

UNCLASSIFIED  
Department of State

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

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Release

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ACTION INR-10

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INFO FILE-01 ARA-03 PPC-01 OAS-01 PPA-01 SSE-01 DCEN-01  
REG-01 ES-02 /012 A2 JP

INFO LOG-00 ARA-00 SY-06 AMAD-01 PM-10 PA-02 MCT-03  
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TO AIG 4678  
USCOMSOLANT  
CDR 29TH MI BN FT DAVIS PM//AFZU-MI-C//  
ACCT FBPA-EWDK

UNCLAS 6P

SUBJ

EL SALVADOR: STATEMENT ON ZONA ROSA KILLINGS CLARIFIED

PA121338

SAN SALVADOR LA PRENSA GRAFICA IN SPANISH 11 SEP 85  
PP 2, 11

(TEXT) GOVERNMENT SPOKESMEN SAID YESTERDAY THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS NOT SAID AT ANY TIME THAT THE THREE PRISONERS HAD AN ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE ZONA ROSA KILLINGS. THE SPOKESMEN SAID THAT ONLY WILLIAM CELIO RIVAS BOLANOS, WHO CONFESSED, DIRECTLY PARTICIPATED IN THE KILLINGS. THE TWO OTHER PRISONERS, JOSE ABRAHAM DIMAS AND MIGUEL GARCIA MELENDEZ, ADMITTED IN THEIR TESTIMONY THAT WERE MEMBERS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY OF CENTRAL AMERICAN WORKERS (PRTC), BUT DENIED PARTICIPATING IN THE ZONA ROSA KILLINGS. THEY SAID THAT THEY WERE COVERING THE RETREAT OF THOSE WHO CARRIED OUT THE KILLINGS, BUT THAT THEY DID NOT ACTUALLY PARTICIPATE IN THE ACTION. THE GOVERNMENT'S SPOKESMEN ACCUSED THE FMLN-FDR TERRORISTS OF TRYING TO CONFUSE LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL NEWS MEDIA. THEY ALSO SAID THAT JOSE ABRAHAM DIMAS AND MIGUEL GARCIA MELENDEZ WERE COVERING THE RETREAT OF THOSE WHO CARRIED OUT THE KILLINGS.

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MEANWHILE, WILLIAM CELIO RIVAS BOLANOS, WHO WAS KIDNAPPED 3 YEARS AGO BY FMLN-FDR TERRORISTS IN SAN JOSE CANTON, O SAN ESTEBAN CATARINA, SAN VICENTE DEPARTMENT, WHEN HE WAS ONLY 13, CONFESSED THAT HE WAS AT LESS THAN 6 METERS FROM THE VICTIMS OF THE SHOOTING WHEN HE PULLED THE TRIGGER OF HIS AUTOMATIC WEAPON.

HE SAID THAT ISMAEL DIMAS AGUILAR, ALIAS ULISES, GAVE THE ORDER TO FIRE AND THAT HE FIRED 30 ROUNDS WITHOUT KNOWING WHO HE WAS SUPPOSED TO KILL. HE ONLY KNEW THAT THE ATTACK WAS AGAINST U.S. OFFICIALS.

IN HIS TESTIMONY, WILLIAM CELIO RIVAS BOLANOS SAID THAT HE HAD NEVER KILLED DEFENSELESS PEOPLE AND THAT HE WAS USED TO FIGHT AGAINST ARMED MEN. HOWEVER, IN THIS CASE HE OBEYED THE ORDER TO SHOOT TO BECOME ONE OF THE PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE KILLINGS IN ZONA ROSA ALONG WITH ISMAEL DIMAS AGUILAR, WHO ALSO FIRED HIS AUTOMATIC WEAPON AND THE COUP DE GRACE SHOTS IN THE HEAD OF EACH OF THE DEFENSELESS VICTIMS IN A ZONA ROSA RESTAURANT.

(ENDALL) 11 SEP [REDACTED] 12/1454Z SEP

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