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Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

12 April 1995

Executive Secretariat
Information Review Officer

Deputy Inspector General
for Investigations

VIA: [REDACTED]

This serves as the Executive Secretariat's response to the IG's 3 April 1995 request for documents relating to Guatemala and the death of Michael Devine and Efraim Banaca Velasquez.

A search of Executive Registry files was conducted using the search strategy described in attachment A. In addition, the National Intelligence Council and the Community Management Staff was asked to undertake similar searches and to respond directly to you. Other appropriate DCI area offices were tasked directly by the IG.

The results of the Executive Registry search are attached and the documents are numbered 1 through 137. The documents are provided in full text except for a few DCI/DDCI meeting documents which cover multi-sensitive topics. In those instances, only the Guatemala related portions are provided. Sensitive compartment [REDACTED] material is also included. I call your attention to para 6 of the search strategy memo requesting IG review of [REDACTED] traffic held in [REDACTED].

Copies of the attached documents are also being provided to the Guatemala Database Manager ([REDACTED] OCA). Should you have any questions, I can be reached on [REDACTED].

[REDACTED]
Eunice M. Evans
DCI/IRO

Attachments:

*NOTED 9/16
ER - IV*

Guatemala Database

297A

Approved for Release

Date AUG 1998

010313

6 February 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD: Briefings of HPSCI and SSCI on Bamaca Case

1. DC/LA, C/LA [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] ALA, provided three briefings on Friday, 3 February, for HPSCI members Combest and Dicks SSCI staffers, and then HPSCI staffers on current developments in the Bamaca case. The briefings were essentially identical. We reviewed the new intelligence report which identified Julio Roberto ALPIREZ as Bamaca's alleged killer [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and noted his previous alleged involvement in the murder of U.S. citizen Michael Devine [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

2. HPSCI Members. Combest and Dicks listened to the briefing with little comment. They were accompanied by Staff Director [REDACTED] and minority staffer [REDACTED]. There were few questions asked and no concerns expressed during or after the briefing. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Dicks asked whether the U.S. Army school Alpirez had attended at Ft. Dix in 1990 was the "School of the Americas," and we advised it was the Army Command and General Staff course.

3. SSCI Staff. The staffers had numerous questions about the status of the Bamaca case and our contacts with State and Department of Justice on Alpirez's role in the earlier Michael Devine case. They asked what correspondence had occurred between us and the Department at the time of the Michael Devine revelations and what action State had taken. We offered to research the first question and referred them to State for the second. They asked whether Alpirez's name had surfaced publicly in Guatemala in connection with the Devine incident, and we advised we would look into that.

4. [REDACTED]

DC/LA [REDACTED]

There was no further discussion on this issue. [REDACTED]

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SUBJECT: Bamaca--3 Feb Briefings to HPSCI and SSCI

[redacted] also questioned the time lag between our acquiring info on Alpírez's possible involvement in Devine killing (October 1991)

[redacted]
we advised DOJ of the information, and to ensure that DOJ had no jurisdiction in the case, since Devine was a U.S. citizen. We noted that we had met with Justice officials in November 1991 but were not advised until March 1992 that DOJ had no jurisdiction in the case. [redacted]

5. [redacted] then asked what Jennifer Harbury was doing on the case, and we referred them to State Department. He asked whether we would provide this new intelligence to her, and we cautioned that any decision to provide her this information would raise precedent-setting questions, since such clandestinely acquired HUMINT would not normally be provided under FOIA. We referred him to the Department for further discussion on Harbury.

6. They then questioned whether this information could be part of a effort by the Guatemalan military to set Alpírez up, in order to "solve" the killing. We noted that this was possible but not likely, because the Guatemalan military would be hesitant to give up someone who had knowledge of problematic actions on the part of the military and intelligence services, not only on Bamaca but on a wide range of other activities. Given their conduct so far, the military appear to have circled the wagons, and this new information is the first breach in that defense.

7. [redacted]

8. HPSCI Staff. We finally returned to HPSCI to brief the staff. We advised that [redacted] for use in a demarche to Guatemalan President De Leon. They had few questions and comments. They asked for background on Michael Devine, which we agreed to provide. They also asked for an assessment on the reliability of the new information and we provided our judgment that it was sound information. DC/LA [redacted]

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SUBJECT: Bamaca--3 Feb Briefings to HPSCI and SSCI .

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Briefing for HPSCI and SSCI

On 3 February, DC/LA Division [redacted] briefed four HPSCI staffers on recently acquired information [redacted]

[redacted] Jennifer Harbury, Bamaca's American wife, has attracted considerable attention recently with a hunger strike and other activities to publicize her effort with Guatemalan authorities to determine the whereabouts of her husband. [redacted]

[redacted] The new information indicates [redacted] was involved in Bamaca's death [redacted] outlined our discussions with the State Department and NSC [redacted] citing that State planned to demarche the Guatemalan government, probably on 6 February.

The issue had been briefed by [redacted] earlier in the afternoon to HPSCI Chairman Combest and Ranking Member Dicks, plus Staff Directors, and Minority Staff Director [redacted] provided a brief overview to the other staffers before the briefers arrived. The staffers took the news calmly and asked few questions. They clearly agreed with [redacted] observation that it was an explosive issue which could hit the press at any time.

[redacted]

On the SSCI side, which was briefed the same day, staffers were particularly interested in understanding why it took the Department of Justice and the State Department so long to make a decision on whether [redacted] could be prosecuted by U.S. authorities. They were also interested in the considerations which went into the formulation of the demarche to the Guatemalan government. [redacted] will be the staff focal point for the SSCI.

Follow Up Actions: None.

[redacted]

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Approved for Release
Date 1 AUG 1990

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