

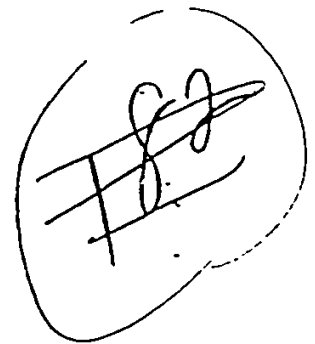
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PAGE:0001

116



HEADER

P 212056Z MAY 90
FM JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEADWD/OCSA WASHINGTON DC
RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC
RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC
RUEACHC/CMC WASHINGTON DC
RUEDADA/AFIS AMHS BOLLING AFB DC
RUEKCCG/USDP-CCC WASHINGTON DC
RUEADWW/WHITEHOUSE
RUETIAQ/MPCFTGEORGE MEADE MD
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC
RUEHC /SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC
RUEAMCC/CMC CC WASHINGTON DC
RUEOFAA/COMJSOC FT BRAGG NC//J2//
RUCQVAB/USCINCSOC INTEL OPS CEN MACDILL AFB FL
RUEOACC/CDRPSYOP GP FT BRAGG NC//ASOF-POG-SB//
RUEALGX/SAFE
P 212046Z MAY 90
FM USDAO SAN SALVADOR
TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO RHLBAAA/USSOUTHCOM QUARRY HEIGHTS//SCJ2//
RUEHMU/USDAO MANAGUA NU
BT

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Front number

Case #1

AMJ

CONTROLS

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 04 SAN SALVADOR 06879

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CITE: (U) 0996.

SERIAL: (U) IIR 6 829 0996 90.

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY

COUNTRY: (U) EL SALVADOR (ES).

SUBJ: IIR 6 829 0996 90/PART 19 IN THE JESUIT SERIES -
NUMEROUS OBSTACLES IMPEDE PROGRESS IN INSTRUCTIONAL
PHASE OF JESUIT CASE/(431)(U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT
FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED
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P52-1
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J21-2
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21 May

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PAGE:0002

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 900507-12.

SOURCES: (U) [REDACTED] (C) S/M

SUMMARY: (C/NF) THIS REPORT ADDRESSES PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED IN MAKING PROGRESS IN THE JESUIT CASE AND STEPS TAKEN TO OVERCOME THEM.

TEXT: 1. (C/NF) [REDACTED] REFERRED TO A NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE OF THE SAME DATE WHICH STATED THAT ES JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES WERE BLAMING THE MILITARY FOR OBSTRUCTING PROGRESS IN THE JESUIT CASE. (C) S/M

[REDACTED] NO REQUEST FOR EVIDENCE OR WITNESSES HAD EVER BEEN FORWARDED TO THE DEFENSE MINISTER FOR ACTION AS IS THE NORMAL PROCESS. (C) S/M

[REDACTED] SUCH A REQUEST COULD HAVE BEEN SENT DIRECTLY TO THE MILITARY SCHOOL, BUT COULD NOT IMAGINE HOW THE DIRECTOR COULD HAVE RESPONDED IN SUCH AN OFF-HANDED MANNER.

2. (C/NF) [THE AMBASSADOR STATED THAT IT APPEARED THAT THERE WAS A GAME OF "BUCK-PASSING" IN PROCESS WITHIN THE GOES REGARDING THIS CASE. ON THE ONE HAND, THE ESAF HAD PUBLICLY PROMISED ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS TO COOPERATE WITH JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES. ON THE OTHER HAND, UNIDENTIFIED JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES TELL THE PRESS THAT THE ESAF IS OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE. IF IT IS TRUE THAT THE JUDGE REQUESTED INFORMATION DIRECTLY FROM THE MILITARY ACADEMY, IT SUGGESTS THAT HE IS ALMOST LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO SAY "NO." AT THE SAME TIME, GIVEN THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CASE, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO UNDERSTAND HOW INFORMATION COULD BE REQUESTED AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE MILITARY ACADEMY NOT ONLY WOULD FAIL TO INFORM THE HIGH COMMAND, BUT WOULD GIVE UNSATISFACTORY RESPONSES. THE PICTURE WHICH IS BEING PAINTED, AND IT IS A HIGHLY CREDIBLE ONE GIVEN THE ESAF'S PAST, IS THAT THE MILITARY DOES NOT WANT JUSTICE IN THIS CASE. CONTINUING, THE AMBASSADOR STRONGLY RECOMMENDED TO [REDACTED] THAT THE TIME HAD COME FOR THE ESAF TO TAKE A MORE PROACTIVE STANCE TO FACILITATE PROGRESS. OTHERWISE INTERNATIONAL OPINION WOULD CONDEMN THE ENTIRE MILITARY INSTITUTION AS GUILTY IN THE CASE.]

