

~~SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

EXPLAIN ISAIAS' DEATH AND THE DEATH OF THE AVC AND 19TH OF APRIL (M-19) MEMBERS AS THE RESULT OF UNWARRANTED AND PRECIPITOUS ACTIONS BY ECUADOREAN PRESIDENT LEON ((FEBRES-CORDERO)) RIBADENEYRA. THE AVC ALSO INTENDS TO PUBLICLY STRESS ITS BELIEF THAT THE GROUP'S DECISION TO TURN TO DIRECT, VIOLENT ACTION IS A RESULT OF SIGNIFICANT INEQUITIES INHERENT IN ECUADOREAN SOCIETY. ACCORDINGLY, AVC ACTIONS ARE NOTHING MORE THAN A LOGICAL AND NECESSARY RESPONSE TO THE PRESIDENT'S UNWILLINGNESS TO ADDRESS THESE IMPORTANT SOCIAL ISSUES.

3. THE AVC MEMBER ALSO STATED, HOWEVER, THAT INTERNALLY THE AVC HAS ADMITTED THAT ITS ATTEMPT TO KIDNAP AND EXTORT RANSOM FOR THE RELEASE OF ISAIAS WAS AN OPERATIONAL FAILURE. HE SPECIFICALLY ELABORATED, NONETHELESS, THAT THE AVC PERCEIVES THE OUTCOME OF THE ISAIAS KIDNAPPING AS THE FAILURE OF ONE SMALL AVC CELL AND ITS COLOMBIAN M-19 ADVISORS, NOT A FAILURE OF THE GROUP AS A WHOLE. THE AVC MEMBER CHARACTERIZED AVC MORALE AT THIS POINT AS SOUND, AND NOT SIGNIFICANTLY DAMAGED BY THE GUAYAQUIL CELL'S INABILITY TO SUCCESSFULLY FOLLOW THROUGH WITH THE KIDNAPPING. [REDACTED] COMMENT: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE GOVERNMENT OF ECUADOR (GOE) ESTIMATES THAT AVC MEMBERSHIP CURRENTLY STANDS AT ABOUT 400 MEMBERS, OF WHICH 30 - 50 ARE PERSONS WHO ARE WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN TERRORIST ACTIVITIES. THIS NUMBER IS BASED ON INFORMATION FROM GOE SOURCES WITHIN THE AVC; IT VARIES SUBSTANTIALLY FROM THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE OF 1500 - 3000 BUT, IN OUR VIEW, IS PROBABLY A MORE DEFENSIBLE FIGURE. THE HIGH MORALE AMONG THE AVC MEMBERS AS OUTLINED ABOVE IS PROBABLY AMONG THIS MOST HARD-CORE MEMBERSHIP. SUPPORTERS/CONTRIBUTORS MAY BE LESS ENTHUSIASTIC FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF ISAIAS AND THE KIDNAPPERS; THE STAKES HAVE RISEN CONSIDERABLY WITH THE FAILURE OF THE KIDNAPPING AND THE SUBSEQUENT DEATHS.)

ACQ: [REDACTED]

DISSEM: [REDACTED] EMBASSY AND DEFATT AT QUITO. SENT TO [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] USCINCSO, USCINCLANT, JSOC.

WARNING: REPORT CLASS ~~SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
DECL: OADR DRV [REDACTED] BY RECORDED REPORTING OFFICER. ALL PORTIONS CARRY CLASSIFICATION AND CONTROLS OF OVERALL DOCUMENT.

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ORIG/REL: IID/69/X1237.<

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DOCUMENT_ID: 46150781
DOCST: ACTIVE
SOURCE-INFO: CIA [redacted] CIA 198509201257
SOURCE: CIA
DOCTYPE: [redacted]
DOCPREC: R
DOCNO: [redacted]
PRODUCER: CIA
ORIGIN:
ORIGDATE: 198509201257
GUIDE-UID: 1012/39db8d
RECEIPT DATE: 85 8487757 19850920 125700
INPUT_ID: 85 8487757
DOR: 19850920
TOR: 125700
CONTROLS: ~~SECRET~~ [redacted] 201257Z [redacted]

TO: NPIC, DIRNSA, DEPT OF STATE, DIA, TREASURY DEPT, SECRET SERVICE, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM, NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL STAFF, CDR JSOC FT BRAGG NC, ZEN/CIA OFFICE OF CURRENT OPERATIONS, USCINCSO QHTS PANAMA, USCINCLANT NORFOLK VA.

