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TO JOE Battenfield

393-3641

CONFIDENTIAL: NOT FOR CIRCULATION OR RELEASE

September 14, 1990

To: Hon. Joe Moakley

From: Staff, Special Task Force on El Salvador

Re: Report on staff trip to El Salvador.

From August 7th to August 12th, a delegation of staff from the Moakley Task Force was in El Salvador to review progress in the Jesuits' case and to discuss related issues. Participants from the Task Force were Mike O'Neil (Speaker's Office); Nancy Agris (Foreign Affairs Committee); Jim McGovern (Moakley); John Plashal (Murtha); and Bill Woodward (Studds). Also on the trip, but whose views are not reflected in this report, were Louis Dupart (minority, House Intelligence) and Randy Scheunemann (minority, Foreign Affairs).

The staff met in El Salvador with a number of prominent Salvadorans including Mr. Ernesto Altschul, Deputy Minister of the Presidency; Gen. Humberto Larios, then Minister of Defense; Attorney General Roberto Mendoza; Col. Emilio Ponce, then armed forces Chief of Staff (since named Minister of Defense); Lt. Col. Manuel Antonio Rivas, head of the Special Investigations Unit (SIU); Dr. Ricardo Zamora, the judge in the Jesuits' case; Col. Alfredo Benavides; Fr. Francisco Estrada, rector of the University of Central America (UCA); and Fr. Jose Maria Tojeira, the Jesuit Provincial.

The delegation also met with the members of the negotiating commission of the Salvadoran government regarding peace talks with the opposition FMLN, and with members of the Inter-parliamentary commission, a group from the various political parties working to develop proposals on electoral reform and other issues.