

DECLASSIFIED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE
INTERAGENCY SECURITY CLASSIFICATION APPEALS PANEL,
E.O. 13526, SECTION 5.3(b)(3)

ISCAP APPEAL NO. 2012-007, document no. 1
DECLASSIFICATION DATE: March 05, 2018

25X1, E.O.13526

[REDACTED] 11 Sep 90

Withheld under statutory authority of the
Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949 (50
U.S.C., section 3507)

TOR: 112136Z SEP 90 [REDACTED]

~~SECRET~~ 112014Z SEP 90 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

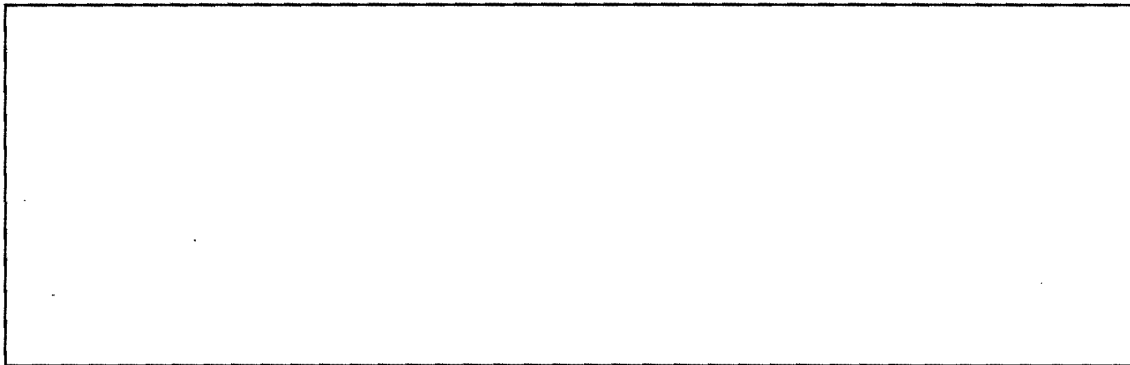
SUBJECT: ALLEGATION THAT CAMILO HERNANDEZ WAS DELIBERATELY
WOUNDED BY ESAF AND ESAF OFFICERS' COMMENTS THAT
HERNANDEZ' WEAPON WAS USED IN THE JESUIT KILLINGS

1. ACTION REQUESTED: NONE, FYI. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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5. [REDACTED] IN LATE AUGUST 1990, [REDACTED] STATED THAT LIEUTENANT COLONEL CAMILO ((HERNANDEZ)), THE DEPUTY COMMANDER OF THE BELLOSO IMMEDIATE REACTION INFANTRY BATTALION AND FORMER SUB-DIRECTOR OF THE SALVADORAN ARMED FORCES (ESAF) MILITARY ACADEMY DURING THE LATE 1989 INSURGENT OFFENSIVE, WAS WOUNDED DELIBERATELY IN THE FIELD ON 18 AUGUST. [REDACTED] AN UN-IDENTIFIED INDIVIDUAL IN THE INFLUENTIAL GROUP OF SENIOR MILITARY OFFICERS KNOWN AS THE "TANDONA" (MILITARY CLASS OF 1966) ATTEMPTED TO HAVE HERNANDEZ KILLED BECAUSE OF HIS INVOLVEMENT IN THE 16 NOVEMBER 1989 KILLING OF THE JESUIT PRIESTS. [REDACTED] THAT THE INCIDENT OCCURRED AFTER THE BASE CAMP IN WHICH HERNANDEZ WAS ENCAMPED WAS SECURED AND [REDACTED] THERE WAS NO CONTACT WITH INSURGENT FORCES AT THE TIME. AN ESAF ARMY LIEUTENANT WAS WOUNDED AND TWO SOLDIERS WERE KILLED IN THE SAME EXPLOSION.

6. [REDACTED] COMMENT: [REDACTED] HERNANDEZ WAS WOUNDED IN AN INSURGENT ATTACK WHICH TOOK PLACE WHILE THE BELLOSO COMMAND POST WAS CHANGING POSITIONS AT 0200 HOURS IN THE MORNING ON 18 AUGUST IN THE AREA OF SAN JOSE LAS FLORES, WESTERN CHALATENANGO DEPARTMENT. THE BELLOSO COMMAND ELEMENT WAS FOLLOWING A PATH IT HAD USED PREVIOUSLY AND WAS MOVING TOWARD A LOCATION IT HAD USED AS A COMMAND POST EARLIER. THE INSURGENTS APPARENTLY ANTICIPATED THE BELLOSO'S MOVEMENTS AND MINED AN AREA ALONG THE PATH. AS THE UNIT PASSED, THE INSURGENTS DETONATED SIX APPARENTLY IMPROVISED MINES, CAUSING SEVERAL CASUALTIES. AS OTHERS IN THE BELLOSO UNIT CAME TO THE ASSISTANCE OF THOSE WHO HAD BEEN HURT, THE INSURGENTS DETONATED SIX MORE MINES. TWO SOLDIERS WERE KILLED AND AT LEAST SEVEN WOUNDED IN THIS INCIDENT. HERNANDEZ SUFFERED A HEAD WOUND AND, AS OF 7 SEPTEMBER, WAS STILL IN THE MILITARY HOSPITAL UNDERGOING TREATMENT.)

7. [REDACTED]
HERNANDEZ HAD SAID TO ANOTHER UNIDENTIFIED ARMY OFFICER THAT IF THE INVESTIGATION INTO THE JESUIT KILLINGS GOT TOO CLOSE TO HIM, HE WOULD REVEAL THE FULL DETAILS OF ESAF INVOLVEMENT IN THE KILLINGS.

8. [REDACTED] SAID SEPARATELY THAT HERNANDEZ WAS A KEY FIGURE BEHIND, AND MAY HAVE ORDERED, THE JESUIT KILLINGS. [REDACTED] SAID THE AK-47 USED IN THE SLAYINGS BELONGED TO HERNANDEZ AND WAS LOANED TO THE KILLERS BY HERNANDEZ. HERNANDEZ HAD ACQUIRED THE CAPTURED FMLN WEAPON WHILE HE WAS THE THIRD BRIGADE OPERATIONS OFFICER IN SAN MIGUEL DURING A PREVIOUS ASSIGNMENT. AT THE TIME OF THE MURDERS, ACCORDING TO THE SENIOR OFFICER, THERE WERE NO AK-47'S ASSIGNED TO THE MILITARY ACADEMY.

9. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] IN EARLY JULY 1990, [REDACTED]
SAID THAT HE WITNESSED HERNANDEZ PASSING AN AK-47 TO AN ATLACATL BATTALION OFFICER ON THE EVENING OF 15 NOVEMBER 1989, JUST PRIOR TO THE UNIT'S DEPARTURE FROM THE MILITARY ACADEMY. DURING THE INVESTIGATION WHICH FOLLOWED THE JESUIT PRIEST MURDERS, IT WAS PROVEN THAT AN AK-47 WAS ONE OF THE WEAPONS USED TO KILL AT LEAST ONE OF THE JESUITS.