COUNTRY: ECUADOR
COUNTRY: ECUADOR
HUM_SRCE: [redacted]

CLASS: ~~SECRET~~
DISSEMCONTROLS: [redacted]

DECLASSON: MR
CDS: MSGNO 67 (TDXX) *09/21/85* *16:12:17.2.0* ZCZC 21:10:37Z (TD)
SECRET MILITARY CONF: IID INFO: [redacted]

[redacted]

85 8487757 MSR

TOT: 201257Z SEP 85 [redacted]

ORIGDTG: 201257Z
FROM: CIA
TO: NPIC, DIRNSA, DEPT OF STATE, DIA, TREASURY DEPT, SECRET SERVICE, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM, NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL STAFF, CDR JSOC FT BRAGG NC, ZEN/CIA OFFICE OF CURRENT OPERATIONS, USCINCSO QHTS PANAMA, USCINCLANT NORFOLK VA

~~SECRET~~ [redacted]

APPROVED FOR RELEASE DATE: 23-Feb-2011

[redacted]

~~SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

TITLE: SUBJ: ALFARO LIVES TERRORIST GROUP PLANS AND EVALUATION FOLLOWING THE KIDNAPPING OF GUAYAQUIL BANKER

TEXT:

SERIAL: [REDACTED]

PASS: NSA FOR ZKZK OO DLS DE (FOR NSOC); STATE FOR INR AND SY/TAG; SECRET SERVICE FOR ID.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WARNING: INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.

REPORT CLASS ~~SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

DIST: 20 SEPTEMBER 1985

COUNTRY: ECUADOR

DOI: MID-SEPTEMBER 1985

SOURCE: [REDACTED]

TEXT: 1. IN MID-SEPTEMBER 1985, A MEMBER OF THE ALFARO LIVES TERRORIST GROUP (AVC) STATED THAT THE AVC IS CURRENTLY PLANNING ADDITIONAL KIDNAPPINGS AND BANK ROBBERIES DESPITE THE GROUP'S RECENT LOSSES IN THE KIDNAPPING OF GUAYAQUIL BANKER NAHIM ((ISAIAS)) BARQUET. [REDACTED] **COMMENT:** THE KIDNAPPING OF ISAIAS WAS CARRIED OUT ON 7 AUGUST 1985. THE RESCUE BY AN ECUADOREAN HOSTAGE RESCUE TEAM, ATTEMPTED IN GUAYAQUIL ON 2 SEPTEMBER 1985, RESULTED IN THE DEATH OF ISAIAS AND ALL OF THE KIDNAPPERS.) THE AVC MEMBER FURTHER STATED THAT THE TERRORIST GROUP WILL ATTEMPT ANOTHER KIDNAPPING BY MID-NOVEMBER 1985, BUT CURRENTLY DOES NOT FEEL CONFIDENT ENOUGH TO DIRECT ITS EFFORTS AGAINST A UNITED STATES (U.S.) TARGET. THE GROUP MEMBER DID STATE, HOWEVER, THAT THE AVC INTENDS TO BEGIN UTILIZING PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE IN THE FORM OF FALSE ALARM BOMB THREATS TO U.S. AND OTHER FOREIGN INSTALLATIONS IN ECUADOR. ACCORDING TO THE AVC MEMBER, THE PURPOSE OF THESE CALLS WILL BE TO INSTILL FEAR AND UNCERTAINTY IN THE TARGET GROUPS, AS WELL AS IN THE POLICE. THE GROUP MEMBER FURTHER STATED THAT AT TIMES, A FALSE ALARM THREAT TO A HIGH PROFILE TARGET WILL BE UTILIZED TO CONCENTRATE POLICE MANPOWER AND ATTENTION IN A PARTICULAR AREA OF THE CITY, TO ENABLE THE AVC TO CARRY OUT AN OPERATION IN A DIFFERENT SECTOR WITH GREATER SECURITY. THE AVC MEMBER ALSO SAID THAT THE GROUP FEELS EXTREMELY CONFIDENT IN IT'S ABILITY TO EFFECTIVELY CARRY OUT ASSAULTS AGAINST FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

2. THE AVC MEMBER FURTHER STATED THAT THE AVC INTENDS TO PUBLICLY UTILIZE THE DEATHS OF AVC MEMBERS DURING THE FAILED RESCUE ATTEMPT AS AN EXAMPLE OF AVC MEMBERS' COMMITMENT TO THEIR CAUSE. THE AVC MEMBER STATED THAT IN ALL PUBLIC REFERENCES TO THE KIDNAPPING, THE AVC WILL PORTRAY ITS DEAD COLLEAGUES AS POLITICAL MARTYRS WHO WILLINGLY GAVE THEIR LIVES TO PURSUE THEIR STRUGGLE AGAINST THE ECUADOREAN OLIGARCHY. ACCORDING TO THE AVC MEMBER, THE AVC WILL CONTINUE TO PUBLICLY

~~SECRET~~ [REDACTED]