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2 September 1981

Sol Meza Ordered Freed on Bail in El Salvador

Ricardo Sol Meza, a wealthy Salvadoran businessman accused of killing two American agricultural advisers and the head of El Salvador's Agrarian Reform Institute on 3 January, has been ordered freed by a Salvadoran judge. (See the issues of 7 January and 3 June 1981.) The judge ruled that there was insufficient evidence for denying bail to Sol Meza. Sol Meza remained in a special cell at national police headquarters while another judge, who had denied him bail, awaited formal notification of the new order. The trial is to continue. [REDACTED]

In a possibly related incident, a contact of the American Institute for Free Labor Development (AIFLD) informed U.S. Embassy officials in El Salvador that the murder of attorney Judith Cisneros on 18 August was linked to the Sol Meza case. Cisneros, according to rumors in the legal community, was assassinated because she had evidence related to the murder case. [REDACTED]

Approved for Release

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