

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 34

To establish a Select Committee to Investigate CIA Involvement in Crack
Cocaine Sales to Fund Contras.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 21, 1997

Ms. WATERS submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on Rules

RESOLUTION

To establish a Select Committee to Investigate CIA
Involvement in Crack Cocaine Sales to Fund Contras.

1 *Resolved,*

2 (a) There is established in the House of Representa-
3 tives a select committee to be known as the Select Com-
4 mittee to Investigate CIA Involvement in Crack Cocaine
5 Sales to Fund Contras (hereinafter referred to in this res-
6 olution as the “select committee”).

7 (b) The select committee shall be composed of 15
8 Members of the House of Representatives to be appointed

1 by the Speaker, one of whom he shall designate as chair-
2 man, and one of whom he shall designate as vice chair-
3 man. Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the se-
4 lect committee shall be filled in the same manner in which
5 the original appointment was made.

6 (c) The select committee is authorized and directed
7 to conduct a full and complete investigation and study,
8 and to make such findings and recommendations to the
9 House of Representatives as the select committee deems
10 appropriate, regarding the following matters:

11 (1) Existence of Central Intelligence Agency
12 files on cocaine purchases and arms transfers to
13 inner-city south central Los Angeles residents.

14 (2) Central Intelligence Agency employment of
15 Danilo Blandon and Edwin Menenses as informants.

16 (3) Diversion or intended diversion of funds ap-
17 propriated by Congress for assistance to Nicaraguan
18 contras or the sale of crack cocaine for such pur-
19 poses.

20 (4) Any other matters deemed appropriate or
21 germane to either Central Intelligence Agency in-
22 volvement in unauthorized or illegal drug sales or
23 the use of informants to provide information on
24 sales of crack cocaine to south central Los Angeles
25 residents.

1 (d) One-third of the members of the select committee
2 shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business
3 other than the reporting of a matter, which shall require
4 a majority of the committee to be actually present, except
5 that the select committee may designate a lesser number,
6 but not less than two, as a quorum for the purpose of
7 holding hearings to take testimony. When a quorum for
8 any particular purpose is present, general proxies may be
9 counted for that purpose. The select committee may sit
10 while the House of Representatives is reading a measure
11 for amendment under the five-minute rule. The rules of
12 the House of Representatives shall govern the select com-
13 mittee where not inconsistent with this resolution. The se-
14 lect committee shall adopt additional written rules, which
15 shall be public, to govern its procedures, which shall not
16 be inconsistent with this resolution or the rules of the
17 House of Representatives. Such rules may govern the con-
18 duct of the depositions, interviews, and hearings of the
19 select committee, including the persons present.

20 (e) The select committee is authorized to sit and act
21 during the present Congress at such times and places
22 within the United States, including any Commonwealth or
23 possession thereof, or in any other country, whether the
24 House of Representatives is in session, has recessed, or
25 has adjourned; to require, by subpoena or otherwise, the

1 attendance and testimony of such witnesses, the furnish-
2 ing of information by interrogatory, and the production
3 of such books, records, correspondence, memoranda, pa-
4 pers, documents, calendars, recordings, data compilations
5 from which information can be obtained, tangible objects,
6 and other things and information of any kind as it deems
7 necessary, including all intelligence materials however
8 classified, White House materials, and materials pertain-
9 ing to unvouchered expenditures or concerning commu-
10 nications interceptions or surveillance; and to obtain evi-
11 dence in other appropriate countries with the cooperation
12 of their governments. Unless otherwise determined by the
13 select committee the chairman, upon consultation with the
14 ranking minority member, or the select committee, shall
15 authorize and issue subpoenas. Subpoenas shall be issued
16 under the seal of the House of Representatives and at-
17 tested by the Clerk, and may be served by any persons
18 designated by the chairman or any member. Provisions
19 may be included in the rules and process of the select com-
20 mittee to prevent the disclosure of committee demands for
21 information. The select committee may request investiga-
22 tions, reports, and other assistance from any agency of
23 the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the Fed-
24 eral Government.

1 (f) The chairman, or in his absence the vice chair-
2 man, or in their absence a member designated by the
3 chairman, shall preside at all meetings and hearings of
4 the select committee. All meetings and hearings of the
5 committee shall be conducted in open session, unless a ma-
6 jority of members of the select committee voting, there
7 being in attendance the requisite number required for the
8 purpose of hearings to take testimony, vote to close a
9 meeting or hearing. Pursuant to rule XI(3)(f)(2) of the
10 rules of the House of Representatives, coverage of testi-
11 mony of subpoenaed witnesses will be limited at their re-
12 quest, unless a majority of members of the select commit-
13 tee voting, there being in attendance the requisite number
14 required for the conduct of business, vote otherwise.

