

Office of the Attorney General Washington, B. C. 20530

September 16, 1994

The Honorable John Joseph Moakley Chairman, Committee on Rules United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515-2109

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On November 3, 1993, you wrote to me requesting that I direct the Department of Justice to declassify and release documents related to the 32 human rights cases investigated by the United Nations Truth Commission on El Salvador. I am pleased to inform you that most of the documents responsive to your request have now been reviewed, and the Department is prepared to release them to you. Although we have identified some additional material that is still being processed, I thought it best not to delay the release of what amounts to the vast majority of the Department's responsive documents.

The material that we are now transmitting to you consists of approximately 7,200 pages that have been completely or partially declassified. The Department has reviewed the documents responsive to your request in the spirit of releasing as much information as possible, consistent with our legal obligations. As you recognized in your letter of November 3, however, it has been necessary to withhold from these pages any information that would, for example, invade an individual's personal privacy or that could jeopardize law enforcement sources, methods, or ongoing investigations. We are also providing copies of the same documents to Chairman Claiborne Pell of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and Chairman Lee Hamilton of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Included among the approximately 7,200 pages released today are about 1,200 pages that have been redacted to remove material that remains classified. Classified versions of these documents are available at the Headquarters of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for review by a member of your staff with appropriate security clearances. Please contact Supervisory Special Agent Peter F. Brust of the FBI's Office of Public and Congressional Affairs at (202) 324-6027 to arrange for the review of these classified materials.

As I mentioned above, there remain a number of documents that are still being processed. We will transmit these materials to you as soon as the review is completed. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact Geoffrey Klineberg,

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Special Assistant to the Deputy Attorney General, at (202) 514-4375.

Thank you for your interest in this matter and for your patience while we have engaged in the extensive review required by your request. I hope these documents will prove helpful in your continued investigation of these critical events.

Sincerely,

Janet Reno