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(C) S/M

(C) S/M

NOFORN

PAGE:0003

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IT WAS UP TO THE HIGH COMMAND TO TAKE SOME INITIATIVE, AND [REDACTED] THAT THOSE PRESENT ASSIST [REDACTED] IN DELIVERING THE SAME MESSAGE.

[REDACTED]

(c)
S/M

4. (C/NF) [REDACTED] HAD FORWARDED A LETTER TO THE JUDGE IN CHARGE OF THE JESUIT CASE OFFERING TO PROVIDE TESTIMONY, BUT AS YET HAD RECEIVED NO RESPONSE. HE ADDED THAT HE FELT OBLIGATED TO DEFEND HIS PERSONAL HONOR AGAINST RUMORS THAT HE HAD ORDERED THE ASSASSINATIONS, AND THEREFORE HAD SENT A LETTER TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE 60 MINUTES PROGRAM, HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE, AND SENT WORD TO OCHOA THROUGH ROBERTO ((D'AUBUISSON)) THAT HE DID NOT APPRECIATE HIS DEROGATORY COMMENTS. ON THE ISSUE OF THE AUTHORSHIP OF A RECENT ANONYMOUS LETTER ATTRIBUTED TO JUNIOR OFFICERS, [REDACTED] IS CONVINCED THAT OCHOA'S HAND WAS INVOLVED AND THAT THE EXPRESSED OPINIONS DO NOT REPRESENT THOSE OF THE YOUNG OFFICERS.

(c)
S/M

[REDACTED]

(c)
NG S/M

(c)
S/M

(r)
S/M

(r)
S/M

(r)
S/M

(PONCE) HAD NEVER RECEIVED [REDACTED] A REQUEST FOR INFORMATION NOR THE APPEARANCE OF WITNESSES FROM THE JUDGE. HE WAS AWARE THAT TWO CIVILIAN MEMBERS OF THE HONOR BOARD HAD BEEN SUBPOENAED, BUT THAT THE CORRESPONDENCE HAD BEEN SENT THROUGH THE INEFFICIENT LOCAL MAIL AND HAD BEEN RECEIVED BY THE ADDRESSEES ON THE DAY OF OR FOLLOWING THE APPOINTMENT.

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NOFORN

PAGE:0004

(c) SM
CASANOVA [REDACTED] HAD RECEIVED A REQUEST FOR THE APPEARANCE OF FOUR CADETS, A COPY OF THE OPERATIONS LOG FOR NOVEMBER, AND A COPY OF THE VEHICLE LOG INDICATING WHO HAD ENTERED AND LEFT THE MILITARY ACADEMY FOR 15-16 NOVEMBER. HE HAD SENT THE OPERATIONS LOG TO THE JUDGE, AND IN SEPARATE LETTERS INFORMED THE JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES THAT THE CADETS WERE UNDERGOING ROUTINE TRAINING OUT OF COUNTRY AND THE VEHICLE LOG HAD BEEN LOST. CASANOVA [REDACTED] HAD NOT INFORMED HIS SUPERIORS OF THE REQUESTS, AND ADMITTED THAT GIVEN THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CASE HE PROBABLY SHOULD HAVE. TO DATT'S EXHORTATION THAT THE ESAF TAKE BOLD STEPS TO INSURE THE CASE PROGRESSED, THERE WAS INITIAL RESISTANCE. [REDACTED] THE ESAF WOULD RUN THE RISK OF BEING ACCUSED OF INFLUENCING THE CASE. TO THE COUNTERARGUMENT THAT NOT TO TAKE EXTRAORDINARY MEASURES WOULD RESULT IN THE ESAF'S BEING CONDEMNED FOR OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE, WHICH WAS EVEN WORSE, THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT SOMETHING HAD TO BE DONE. PONCE ALSO ORDERED AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE 'LOST LOG BOOK.

