidential approval, it was agreed to proceed as follows:

- By Monday, April 7, the Iranian Government will transfer \$17 million to an Israeli account in Switzerland. The Israelis will, in turn, transfer to a private U.S. corporation account in Switzerland the sum of \$15 million.

~~TOP SECRET~~SENSITIVE**UNCLASSIFIED**

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Iran Payment Found Diverted To Contras; Reagan Security Adviser And Aide Are Out



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IRAN PAYMENT FOUND DIVERTED TO CONTRAS; REAGAN SECURITY ADVISER AND AIDE ARE OUT

Friedman Is Guilty With 3 in Scandal

All Plan to Appeal
Charges of Corruption in New York Case Carry Long Prison Terms

By BERNARD WEINRAUB

NEW YORK, Nov. 25 — A plea to the United States District Court in New York City for the return of the New York City grand jury indictment against the three men who were indicted last week in the Iran-Contra scandal.

The three men, who are charged with conspiracy to obstruct justice, are: Robert M. Friedman, 52, a former aide to President Reagan; John M. Poindexter, 50, a former national security adviser; and Oliver L. North, 47, a former aide to President Reagan.

The three men were indicted last week on charges of conspiracy to obstruct justice in the Iran-Contra scandal. They are charged with conspiring to divert \$30 million from the Iran arms sale to the Contras in Nicaragua.

The indictment was returned by a grand jury of 23 members, including 12 women, in the Southern District of New York.

The three men are charged with conspiring to obstruct justice in the Iran-Contra scandal. They are charged with conspiring to divert \$30 million from the Iran arms sale to the Contras in Nicaragua.



DISARRAY DEEPENS

Was Not 'Fully Informed' About Secret Moves, President Asserts

By BERNARD WEINRAUB

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25 — President Reagan said today that he had not been in full control of his Administration's Iran policy, and the White House said that as a consequence up to \$30 million intended to pay for American arms had been secretly diverted to rebel forces in Nicaragua.

Mr. Reagan said that "although not directly involved," Admiral Poindexter had "asked to be relieved of his assignment" and would return to Navy duties. Colonel North, the President said, "has been relieved of his duties on the National Security Council staff."

Colonel North was widely reported to be the central figure in the Iran arms deal.

Disarray Deepens

Was Not 'Fully Informed' About Secret Moves, President Asserts

Iran Payment Is Found Diverted to the Contras; Two Reagan Men Are Out

By BERNARD WEINRAUB

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES

Washington, Nov. 25--President Reagan said today that he had not been in full control of his Administration's Iran policy, and the White House said that as a consequence up to \$30 million intended to pay for American arms had been secretly diverted to rebel forces in Nicaragua.

At the same time, the President announced that two men he held responsible--Vice Adm. John M. Poindexter, the national security adviser, and Lieut. Col. Oliver L. North, a member of the admiral's staff--had left their posts.

With the Administration already in turmoil over the earlier disclosure of clandestine arms shipments to Iran, and with speculation rampant about a major overhaul of the White House staff, the President's statement seemed to deepen a sense of disarray. By all accounts, Mr. Reagan now faces the most serious crisis in his six-year Presidency.

Shultz to Control Policy

The State Department, meanwhile, said Secretary of State George P. Shultz had been given control over future Iran policy, authority that apparently met his condition for remaining in office. State Department officials, including Mr. Shultz, have said they were left in the dark on much of the Iran operation.

Manila and Rebels Say Cease-Fire Could Be Signed in a Day or Two

By BARBARA BRONSTEIN

MANILA, Nov. 25 — The United States and the Philippines said today that they were hopeful that a cease-fire could be signed in a day or two in the Philippines.

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Both Friends and Foes See Reagan as Isolated

By R. N. APPLE, III

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25 — A sense of isolation, of being surrounded by enemies, is being felt by President Reagan today.

Both friends and foes of the President are seeing him as isolated and vulnerable.

