

~~SECRET~~

PAGE: 1

~~SECRET~~

PAGE 001

SEP 81

- *E. AMERICAN MISSIONARY MURDERED IN<GUATEMALA>
- F. INCREASED CONCERN BY U.S. BUSINESSMEN REGARDING GUATEMALAN TERRORISM

~~SECRET~~

APPROVED FOR RELEASE APRIL 1997
DOCUMENT DOES NOT CONTAIN EVALUATED
INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION

2-20

PAGES 2-5

NONRESPONSIVE

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NR

[REDACTED]

*E. AMERICAN MISSIONARY MURDERED IN<GUATEMALA>

JOHN TROYER, PASTOR OF THE CONSERVATIVE MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP MISSION IN ALDEA PALAMA, LOCATED 35 MILES NORTHWEST OF CHIMALTENANGO, WAS MURDERED BY A GROUP OF APPROXIMATELY 10 ARMED MEN ABOUT 0100 ON 14 SEPTEMBER. GARY MILLER, ANOTHER AMERICAN AFFILIATED WITH THE MISSION, WAS SHOT IN THE CHEST AND IS RECUPERATING IN<GUATEMALA>CITY.

PRIOR TO THE SHOOTING, THE ARMED MEN SPENT AN HOUR RANSACKING THE TROYER RESIDENCE AND ACCUSING THEM OF BEING SPIES FOR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, IMPEDING THE PROGRESS OF THEIR "MOVEMENT" AMONG THE PEASANTS, AND EXPRESSING RESENTMENT OF THE U.S. LIFESTYLE. TROYER'S WIFE, FIVE CHILDREN, AND THEIR GUATEMALAN MAID WITNESSED THE SHOOTING BUT WERE NOT HARMED. NO GROUP HAS CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MURDER.

IN SPITE OF THE INCREASING VIOLENCE IN<GUATEMALA>, FATHER FERDINAND GOSSELIN AND FATHER BREEN, MARYKNOLL PRIESTS, HAVE EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO RETURN TO THE PETEN AREA.

[REDACTED]

FATHER TED CUSTER, ALSO A MARYKNOLL PRIEST WORKING IN <GUATEMALA>CITY, RECEIVED TWO DEATH THREATS AND LEFT<GUATEMALA>IN LATE AUGUST. FATHER BRUCE (NO LAST NAME AVAILABLE), WHO HAD BEEN WORKING IN HUEHUETENANGO, ASKED TO BE SENT HOME BECAUSE THE KILLING AND VIOLENCE IN THE INDIAN HIGHLANDS WAS BECOMING OVERWHELMING. EVEN

(b)(1)
(b)(3)
S
1.5 (c)

PAGES 8-9

NONRESPONSIVE