8. (c) SM (c)
GEN LARIOS [REDACTED] WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE JESUIT CASE AND THE PUBLIC DECLARATIONS BY JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES THAT THE ESAF WAS NOT COOPERATING. [REDACTED] SM (c)

THE NEWS MEDIA ACCOUNT REFLECTED UNFAVORABLY ON HIS ABILITY AS MINISTER TO LEAD THE ESAF AND SUGGESTION THAT ADDITIONAL STEPS NEEDED TO BE TAKEN BY THE ESAF TO CORRECT PAST PROCEDURAL ERRORS. [REDACTED] SM (c)

9. (c) SM (c) S/M
RICARDO ((ZAMORA)), 4TH CRIMINAL COURT JUDGE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE JESUIT CASE, [REDACTED] (c) S/M

[REDACTED] DID NOT USE REGULAR MAIL TO SUBPOENA WITNESSES, RATHER A MESSENGER WHO DELIVERED REQUESTS TO THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE INDIVIDUALS. SINCE THE MESSENGER COULD NOT ENTER THE PREMISES, HE LEFT THE SUBPOENAS WITH THE GATE DUTY OFFICER, OBTAINING A SIGNATURE FROM THE RECIPIENT. ZAMORA [REDACTED] (c) S/M
[REDACTED] WAS NOT HAVING MUCH LUCK WITH WITNESSES' APPEARING. HE REJECTED THE SUGGESTION THAT ALL CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING MILITARY COOPERATION BE SENT THROUGH THE DEFENSE MINISTER, STATING THAT THE DEFENSE ATTORNEYS WOULD OBJECT ON THE GROUNDS OF LARIOS' EXERTING COMMAND INFLUENCE.

10

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NOFORN

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PAGE:0005

[REDACTED] (C) S/M

THE HIGH COMMAND HAD MET WITH THE PRESIDENT TO REVIEW THE CASE. THE POSSIBILITY OF FORMING ANOTHER HONOR COMMISSION WAS DISCUSSED BUT NOT PURSUED FOR LEGAL REASONS. [REDACTED] (C) S/M

[REDACTED] SENIOR OFFICERS WOULD BE WILLING TO APPEAR PERSONALLY BEFORE THE JUDGE IN LIEU OF TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THEIR PREOGATIVE TO SUBMIT TESTIMONY IN WRITING. [REDACTED] (C) S/M

[REDACTED] THE MINISTER WOULD MOST LIKELY PROVIDE INFORMATION TO THE JUDGE ON ATTENDEES AT THE 15 NOVEMBER 89 COMMANDERS' MEETING AS WELL AS SUBJECTS DISCUSSED. [REDACTED] (C) S/M

[REDACTED] DOUBTFUL (C) S/M

THAT ALL SENIOR OFFICERS WOULD APPEAR PERSONALLY BEFORE THE JUDGE [REDACTED] (C) S/M

[REDACTED]

COMMENTS: 1. (C/NF) [REDACTED] FIELD COMMENTS. MURPHY'S LAW, BUREAUCRATIC INEFFICIENCY, INDIVIDUAL INCOMPETENCE, INADEQUATE COMMUNICATION, INSENSITIVITY TO THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS CASE, A LACK OF POLITICAL WILL, AND POLITICAL UNDERCURRENTS APPEAR TO BE THE INTERACTING VARIABLES WHICH ARE HINDERING PROGRESS IN THIS CASE. [REDACTED] (C) S/M

[REDACTED] LARIOS' INITIATIVE TO HAVE ALL LEGAL REQUESTS FOR ESAF COLLABORATION IN THE CASE PASS THROUGH HIS OFFICE AS A LOGICAL SOLUTION TO PAST PROBLEMS, BUT GIVEN JUDGE ZAMORA'S COMMENTS ON THIS SUBJECT, HE MAY NOT ACCEPT THE OFFER. IF HE DOES NOT, WE EXPECT THE PROBLEMS NOTED IN RECENT WEEKS TO CONTINUE.

2. (C/NF) [REDACTED] IS FEELING LIKE THE LONE RANGER IN THIS CASE. HE BELIEVES THAT STREET GOSSIP HAS HIM ACCUSED OF ORDERING THE ASSASSINATIONS, WHICH HE VEHEMENTLY DENIES, AND RESENTS THAT HE IS NOT RECEIVING GREATER MORAL SUPPORT OF HIS COLLEAGUES ON THE HIGH COMMAND. (C) S/M

[REDACTED]

(C) S/M

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5. (U) THIS IS NO. 19 IN IN A SERIES OF REPORTS ON THE
JESUIT CASE (CITE IIR'S 6 829 0399, 0493, 0498, 0509,
0510, 0511, 0515, 0524, 0525, 0531, 0538, 0539, 0569,
0572, 0653, 0699, 0946 AND 0992 90).
//IPSP: (U) PG 2250//.
//COMSOBJ: (U) 431//.

NG
(C)
SIM.
ACQ: (U) EL SALVADOR (900507-12).
- DISSEM: (U) FIELD: AMEMBASSY EL SALVADOR.
WARNING: (U) REPORT CLASSIFIED C O N F I D E N T I A L/
NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS/RELEASABLE TO THE
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