TOP LEGISLATORS PROMISE INQUIRY

Likely Violations of Law Cited

By STEVEN A. ROBERTS

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25 — A group of top legislators said today that they would demand a full investigation into the Iran-Contra scandal.

The legislators said that they believed the President and his staff had violated the law.

More Inquiries to Come

The United States and the Philippines said today that they were hopeful that a cease-fire could be signed in a day or two in the Philippines.

More on the Policy Crisis

Light queries were made by the President's administration today.

Light queries were made by the President's administration today.

Light queries were made by the President's administration today.

INSIDE

Taliban's Action Brings UP

Reagan's Case Forward

Mr. Reagan stunned legislators and ranking Administration officials by announcing in a televised session with reporters that he had not been "fully informed" of some details of the Iran operation and that Admiral Poindexter and Colonel North were leaving after "serious questions of propriety had been raised."

Inquiry Still Under Way

Mr. Reagan said that, "although not directly involved," Admiral Poindexter had "asked to be relieved of his assignment" and would return to Navy duties. Colonel North, the President said, "has been relieved of his duties on the National Security Council staff." Colonel North was widely reported to be the central figure in the Iran arms deal.

After Mr. Reagan's announcement, Attorney General Edwin Meese 3d said the Justice Department was still investigating how Nicaraguan rebel forces, known as contras, received "somewhere between \$10 and \$30 million" paid to "representatives of Israel" funneling the arms to Iran. Israeli and American sources said today that a Saudi arms dealer played a central role in financing the Iranian purchase of arms transferred by Israel to Iran on behalf of the United States.



And in its first official comment of the Iran affair, the Israeli Government said it had transferred arms to Iran at the "request" of the United States and did not know that some payments for these weapons were channeled to the Nicaraguan rebels.

In San Jose, Costa Rica, and in Miami, spokesmen for the Nicaraguan rebel coalition said they knew nothing of secret transfers of funds to their organization arranged by Colonel North.

'Only Colonel North Knew'

"The only persons in the United States Government that knew precisely about this--the only person--was Lieutenant Colonel North," said Mr. Meese. "Admiral Poindexter did know that something of this nature was occurring, but he did not look into it further.

"C.I.A. Director Casey, Secretary of State Shultz, Secretary of Defense Weinberger, myself, the other members of the N.S.C. none of us knew.

"The President knew nothing about it until I reported it to him," Mr. Meese told reporters in the packed White House press room. "I alerted him yesterday morning."



Group 10SOURCE: Veil: The Secret Wars Of The Cia 1981-1987 By Bob Woodward (1987)**Reagan explains secret sale of arms to Iran, Nov. 13, 1986**

On this day in 1986, President Ronald Reagan went on national television to explain — and, in part, defend — the secret sale of arms to Iran despite a U.S. arms embargo. White House officials hoped the arms transfers through Israel would help secure the release of seven U.S. hostages being held in Lebanon. They also used the proceeds of the sale to funnel weapons to Nicaraguan insurgents, known as the Contras, whom Reagan supported — despite a congressional ban on such transfers.

Reagan addressed the nation 10 days after the arms-for-hostages deal was revealed in a Lebanese magazine.

The president said:

“My purpose was ... to send a signal that the United States was prepared to replace the animosity between [the U.S. and Iran] with a new relationship. ... At the same time we undertook this initiative, we made clear that Iran must oppose all forms of international terrorism as a condition of progress in our relationship. The most significant step which Iran could take, we indicated, would be to use its influence in Lebanon to secure the release of all hostages held there.”

Later that month, the Iran-Contra scandal metastasized when Lt. Col. Oliver North, a senior aide on the National Security Council, illegally destroyed or hid key documents that revealed what had transpired. At his 1989 trial, North testified that he had witnessed his boss, Vice Adm. John Poindexter, the national security adviser, shred the sole signed copy of a presidential covert-action finding that authorized the CIA to initiate Hawk missile shipments to Iran.

