

~~SECRET/NOFORN/UNINTTEL~~

US ARMY FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITY  
US ARMY INTELLIGENCE & SECURITY COMMAND  
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755

17 April 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR Director of Operations, US Army Foreign  
Intelligence Activity, Fort Meade, MD 20755-  
5905

SUBJECT: Operational Summary of Intelligence Information  
RE: Efraín Bamaca, Michael DeVine, and  
Colonel Julio Alpirez (X).

1. (U) References:

2. ~~(S/AF)~~

provided information on Guatemalan insurgent Efraín Bamaca Velásquez alias Everardo; US Citizen Michael DeVine who was murdered in Guatemala in 1990; and Guatemalan Army Colonel Julio Alpirez. The information concerning these issues which was obtained during this surfacing is presented below topically.

3. ~~(S/AF)~~ provided the following information on Efraín Bamaca.

Bamaca was captured after being injured in the shoulder during a firefight

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approximately three kilometers north of Nuevo San Carlos, Guatemala. Captain Corzantes turned Bamaca over to unidentified G-2 officials from the Santa Ana Berlin Military Installation in the field, and continued his patrol mission. [REDACTED] stated that Bamaca was taken to the Santa Ana Berlin Military Installation for detention, interrogation, and treatment of his injury. At the time of the incident, an Infantry Battalion from San Marcos had been detailed to Santa Ana Berlin; Colonel Julio Alpirez was third in command of MZ 18, San Marcos. Upon notification of Bamaca's capture in the neighboring MZ, Colonel Alpirez and a group of officials visited Santa Ana Berlin in order to inform themselves of the situation (NFI). [REDACTED] was one of the visiting officials who visited Santa Ana Berlin from San Marcos. During Colonel Alpirez' visit, Bamaca was being treated for his shoulder wound and a cast was being placed in this area for his recuperation. According to [REDACTED] Colonel Alpirez ordered the medical personnel attending Bamaca to place him in a body cast to prevent his escape. The medical personnel complied. [REDACTED] stated that subsequent to his detention at Santa Ana Berlin, Bamaca was moved to several different places within Guatemala for interrogation and later eliminated (NFI).

4. (S/NE) Information on [REDACTED]

on Michael DeVine is based on [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated

that while Colonel Alpirez was aware of the activity he had virtually nothing to do with the DeVine murder. [REDACTED] stated that Army Colonel Mario Garcia Catalan, Commander of MZ 23, located at Santa Elena in the Petén Department, dispatched a group to investigate the veracity of information received which

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indicated that DeVine was involved in arms and narcotics trafficking. This group was composed of two to three specialists and commanded by Captain Hugo Contreras (NFI). The group was dispatched to Poptún, also in the Petén Department where the Military School Kaibiles is located. DeVine resided in Ixobel, a locality in close proximity of Poptún. The investigative group reported to Kaibiles for lodging and informed then Lieutenant Colonel Alpirez, Chief of the School, of their activity in the area. Captain Contreras and his group proceeded to surveil DeVine and subsequently detained and interrogated him. During the interrogation DeVine was tortured and murdered by one of the enlisted soldiers who wanted to rob him of what he carried (NFI). The group later departed the Kaibiles Military School and returned to Santa Elena, reporting the incident to Colonel Garcia. DeVine's body was later found tied and mutilated. Lieutenant Colonel Alpirez was subsequently directed by the Guatemalan Minister of Defense to state that he knew nothing of the murder (NFI). DeVine, was not murdered by Captain Contreras, however Contreras was the Officer In Charge, and was therefore tried and convicted with the others. While awaiting sentencing Contreras was confined to the Mariscal Zavala Military Installation in Guatemala City. While at the Mariscal Zavala, Contreras was allowed to move about freely within the Installation. Upon notification of his sentence Contreras escaped and is believed to be in hiding either in El Salvador or somewhere in Guatemala.

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