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Subject: Dot-Connecting and CIA Crack Part 2 of 3
THE ROMANIST DOT-CONNECTING and CIA Crack Part 2 of 3 11-30-1996 This is part of the course. There is so much deception and doublethink in the three articles to amaze even the most jaded news observer, but a good place to start a expose of the fraudulence is examining the authors of the pieces. ½ Reporter ½ Walter Pincus, co-author of the Post series, once wrote a story about traveling on a CIA-sponsored trip, and is well-reputed to be a CIA asset, which undermines any claims of objectivity he may have brought to his piece. Meanwhile, as Marc Cooper points out in the November 6 L.A. free weekly New Times, if Doyle McManus, lead writer of the Los Angeles Times slap piece and its Washington bureau chief, is not a CIA asset himself, he might as well be, considering his career of shameless ass-smooching to any story the State Department has cooked up. McManus later said on a PBS appearance that the Gary Webb report was ½ profoundly bad journalism. ½ He is certainly an expert on the subject. On July 18, 1984, he co-wrote a front-page story that proclaimed leaders of the Sandinista government guilty of being ½ linked to a drug smuggling scheme. ½ The article actually named names - Interior Minister Tomas Borge and Defense Minister Humberto Ortega, President Daniel Ortega's brother - which is more than Webb did after his year-plus investigation for his ½ Dark Alliance ½ series. With all these shocking claims about the Sandinistas, one has to ask about the amount of research McManus did for his piece, especially since many Sandinista members were known, like Tom Clancy's CIA agents, to have families and thus couldn't be involved in such stuff. The answer, apparently, is zero. ½ U.S. intelligence sources ½ were the cited source of the claim, who supposedly had satellite photos that ½ corroborated ½ the charge, although the photos were never seen. In the end, the story is certainly at best dubious, and insiders claim the actual source of the piece is none other than famed ½ patriot ½ Oliver North. While I have no romantic illusions about the Sandinistas, and would not be shocked to discover that they were involved in drug trafficking, the evidence for this piece was clearly non-existent, and the tale appears to be little more than government-sponsored propaganda. Perhaps Robert Parry, former AP and Newsweek investigative reporter, has the best quote on McManus: ½ Back then, all us Washington reporters thought that Contra spokesman Bosco Matamorros was a nice guy. But McManus was the only reporter who actually believed him. ½ Robert Parry is definitely a man worth listening to. Though he doesn't consider himself a ½ conspiracy theorist ½ (whatever the hell that means), his thorough research and impeccable level of integrity makes his books (½ Fooling America ½, and two about the October Surprise, ½ Trick or Treason ½ and ½ The October Surprise X-Files ½) required readings for anyone interested in the subject. While the rest of the press was sleeping, Parry was one of the few individuals to have

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