On Nov. 25, Reagan fired North. On the same day, Poindexter resigned.

Reagan, in a subsequent nationally televised address on March 4, 1987, took responsibility for any actions of which he was unaware, admitting that “what began as a strategic opening to Iran deteriorated, in its implementation, into trading arms for hostages.”

NORTH: REAGAN 'KNEW EVERYTHING'

By George Lardner Jr. October 20, 1991

Oliver L. North, in a new book called "Under Fire," says he is now convinced that Ronald Reagan "knew everything" about the Iran-contra scandal when he was president and that the White House began an elaborate cover-up to protect him several weeks before the scandal broke in 1986.

North accused Reagan of being untruthful in his memoirs and said he has no doubt that the former president was not only fully aware of the diversion of Iran arms sales profits to aid the contra rebels in Nicaragua, but also that he approved it "enthusiastically."

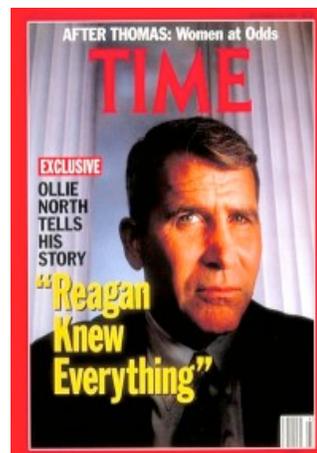
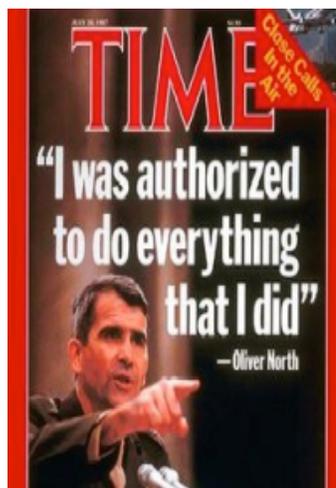
In an excerpt published in this week's editions of Time magazine, North suggested that the notorious "diversion" was itself a "diversion," made public to draw attention away from "what else the President and his top advisers had known about and approved."

For instance, North said that on Dec. 11, 1986, Texas entrepreneur H. Ross Perot met with North lawyer Brendan V. Sullivan Jr. and told him: "Look, why doesn't Ollie just end this thing and explain to the FBI that the President didn't know. If he goes to jail, I'll take care of his family. And I'll be happy to give him a job when he gets out."

Perot told The Washington Post in 1987 that he offered to take care of both North and Poindexter if they would "step forward and tell everything, full disclosure."

A few days later, on Dec. 17, North said, a military aide to then-Vice President Bush visited him and Sullivan and "suggested that I waive my Fifth Amendment rights and absolve the President of responsibility. . . . Had this officer been sent? Had he come on his own? I still don't know."

The reported Dec. 17 visit came a day after the Senate intelligence committee spurned as premature a Reagan request that the panel give North and Poindexter immunity from prosecution in return for their testimony.



Group 12

<http://www.wrmea.org/1995-december/with-release-of-terry-anderson-u.s.-hostage-ordeal-ended-in-lebanon.html>

Washington Report on Middle East Affairs, December 1995, Pages 79-80

With Release of Terry Anderson, U.S. Hostage Ordeal Ended in Lebanon

By Donald Neff

It was four years ago, on Dec. 4, 1991, that the agony of America's hostages held in Lebanon finally came to an end. The moment arrived with the release of newsman Terry Anderson, 44, after 2,454 days in captivity—the longest confinement suffered by any of the hostages.¹

At least four Americans had been kidnapped in the mid-1970s, early in Lebanon's civil war. All eventually had been released unharmed, and there was relatively little media attention given to these seemingly random events.

That was not the case with the total of 17 Americans kidnapped after early 1984, when five were taken. Four more were captured in 1985, three in 1986, four in 1987 and one in 1988. After 1988, the kidnappings ended in large part because Americans essentially had been chased out of Lebanon.

