

~~ORCON NOFORN WMINTEL~~

INQUIRE=DOC29D
ITEM NO=00420922

VELOPE

CDSN = CFS407 MCN = 95032/47364 TOR = 950327758

PTTSZYUW RUEKJCS2939 0322357-6653-RUEANSS.

ZNY SSSSS

HEADER

P 012357Z FEB 95

[REDACTED]

P 012353Z FEB 95

[REDACTED]

BT
CONTROLS

~~SECRET~~ SECTION 01 OF 02 [REDACTED] 000862

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SERIAL: (U) [REDACTED]

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

BODY

COUNTRY: (U) GUATEMALA (GT).

SUBJ: [REDACTED] /PERSPECTIVE ON COLONEL JULIO ROBERTO ((ALPIREZ)) (U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

[REDACTED]

REQS: (U) P-AN3-2500-01-94; T-3CX-2250-02-90.

[REDACTED]

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10B

SUMMARY: (S/NF/WN/OC) BASED ON HIS BACKGROUND AND CHARACTER, COLONEL ((ALPIREZ)) WAS CAPABLE OF KILLING ((BAMACA)). HOWEVER, IT IS UNLIKELY A SENIOR OFFICER JLD HAVE PERSONALLY EXECUTED SUCH AN ORDER. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WAS UNAWARE OF ANY SUCH ORDER OR OF WHETHER ((BAMACA)) WAS EXECUTED.

TEXT: 1. (S/NF/WN/OC) [REDACTED] QUESTIONED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT COLONEL JULIO ROBERTO ((ALPIREZ)) COULD HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATH OF EFRAIN ((BAMACA)) VELASQUEZ, ALIAS "COMANDANTE EVERARDO". ACCORDING TO [REDACTED], COLONEL ALPIREZ MATURED IN THE GUATEMALAN ARMY IN THE EARLY 1980S IN THE HIGHLANDS, WHERE HE PARTICIPATED IN SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS WHICH WERE TASKED WITH ELIMINATING INSURGENTS AND INSURGENT SYMPATHIZERS. COLONEL ALPIREZ REPORTEDLY EXCELLED AT THIS ASSIGNMENT AND HAS BEEN KNOWN WITHIN THE OFFICER RANKS AS A TOUGH AND DIFFICULT OFFICER.

2. (S/NF/WN/OC) DURING THE MARCH 1992 TIME FRAME WHEN BAMACA WAS REPORTEDLY HELD AND INTERROGATED IN MILITARY ZONE 18 (SAN MARCOS), COLONEL ALPIREZ WAS THE THIRD COMMANDER. BASED ON HIS PAST INTELLIGENCE EXPERIENCE, HE WAS ASSIGNED TO OVERSEE THE INTERROGATION AND DEBRIEF OF BAMACA. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] BELIEVES,

[REDACTED] THAT COLONEL ALPIREZ WAS FULLY CAPABLE OF CARRYING OUT AN ORDER TO KILL BAMACA, IF THAT ORDER CAME DOWN FROM THE NATIONAL DEFENSE STAFF. BUT, [REDACTED] AN ORDER OF THAT NATURE WOULD HAVE BEEN VERBAL AND WOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN PUT IN WRITING. AT THE SAME TIME, [REDACTED] CONTINUED, A SENIOR OFFICER IN CHARGE OF AN ASSIGNMENT OF THIS NATURE (OVERSEE THE INTERROGATION AND DEBRIEF OF BAMACA), WOULD HAVE PROBABLY DELEGATED THE FINAL RESPONSIBILITY TO ELIMINATE BAMACA TO A JUNIOR OFFICER OR A SPECIALIST THAT HE TRUSTED.

3. (S/NF/WN/OC) [REDACTED] HE HAS NOT HEARD ANY RUMOR OR ALLEGATION THAT COLONEL ALPIREZ OR ANYONE ELSE PERSONALLY TERMINATED BAMACA IN 1992. WHILE SOMETHING OF THIS NATURE COULD HAVE OCCURRED, [REDACTED] BELIEVES THAT THE ARMY'S SENIOR LEADERSHIP WOULD STRIVE TO PROTECT THIS INFORMATION RATHER THAN ALLOW IT TO BE DISCUSSED. AS FAR AS THE POSSIBILITY OF RUMORS OF THIS NATURE BEING SPREAD INTENTIONALLY, IN ORDER TO PERHAPS OFFER UP COLONEL ALPIREZ AS A SCAPEGOAT, [REDACTED] SERIOUSLY DOUBTED THIS POSSIBILITY. AT STAKE, [REDACTED]

~~SECRET~~

STATED, IS THE INSTITUTION ITSELF. WHILE THERE ARE OFFICERS WHO DO NOT LIKE COLONEL ALPIREZ, THE ARMY ITSELF WOULD NOT OFFER UP ONE OF ITS OWN TO REDUCE THE HEAT BEING GENERATED BY THE BAMACA CASE. TO DO SO WOULD BE TO INVITE AN ATTACK UPON THE ARMY AS AN INSTITUTION, WHICH THE OFFICER CORPS WOULD NOT PERMIT TO HAPPEN.

4. (S/NF/WN/OC) AT THE SAME TIME, [REDACTED] CONTINUED, IS THE FACT THAT COLONEL ALPIREZ, BASED UPON HIS TIME AND EXPERIENCE IN THE GUATEMALAN ARMY, IS THE KEEPER OF MANY SECRETS THAT COULD DAMAGE NOT ONLY THE ARMY, BUT MANY SENIOR OFFICERS WITHIN THE ARMY, AS WELL. ANYONE WHO ATTEMPTED TO OFFER COLONEL ALPIREZ AS A SCAPEGOAT, WOULD KNOW THAT HE TOO WOULD HAVE A GREAT DEAL TO LOSE IF COLONEL ALPIREZ WERE TO TALK.

COMMENTS: (S/NF) [REDACTED] TO POINT THE FINGER AT COLONEL ALPIREZ IS EASY. IT IS IN THE PUBLIC RECORD THAT HE WAS AT SAN MARCOS AND EX-GUERRILLA SANTIAGO ((CABRERA'S)) TESTIMONY IDENTIFIES HIM AS THE SENIOR OFFICER INVOLVED IN THE INTERROGATION OF BAMACA. NO OTHER SENIOR OFFICER HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED IN THIS CASE. AT THE SAME TIME, COLONEL ALPIREZ ALREADY HAS A CLOUD HANGING OVER HIS HEAD FOR HIS INVOLVEMENT IN THE MICHAEL DEVINE CASE. HE BECOMES A READY MADE TARGET THAT ALL EYES CAN FOCUS ON IN THE QUEST FOR A GUILTY PARTY. WHILE HE MAY INDEED BE GUILTY, THERE IS NO SOLID EVIDENCE AS YET THAT CAN BE OFFERED UP TO SUBSTANTIATE ANY CLAIM THAT COLONEL ALPIREZ KILLED EFRAIN BAMACA.

//IPSP: (U) PG 2500; PG 2250//.

//COMSOBJ: (U) 151; 431//.

ADMIN

PROJ: (U).

INSTR: (U) U.S. NO.

[REDACTED]

WARNING: (U) REPORT CLASSIFIED ~~S-E-C-R-E-T~~ -- NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS -- WARNING NOTICE -- INTELLIGENCE SOURCES OR METHODS INVOLVED -- DISSEMINATION AND EXTRACTION OF INFORMATION CONTROLLED BY ORIGINATOR.

DECT:OADR

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