

TAPE FOR WEEK OF MARCH 24

THIS IS YOUR CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.

LAST WEEK, IN THE FIRST OF WHAT LOOKS TO BE A SERIES OF EFFORTS TO
EXTEND AID TO THE CONTRAS IN CENTRAL AMERICA, THE HOUSE DEFEATED THE
REQUEST OF THE PRESIDENT TO SEND ONE HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS IN MILITARY
AID TO THE FORCES ATTEMPTING TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT OF NICARAGUA.

I VOTED AGAINST THIS AID BECAUSE I DID NOT FEEL THAT THIS WAS THE
PROPER ACTION WE SHOULD BE TAKING TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COMMUNISM
IN THAT REGION OF THE WORLD. I DO FEEL THAT SOMETHING MUST BE DONE,
BUT ANY ACTION WE TAKE UNILATERALLY WOULD, IN MY OPINION, JEOPARDIZE
THE CHANCES OF THE CONTADORA NATIONS -- THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH NEIGHBOR
NICARAGUA -- TO NEGOTIATE A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT WITH THE NICARAGUAN
LEADERS.

DIPLOMATIC AND HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS -- YES. GUNBOAT DIPLOMACY AND
SENDING U.S. TAX DOLLARS TO A BAND OF RENEGADE FIGHTERS IN THE JUNGLES --
NO.

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