

Joseph Eldridge on resistance movements in Central America

I think the biggest point of disagreement would probably be his inability to recognize that...I think that...I am thinking about, for example, the FMLN and the FSLN; the two, the Sandinistas and the Farabundo Martí. I think history has shown that both were prepared to negotiate and morph, evolve into political movements and political parties and I think in George's mind because they had come—one was, had come to power, shot their way to power, the Sandinistas, and the other because they were trying to seek power through the barrel of a gun, then they were cast out into outer darkness, should be cast out into outer darkness, and were beyond the pale. And I think there were opportunities to negotiate with both and both eventually—it was demonstrated they were prepared to negotiate. And Daniel Ortega left office because he lost an election. And I don't think that George would have admitted that in the 80s.