

Kissinger Group Finds Situation in Central America Graver Than Ex

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger said Friday his study commission told President Reagan the situation in Central America "is graver than most of us had expected" and is likely to explode unless a new course can be set.

Speaking to reporters after the commission gave Reagan a report of its trip last week to Central America, Kissinger said his panel is not prepared to make recommendations yet. He said the commission is convinced that it must find a united position that will lead to fulfillment of the people's desires for democracy, economic progress and security.

"The aspirations of the people for dignity,

social betterment and security were very forcefully brought home to us" during the weeklong visit to El Salvador, Nicaragua and neighboring nations, Kissinger said. "We said in Salvador, to whose security we are committed, that nevertheless we must not be asked to choose between security and human rights. And we said in Nicaragua we must not be asked to choose between peace and freedom."

"The fundamental issue is democracy, progress and security."

"It is too early to say what our commission will recommend," Kissinger said of the bipartisan panel which Reagan appointed to seek a unified, long-range approach to the divisive

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issues that have complicated and confused U.S. policy in the region.

"We reported our impressions that the situation is graver than most of us had expected," he added. "All of the leaders that we talked to — and we talked to as many opposition leaders as government leaders — all of them seemed to think that their societies were in a state of urgent need and urgent crisis in the field of economics, in the field of social aspirations and in the field of human rights," Kissinger said. "And they all felt a threat in

the security field that really was quite unexpected to me. I can't believe that unless some of these anxieties are alleviated that we can avoid an explosion in that area."

"If everything continues the way it is, and if there is no change in the situation, the military tensions between all the parties are going to increase," Kissinger said. "And this is why it is imperative to give a new sense of direction to developments in Central America."

Meanwhile, the Reagan administration declared Friday that Nicaragua's proposals for ending outside support for guerrilla movements in Central America "are deficient" and

said it would not in the leftist Sandinista. Alan Romberg, ment spokesman, under review but point, it is clear th. He said the prop about how agreem er outside suppor would be enforced. Moreover, Rom for negotiations is tions — Mexico, Panama. The Uni See



A National Guard truck and a dump truck are swamped on flooded SH 33 in Guthrie. Rescuers tried to use the vehicles to reach stranded residents.

— Staff Photo by George R. Wilson

Floodwaters Recede as Rains End Across State

By Chris Brawley and Gypsy Hogan

Many Oklahomans waited helplessly through a soft drizzle Friday for floodwaters to recede before returning on washed-out roads to their soaked homes.

Officials believe it is too early to assess the financial loss to the state by record-breaking rains this week.

Evacuations reportedly have ended after about 100 people were forced

Damage Emerges —Page 19

from their homes in Lindsay Friday morning by the rising Washita River. Six feet of water edged into a residential area.

Lindsay residents were added to the list of about 800 residents around the state and the 300 families in Guthrie who were forced to abandon their homes.

No confirmed injuries or fatalities have been attributed to the high waters, though conflicting reports say a man was swept off his truck in Guthrie.

Although 17 counties were severely affected by the storms, Civil Defense agency programs director Robby Robinson said the communities of Guthrie, Apache and Midwest City appear to have the most property damage.

The northwest area of Guthrie flooded late Thursday night when Cottonwood Creek suddenly began rising about two feet an hour.

One Civil Defense official called the flood the worst Guthrie has ever seen.

In Apache and Midwest City, nearly 150 residents had to be evacuated Thursday. Evacuation worker Jim White said 42 people remained at the Midwest City Community Center Friday.

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Marines To Caribbean

WASHINGTON — The United States government has dispatched a five-ship amphibious task group carrying 1,800 Marines and a 15-ship aircraft carrier battle group to waters off Grenada to assure the safety of American citizens in the wake of the coup on the Caribbean island, Reagan administration officials said Friday night.

Officials emphasized there were no plans to land Marines on the troubled island, where the military this past week overthrew the Cuban-backed government of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, then assassinated him.

Sending the 20 ships, including the aircraft carrier Independence, and the Marine contingent to the region was designed "as a signal to the government that we are concerned for the safety of U.S. citizens,"

18 Reported Killed

said an administration official, who asked not to be identified.

A Department of Defense official said the 22nd Marine Amphibious Unit was standing by in the Caribbean "to assist with evacuation of an estimated 1,000 U.S. citizens on the island, most of them medical students.

A member of President Reagan's national security staff, who did not want to be identified, said there was no indication the Americans were in danger but sending U.S. forces to the region "was only prudent when you have American lives at stake."

The Marines had been headed for Lebanon to relieve U.S. forces stationed there as part of a multinational peacekeeping force. The am

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