15 (g) The chairman, upon consultation with the rank-
16 ing minority member, may employ and fix the compensa-
17 tion of such clerks, experts, consultants, technicians, at-
18 torneys, investigators, and clerical and stenographic as-
19 sistants as it considers necessary to carry out the purposes
20 of this resolution. No more than three such staff may re-
21 ceive compensation corresponding to Executive Level IV.
22 The select committee shall be deemed a committee of the
23 House of Representatives for all purposes of law, including
24 rule XI(2)(n) of the rules of the House of Representatives,
25 sections 6005, 1505, and 1621 of title 18, United States

1 Code, section 102 of the Revised Statutes of the United
2 States (2 U.S.C. 192), section 502(b) of the Mutual Secu-
3 rity Act of 1954 (22 U.S.C. 1754(b)), and section 734(a)
4 of title 31, United States Code. The select committee may
5 reimburse the members of its staff for travel, subsistence,
6 and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the per-
7 formance of the duties vested in the select committee,
8 other than expenses in connection with meetings of the
9 select committee held in the District of Columbia. Staff
10 of the House of Representatives or joint committees, at
11 the direction of their Members, committee chairmen, or
12 the Speaker, as appropriate, and upon request of the se-
13 lect committee, may serve as associate staff to the select
14 committee for designated purposes. Associate staff shall
15 be deemed staff of the select committee to the extent nec-
16 essary for those designated purposes.

17 (h) Unless otherwise determined by the select com-
18 mittee, the chairman, upon consultation with the ranking
19 minority member, or the select committee, may authorize
20 the taking of affidavits and depositions pursuant to notice
21 or subpoena, by a Member or by designated staff, under
22 oath administered by a Member or a person otherwise au-
23 thorized by law to administer oaths. Deposition and affi-
24 davit testimony shall be deemed to have been taken in
25 Washington, DC, before the select committee once filed

1 there with the clerk of the committee for the committee's
2 use. Unless otherwise directed by the committee, all depo-
3 sitions, affidavits, and other materials received in the in-
4 vestigation shall be considered nonpublic until received by
5 the select committee, except that all such material shall,
6 unless otherwise directed by the committee, be available
7 for use by the members of the select committee in open
8 session.

9 (i) The select committee shall be authorized to re-
10 spond to any judicial or other process or to make any ap-
11 plications to court, upon consultation with the Speaker
12 consistent with rule L of the rules of the House of Rep-
13 resentatives.

14 (j) The select committee may submit to standing
15 committees, including the Permanent Select Committee on
16 Intelligence, specific matters within their jurisdiction and
17 may request that such committees pursue such matters
18 further. Committees pursuing such requested inquiries
19 may, in turn, receive the continuing assistance, consistent
20 with the select committee's own jurisdiction, of the select
21 committee's legal process, personnel, and records. Com-
22 mittees which pursue or have pursued inquiries, during
23 the previous or current Congress, within the subjects of
24 the select committee investigation, shall furnish the select
25 committee with copies of all testimony and documents.

1 (k) The select committee shall provide other commit-
2 tees and Members of the House of Representatives with
3 access to information and proceedings, consistent with
4 clause 7(c)(2) of rule XLVIII of the rules of the House
5 of Representatives. However, the select committee may di-
6 rect that particular matters or classes of matter shall not
7 be made available to any person by its members, staff,
8 or others, or may impose any other restriction. The select
9 committee may require its staff to enter nondisclosure
10 agreements, and its chairman, in consultation with the
11 ranking minority member, may require others, such as
12 counsel for witnesses, to do so. The Committee on Stand-
13 ards of Official Conduct may investigate any unauthorized
14 disclosure of such classified information by a Member, of-
15 ficer, employee of the House of Representatives, or other
16 covered person upon request of the select committee. If,
17 at the conclusion of its investigation, the Committee on
18 Standards of Official Conduct determines that there has
19 been a significant unauthorized disclosure, it shall report
20 its findings to the House of Representatives and rec-
21 ommend appropriate sanctions for the Member, officer,
22 employee, or other covered person consistent with clause
23 7(e) of rule XLVIII of the rules of the House of Rep-
24 resentatives and any committee restriction, including non-
25 disclosure agreements.

1 (l) There shall be paid out of applicable accounts of
2 the House of Representatives such sums as may be nec-
3 essary for the expenses of the select committee. Such pay-
4 ments shall be made on vouchers signed by the chairman
5 and approved in the manner directed by the Committee
6 on House Oversight. Amounts made available under this
7 subsection shall be expended in accordance with regula-
8 tions prescribed by the Committee on House Oversight of
9 the House of Representatives.

10 (m) The select committee shall report to the House
11 of Representatives the final results of its investigation and
12 study as soon as practicable during the present Congress.
13 Following the filing of its final report, it shall have one
14 month before the authority herein shall expire in order to
15 close its affairs, including provision of assistance to com-
16 mittees pursuing remaining inquiries, transmittal of
17 records to other committees, and storage of its remaining
18 records by the Clerk of the House of Representatives, who
19 may, as directed by the select committee, store records in
20 secure facilities of the intelligence community pursuant to
21 agreement retaining control of access by the House of
22 Representatives.

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