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ACTION ARA-00

INFO LOG-00 ADS-00 SS-00 H-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 JUSE-00  
FBIE-00 DS-01 P-02 /004 W  
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FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3652

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FOR ARA/CEN

E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: KJUS, PREL PINS ES  
SUBJECT: ELLACURIA MURDER ET AL: REQUEST FOR FBI  
ASSISTANCE

1. GOES PRESIDENT CRISTIANI MADE A FORMAL REQUEST TO  
TO THE AMBASSADOR ON NOVEMBER 18 FOR FBI ASSISTANCE IN  
THE INVESTIGATION OF THE MURDER OF FATHER IGNACIO  
ELLACURIA, S.J., ET AL. POST SUPPORTS PRESIDENT  
CRISTIANI'S REQUEST AND BELIEVES THAT THE FBI CAN PLAY  
AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO ENSURE THE MOST MODERN  
TECHNOLOGICAL SUPPORT IS PROVIDED TO GOES  
INVESTIGATORS. ADDITIONALLY LENDING THE PRESTIGE OF  
THE FBI TO THIS INVESTIGATION WILL PROVIDE THE  
CREDIBILITY THE INVESTIGATION WILL REQUIRE.

2. AT PRESENT WE BELIEVE THAT THAT SUPPORT SHOULD  
INCLUDE ANALYSIS OF THE CLOTHING WORN BY THE VICTIMS.  
THERE IS CONJECTURE THAT AN ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO BURN  
THE BODIES. ALTHOUGH NONE OF THE BODIES WAS BURNED  
THERE IS EVIDENCE THAT GASOLINE OR SOME OTHER FORM OF  
ACCELERANT MAY HAVE BEEN APPLIED TO AT LEAST ONE OF  
THE BODIES. AN ANALYSIS OF THE CLOTHING SHOULD  
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SUPPORT OR DISPROVE THIS THEORY. ANOTHER AREA OF  
SUPPORT WILL BE IN THE AREA OF POLYGRAPH ANALYSIS.  
ONCE WITNESSES ARE IDENTIFIED THE INVESTIGATORS WILL  
WANT TO VERIFY THE CREDIBILITY OF THE STATEMENTS  
THROUGH POLYGRAPH ANALYSIS. WE REQUEST THAT AN FBI  
AGENT OR AGENTS, EXPERT IN THE USE OF THE POLYGRAPH  
INVESTIGATIONS, AND FLUENT IN SPANISH, BE IDENTIFIED  
TO WORK WITH GOES INVESTIGATORS IN ADMINISTERING THE  
POLYGRAPH EXAMS.

RELEASE

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3. IT IS CRITICAL THAT THIS INVESTIGATION NOT FOLLOW THE PATTERN OF THE CASES FROM THE EARLY 80S. UNFOUNDED RUMORS ABOUND AND WILL PERSIST UNTIL A CREDIBLE INVESTIGATION IS CONDUCTED. WE AND MANY U.S. CONGRESSMEN ARE PUSHING THE GOES FOR TOTAL COMMITMENT TO A FULL INVESTIGATION, WITH ALL DELIBERATING SPEED. WE WILL NEED A COMMITMENT FROM THE FBI THAT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE IN A TIMELY MANNER. THE IMMEDIATE REQUIREMENTS ARE FOR THE CLOTHES ANALYSIS AND POLYGRAPH SUPPORT. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS WILL BE IDENTIFIED AS THE INVESTIGATION PROGRESSES.

4. PLEASE REQUEST FBI ASSISTANCE AND ADVISE POST SOONEST. WALKER

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