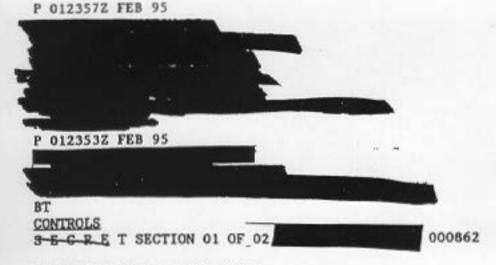
ORGON NOFORN WILLIEL

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INQUIRE=DOC29D TTEM NO=00420922 IYELOPE CDSN = CFS407 MCN = 95032/47364 TOR = 950327358 PTTSZYUW RUEKJCS2939 0322357-6858-RUEANSS. ZNY 88SSS-HEADER



SEGRET NOFORN WNINTEL ORCON

SERIAL: (U)

******* THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE ********/

RODA

COUNTRY: (U) GUATEMALA (GT).

SUBJ: PERSPECTIVE ON COLONEL JULIO ROBERTO ((ALPIREZ)) (U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED S-E-C-R-E-T-NOFORN WNINTEL ORCON.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

REQS: (U) P-AN3-2500-01-94; T-3CX-2250-02-90.



SECRET

SUMMARY: (S/NF/WW/OC) BASED ON HIS BACKGROUND AND CHARACTER, COLONEL ((ALPIREZ)) WAS CAPABLE OF KILLING 'BAMACA)). HOWEVER, IT IS UNLIKELY A SENIOR OFFICER JLD HAVE PERSONALLY EXECUTED SUCH AN ORDER.

ANY SUCH ORDER OR OF WHETHER ((BAMACA)) WAS EXECUTED.

TEXT: 1. (S/NF/WH/OG) QUESTIONED ABOUT
THE POSSIBILITY THAT COLONEL JULIO ROBERTO ((ALPIREZ))
COULD HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATH OF EFRAIN
((BAMACA)) VELASQUEZ. ALIAS "COMANDANTE EVERARDO".
ACCORDING TO ______, COLONEL ALPIREZ MATURED IN THE
GUATEMALAN ARMY IN THE EARLY 1980S IN THE HIGHLANDS,
WHERE HE PARTICIPATED IN SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE
OPERATIONS WHICH WERE TASKED WITH ELIMINATING
INSURGENTS AND INSURGENT SYMPATHIZERS. COLONEL ALPIREZ
REPORTEDLY EXCELLED AT THIS ASSIGNMENT AND HAS BEEN
KNOWN WITHIN THE OFFICER RANKS AS A TOUGH AND DIFFICULT
OFFICER.

2. (SYNF/WN/OC) DURING THE MARCH 1992 TIME FRAME WHEN BAMACA WAS REPORTEDLY HELD AND INTERROGATED IN MILITARY ZONE 18 (SAN MARCOS), COLONEL ALPIREZ WAS THE THIRD COMMANDER. BASED ON HIS PAST INTELLIGENCE EXPERIENCE, HE WAS ASSIGNED TO OVERSEE THE INTERROGATION AND DEBRIEF OF BAMACA.

THAT COLONEL ALPIREZ WAS FULLY
CAPABLE OF CARRYING OUT AN ORDER TO KILL BAMACA, IF
THAT ORDER CAME DOWN FROM THE NATIONAL DEFENSE STAFF.
BUT,
AN ORDER OF THAT NATURE
WOULD HAVE BEEN VERBAL AND WOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN PUT IN
WRITING. AT THE SAME TIME, CONTINUED, A SENIOR
OFFICER IN CHARGE OF AN ASSIGNMENT OF THIS NATURE
(OVERSEE THE INTERROGATION AND DEBRIEF OF BAMACA),
WOULD HAVE PROBABLY DELEGATED THE FINAL RESPONSIBILITY
TO ELIMINATE BAMACA TO A JUNIOR OFFICER OR A SPECIALIST
THAT HE TRUSTED.

RUMOR OR ALLEGATION THAT COLONEL ALPIREZ OR ANYONE ELSE PERSONALLY TERMINATED BAHACA IN 1992. WHILE SOMETHING OF THIS NATURE COULD HAVE OCCURRED, BELIEVES THAT THE ARMY'S SENIOR LEADERSHIP WOULD STRIVE TO PROTECT THIS INFORMATION RATHER THAN ALLOW IT TO BE DISCUSSED. AS FAR AS THE POSSTRILITY OF RUMORS OF THIS NATURE BEING SPREAD INTENTIONALLY, IN ORDER TO PERHAPS OFFER UP COLONEL ALPIREZ AS A SCAPEGOAT, SERIOUSLY DOUBTED THIS POSSIBILITY. AT STAKE,

SECRET

STATED, IS THE INSTITUTION ITSELF. WHILE THERE ARE OFFICERS WHO DO NOT LIKE COLONEL ALPIREZ, THE ARMY TESELF WOULD NOT OFFER UP ONE OF ITS OWN TO REDUCE THE MEAT BEING GENERATED BY THE BAMACA CASE. TO DO SO WOULD BE TO INVITE AN ATTACK UPON THE ARMY AS AN INSTITUTION, WHICH THE OFFICER CORPS WOULD NOT PERMIT TO HAPPEN.

4. (S/NF/WN/QC) AT THE SAME TIME, CONTINUED,
IS THE FACT THAT COLONEL ALPIREZ, BASED UPON HIS TIME
AND EXPERIENCE IN THE GUATEMALAN ARMY, IS THE KEEPER OF
MANY SECRETS THAT COULD DAMAGE NOT ONLY THE ARMY, BUT
MANY SENIOR OFFICERS WITHIN THE ARMY, AS WELL. ANYONE
WHO ATTEMPTED TO OFFER COLONEL ALPIREZ AS A SCAPEGOAT,
WOULD KNOW THAT HE TOO WOULD HAVE A GREAT DEAL TO LOSE
IF COLONEL ALPIREZ WERE TO TALK.

COMMENTS: (9/NF)

FINGER AT COLONEL ALPIREZ IS EASY. IT IS IN THE PUBLIC RECORD THAT HE WAS AT SAN MARCOS AND EX-GUERRILLA SANTIAGO ((CABRERA'S)) TESTIMONY IDENTIFIES HIM AS THE SENIOR OFFICER INVOLVED IN THE INTERROGATION OF BAMACA. NO OTHER SENIOR OFFICER HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED IN THIS CASE. AT THE SAME TIME, COLONEL ALPIREZ ALREADY HAS A CLOUD HANGING OVER HIS HEAD FOR HIS INVOLVEMENT IN THE MICHAEL DEVINE CASE. HE BECOMES A READY MADE TARGET THAT ALL EYES CAN FOCUS ON IN THE QUEST FOR A GUILTY PARTY. WHILE HE MAY INDEED BE GUILTY, THERE IS

O SOLID EVIDENCE AS YET THAT CAN BE OFFERED UP TO JUBSTANTIATE ANY CLAIM THAT COLONEL ALPIREZ KILLED EFRAIN BAMACA.

//IPSP: (U) PG 2500; PG 2250//. //COMSOBJ: (U) 151; 431//.

ADHIN

PROJ: (U).

INSTR: (U) U.S. NO.

WARNING: (U) REPORT CLASSIFIED S-E C R E T -- NOTRELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS -- WARNING NOTICE-INTELLIGENCE SOURCES OR HETHODS INVOLVED
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BT

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