

DPM/SSEA Interview for CBC Radio -
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Q: ...that Canadian policy should be in that area?

DPM/SSEA: I don't think it changed my mind on, for example, development policy. We have programs of development assistance in Nicaragua, Honduras, Costa Rica, and as a result of my trip, I have not decided for example to withdraw our development assistance at all. I think that in all countries we have a role to play and we ought to continue to play it. There may be some insights I've received about the process of development assistance in one or other country but basically I haven't decided we would cease or terminate our support in any particular country.

Q: What about Canada's position that all third parties should withdraw from any intervention in the area?

DPM/SSEA: That has been certainly reinforced by my visit, and it, of course, is directly related to the Contadora process, which is, as you know, the effort being made by the five Central American countries and the four Latin American countries to bring about a solution to the troubles in Central America. As part of that process, they've established a number of commissions, one of which is the security commission, and in that commission they are attempting to tackle the question of militarization, and particularly the question of military advisers from other countries or military, presumably troops, from other countries. It seems to me that I can say now that the Contadora process is even more relevant from the point of view of demilitarization or from the point of view of getting the third parties out of Central America. If that can be accomplished, of course, it would be a major achievement towards peace in the region, towards hopefully more rapid economic and social development and hopefully more rapid democratization of the countries.

Q: That process has been going on for I think 15 months now. Guerilla activities have increased. Do you think it really stands any chance of success? It doesn't seem to have the full backing ...2