Three of the American hostages were killed or died in captivity: CIA Station Chief William Buckley, Marine Lt. Col. William R. Higgins and librarian Peter Kilburn. The remains of Buckley and Higgins were left on Beirut streets in the three weeks after Anderson's release and brought back to the United States for burial.² Kilburn's body had been similarly found in 1986.³

Three escaped: Charles Glass, Jeremy Levin and Frank Regier. Three were ransomed in the Reagan administration's Iran arms-for-hostages scandal: David Jacobsen, Lawrence Jenco and Benjamin Weir. Two were released in 1990: Robert Polhill and Frank Reed. And six were released in the final four months of 1991: Joseph Cicippio, Thomas Sutherland, Alann Steen, Edward Tracy, Jesse Turner and Anderson.

The 1980s kidnappings were part of a highly successful campaign by Shi'a Muslims belonging to Hezbollah (Party of God) and supported by Iran to rid Lebanon of all Americans. It began in retaliation for Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon with the massive use of U.S.-made weapons and accelerated after Washington's decision to use U.S. warplanes and ships of the U.S. Sixth Fleet against Muslim and Druze targets in late 1983.

Early Hezbollah attacks included the bombing in 1983 of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, with the loss of 63 lives including some of the CIA's top Mideast experts, and the bombing of the Marine barracks at Beirut Airport, with the initial loss of 241 lives.

On Jan. 18, 1984, President Malcolm Kerr of the American University of Beirut, a distinguished scholar of the Arab world, was gunned down outside his AUB office.⁴

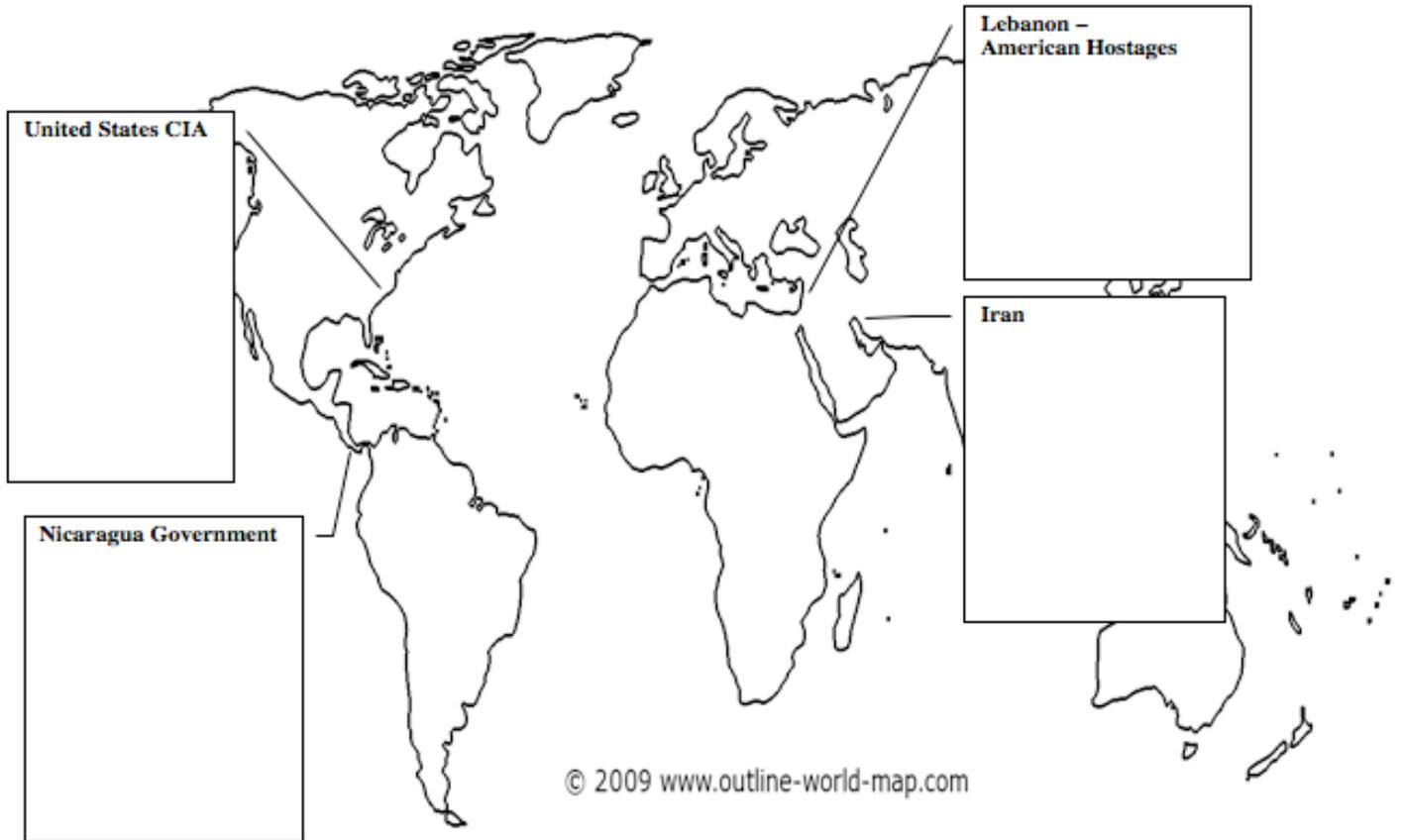
At that point Hezbollah openly proclaimed its goal was to "drive all Americans from Lebanon."⁵

