

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 70

To establish a select committee to investigate CIA involvement in the financing, distribution and promulgation of crack cocaine and the use of any proceeds to support the Contras.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 13, 1997

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules

RESOLUTION

To establish a select committee to investigate CIA involvement in the financing, distribution and promulgation of crack cocaine and the use of any proceeds to support the 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 in South Central Los Angeles (hereinafter referred
6 to in this resolution as the “select committee”).

7 (b) The select committee shall be composed of 27
8 Members of the House to be appointed by the Speaker,

1 one of whom he shall designate as chairman, and one of
2 whom he shall designate as vice chairman. Not more than
3 15 members of the select committee shall be of the same
4 political party. Any vacancy occurring in the membership
5 of the select committee shall be filled in the same manner
6 in which the original appointment was made.

7 (c) The select committee is authorized and directed
8 to conduct a full and complete investigation and study,
9 and to make such findings and recommendations to the
10 House as the select committee deems appropriate, regard-
11 ing the alleged involvement of the Central Intelligence
12 Agency in the financing, distribution, and sale of crack
13 cocaine in south central Los Angeles and the surrounding
14 area and its further involvement in the use of profits from
15 such alleged activities to fund anti-government forces in
16 Nicaragua.

17 (d) One-third of the members of the select committee
18 shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business
19 other than the reporting of a matter, which shall require
20 a majority of the committee to be actually present, except
21 that the select committee may designate a lesser number,
22 but not less than two, as a quorum for the purpose of
23 holding hearings to take testimony. When a quorum for
24 any particular purpose is present, general proxies may be
25 counted for that purpose. The select committee may sit

1 while the House is reading a measure for amendment
2 under the five-minute rule. The rules of the House shall
3 govern the select committee where not inconsistent with
4 this resolution. The select committee shall adopt addi-
5 tional written rules, which shall be public, to govern its
6 procedures, which shall not be inconsistent with this reso-
7 lution or the rules of the House. Such rules may govern
8 the conduct of the depositions, interviews, and hearings
9 of the select committee, including the persons present.

10 (e) The select committee is authorized to sit and act
11 during the present Congress at such times and places
12 within the United States, including any Commonwealth or
13 possession thereof, or in any other country, whether the
14 House is in session, has recessed, or has adjourned; to
15 require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and tes-
16 timony of such witnesses, the furnishing of information
17 by interrogatory, and the production of such books,
18 records, correspondence, memoranda, papers, documents,
19 calendars, recordings, data compilations from which infor-
20 mation can be obtained, tangible objects, and other things

1 and information of any kind as it deems necessary, includ-
2 ing all intelligence materials however classified; and to ob-
3 tain evidence in other appropriate countries with the co-
4 operation of their governments. Unless otherwise deter-
5 mined by the select committee the chairman, upon con-
6 sultation with the ranking minority member, or the select
7 committee, shall authorize and issue subpoenas. Subpoe-
8 nas shall be issued under the seal of the House and at-
9 tested by the Clerk, and may be served by any persons
10 designated by the chairman or any member. Provisions
11 may be included in the rules and process of the select com-
12 mittee to prevent the disclosure of committee demands for
13 information. The select committee may request investiga-
14 tions, reports, and other assistance from any agency of
15 the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the Fed-
16 eral Government.

17 (f) The chairman, or in his absence the vice chair-
18 man, or in their absence a member designated by the
19 chairman, shall preside at all meetings and hearings of
20 the select committee. All meetings and hearings of the
21 committee shall be conducted in open session, unless a ma-
22 jority of members of the select committee voting, there
23 being in attendance the requisite number required for the
24 purpose of hearings to take testimony, vote to close a
25 meeting or hearing. Pursuant to rule XI(3)(f)(2), coverage

1 of testimony of subpoenaed witnesses will be limited at
2 their request, unless a majority of members of the select
3 committee voting, there being in attendance the requisite
4 number required for the conduct of business, vote other-
5 wise.

6 (g) The chairman, upon consultation with the rank-
7 ing minority member, may employ and fix the compensa-
8 tion of such clerks, experts, consultants, technicians, at-
9 torneys, investigators, and clerical and stenographic as-
10 sistants as it considers necessary to carry out the purposes
11 of this resolution. No more than three such staff may re-
12 ceive compensation corresponding to Executive Level IV.
13 The select committee shall be deemed a committee of the
14 House for all purposes of law, including rule XI(2)(n), and
15 sections 6005, 1505, and 1621 of title 18, section 192 of
16 title 2, 1754(b)(1)(B)(ii) of title 22, and section 734(a)
17 of title 31, United States Code. The select committee may
18 reimburse the members of its staff for travel, subsistence,
19 and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the per-
20 formance of the duties vested in the select committee,
21 other than expenses in connection with meetings of the
22 select committee held in the District of Columbia. Staff
23 of the House or joint committees, at the direction of their
24 Members, committee chairmen, or the Speaker, as appro-
25 priate, and upon request of the select committee, may

1 serve as associate staff to the select committee for des-
2 ignated purposes. Associate staff shall be deemed staff of
3 the select committee to the extent necessary for those des-
4 ignated purposes.

5 (h) Unless otherwise determined by the select com-
6 mittee the chairman, upon consultation with the ranking
7 minority member, or the select committee, may authorize
8 the taking of affidavits, and of depositions pursuant to
9 notice or subpoena, by a Member or by designated staff,
10 under oath administered by a Member or a person other-
11 wise authorized by law to administer oaths. Deposition
12 and affidavit testimony shall be deemed to have been
13 taken in Washington, DC, before the select committee
14 once filed there with the clerk of the committee for the
15 committee's use. Unless otherwise directed by the commit-
16 tee, all depositions, affidavits, and other materials received
17 in the investigation shall be considered nonpublic until re-
18 ceived by the select committee, except that all such mate-
19 rial shall, unless otherwise directed by the committee, be
20 available for use by the Members of the select committee
21 in open session.

22 (i) The select committee shall be authorized to re-
23 spond to any judicial or other process, or to make any
24 applications to court, upon consultation with the Speak-
25 er consistent with rule L.

1 (j) The select committee may submit to standing
2 committees, including the Permanent Select Committee on
3 Intelligence, specific matters within their jurisdiction, and
4 may request that such committees pursue such matters
5 further. Committees pursuing such requested inquiries
6 may, in turn, receive the continuing assistance, consistent
7 with the select committee's own jurisdiction, of the select
8 committee's legal process, personnel, and records. Com-
9 mittees which pursue or have pursued inquiries, during
10 the previous or current Congress, within the subjects of
11 the select committee investigation shall furnish the select
12 committee with copies of all testimony and documents.

13 (k) There shall be paid out of applicable accounts of
14 the House such sums as may be necessary for the expenses
15 of the select committee. Such payments shall be paid on
16 vouchers signed by the chairman and approved in the
17 manner directed by the Committee on House Oversight.
18 Amounts made available under this subsection shall be ex-
19 pended in accordance with regulations prescribed by the
20 Committee on House Oversight of the House.

21 (l) The select committee shall report to the House
22 the final results of its investigation and study as soon as
23 practicable during the present Congress. Following the fil-
24 ing of its final report, it shall have one month before the
25 authority herein shall expire in order to close its affairs,

1 including provision of assistance to committees pursuing
2 remaining inquiries, transmittal of records to other com-
3 mittees, and storage of its remaining records by the Clerk
4 of the House, who may, as directed by the select commit-
5 tee, store records in secure facilities of the intelligence
6 community pursuant to agreement retaining control of ac-
7 cess by the House.

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