This seemed an unlikely prospect at the time, since Americans had a long and well-established position in Lebanon's educational, business and international refugee relief communities. The American University of Beirut had been founded in 1866 by U.S. missionaries and Americans had been intimately involved with it ever since. Yet by the end of 1988, Hezbollah had won and the U.S. presence in Lebanon essentially was gone.

Name _____

World Map and Notetaking Boxes worksheet

Map Directions: Using a classroom World Map, **label and outline** the following areas: Washington DC, Nicaragua, Lebanon, and Iran. As the teacher goes through the PowerPoint in class, **write important information in the boxes** regarding each of the locations.



Name _____ **Timeline Project**

Use this page to create a timeline of the events discussed in this lesson. As a minimum, you should have the 12 events that were described by the 12 groups that reported.

Scoring Guide for Essay

Name _____ Period _____

Requirements for Essay	Points Possible	My Score	Comments
Described how key political events in Central America and the Middle East affected the United States.	25		
Evaluated primary and secondary sources for authors' main points, purpose, and perspective	10		
Cited specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.	10		
Made a clear the relationship among the key details and ideas. (Kept the events in correct sequence.)	10		
Integrated multiple sources of information) to address a question.	20		
Had an introduction and conclusion that clearly gave the student's answer to the question.	10		
Was writing with correct grammar and spelling.	15		
Total	100		

Scoring Guide for Essay

Name _____ Period _____

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Described how key political events in Central America and the Middle East affected the United States.	25		
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Had an introduction and conclusion that clearly gave the student's answer to the question.	10		
Was writing with correct grammar and spelling.	15		
Total	100		

Scoring Guide for Document Analysis Posters

Group Members _____

Period _____

Requirements for Poster	Points Possible	My Score	Comments
Title (appropriate for document)	5		
Key Details were given (no unimportant information)	20		
Large Writing	10		
Good Grammar and Spelling	10		
Historical Context is given	10		
Intended Audience is given	15		
Point of View is given	15		
Purpose of the Document is explained	15		
Total	100		

Scoring Guide for Document Analysis Posters

Group Members _____

Period _____

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Intended Audience is given	15		
Point of View is given	15		
Purpose of the Document is explained	15		
Total	100		