

ACTION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ARA/NEA REARCS

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ACTION: ES (02)

INFO: DCEN (01) LARA (01) NCO (01) REG (01) JS (01) RJ (01) ARA (01)
PPC (01) OAS (01) PPA (01) MK (01) PMC (01) HO (01)

----- 07/1031Z A1 RD (TOTAL COPIES: 015)

ACTION ARA-00

INFO LOG-00 ADS-00 CIAE-00 C-01 INRE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 PA-02 PM-00 PRS-01 P-02 SP-00 SSO-00
SS-00 /015W

-----31D100 062327Z /60

O 062305Z JAN 91
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4101
INFO RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4774
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA IMMEDIATE

PINS 23

UNCLAS SAN SALVADOR 00193

EO 12356: N/A

TAGS: PREL, PHUM, ES

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR WALKER'S STATEMENT AT MEMORIAL
CEREMONY FOR SLAIN AMERICANS

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF JANUARY 6, 1991 STATEMENT
MADE BY US AMBASSADOR TO EL SALVADOR WILLIAM G. WALKER
DURING MEMORIAL CEREMONY HONORING SLAIN AMERICAN
SOLDIERS LTC DAVID PICKETT, CWO DANIEL SCOTT, AND PFC
EARNEST DAWSON.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

DAWSON, EARNEST G., JR.: PRIVATE FIRST CLASS, UNITED
STATES ARMY;

-- TWENTY YEARS OF AGE; SINGLE.

SCOTT, DANIEL S.: CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER,
UNITED STATES ARMY;

-- THIRTY NINE; MARRIED AND THE
-- FATHER OF FIVE CHILDREN.

PICKETT, DAVID H.: LT. COL., UNITED STATES
-- ARMY; FORTY YEARS OF AGE;
-- MARRIED WITH THREE CHILDREN.

THREE NAMES ADDED TO THE LIST OF THOSE THOUSANDS, TENS
OF THOUSANDS, WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES SINCE THE FMLN
EMBARKED ON ITS ATTEMPT TO ACHIEVE POWER THROUGH THE
BARREL OF A GUN. IN THIS TEN YEAR CRUCIBLE OF
VIOLENCE, A NUMBER OF ACTS COMMITTED BY ONE SIDE OR
THE OTHER HAVE BEEN SO CRUEL, SO INEXPLICABLE IN TERMS
OF HOW HUMAN BEINGS CONDUCT THEMSELVES, THAT THEY HAVE
ACHIEVED INTERNATIONAL NOTORIETY, AND CONDEMNATION.
THE TRAGIC DEATHS OF COLONEL PICKETT, MR. SCOTT AND
PRIVATE DAWSON WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE ANOTHER IN THAT
LIST OF INFAMOUS ACTS.

I HAVE ASKED THE QUESTION BEFORE, IT BEARS REPEATING
TODAY - WHAT KIND OF ANIMALS WOULD EXECUTE INJURED,
HELPLESS AND NONTHREATENING PERSONS IN THEIR POWER,
AND DO SO IN COLD BLOOD?

THOSE WHO COMMITTED THIS ACT, WHO MURDERED OUR

COLLEAGUES, PERPETRATED A WAR CRIME. SUCH AN ACT IS
NOT ONLY AN AFFRONT TO ANYONE'S NOTION OF HUMAN

DECENCY, A MOCKERY OF ACCEPTED INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTIONS, BUT ALSO GIVES LIE TO THE NOTION THAT
THEY CARE, AS THEY SO LOUDLY PROCLAIM, ABOUT HUMAN
RIGHTS AND JUSTICE. THESE MEN, ALTHOUGH SOLDIERS,
WERE NOT COMBATANTS. THEIR MISSION WAS LOGISTICAL NOT
HOSTILE.

BUT THIS WAS NOT THE FIRST, AND SADLY WILL NOT LIKELY
BE THE LAST TIME THAT MEMBERS OF THE FMLN EXECUTE
INNOCENT PERSONS, IN COLD BLOOD. MAYORS, GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS, MEMBERS OF SOLDIER'S FAMILIES, COUNTLESS
ORDINARY CITIZENS - ALL HAVE FALLEN. IN THAT SENSE
THIS IS NO DIFFERENT. WHAT IS DIFFERENT, TO US, IS
THAT THE VICTIMS HERE ARE AMERICANS, THE CRIME QUICKLY
AND INCONTROVERTIBLY REVEALED.

I HAVE BEEN ASKED WHAT WILL THE UNITED STATES'
RESPONSE BE TO THE DEATH OF ITS THREE SONS. THE
PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES WILL NOT DEMAND
RETRIBUTION, NOR SEEK FURTHER VIOLENCE. THEY WILL ASK
FOR, AND HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO EXPECT, SIMPLE JUSTICE.
THESE MEN DIED IN A SALVADORAN-AMERICAN WORLDWIDE
EFFORT TO BRING PEACE, DEMOCRACY AND JUSTICE TO THIS
COUNTRY.

I EMPHASIZE THE WORD JUSTICE, BECAUSE WITHOUT IT,
THERE CAN BE NO PEACE, NO FULFILLMENT OF THIS
COUNTRY'S DEMOCRATIC PROMISE. HOW MANY MORE MUST DIE
BEFORE THIS SIMPLE LESSON IS LEARNED?

LET ME BE CLEAR - WE ARE DETERMINED TO SEE THOSE
RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATHS OF THESE AMERICANS BROUGHT
TO JUSTICE. JUST AS WE WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR
JUSTICE FOR ALL THE VICTIMS OF THIS TERRIBLE WAR -
AMERICAN OR SALVADORAN, JESUIT PRIEST OR MINISTER OF
STATE, CAMPESINO OR AMERICAN SOLDIER.

TODAY WE SEND THESE THREE MEN ON THEIR FINAL JOURNEY
HOME. WE CAN ONLY PRAY THAT THEIR SACRIFICE, LIKE
THAT OF SO MANY BEFORE THEM, MAY SOMEHOW HELP TO END

THE BLOODSHED THAT HAS LASTED FAR TOO LONG. PEACE, IN
A JUST AND DEMOCRATIC EL SALVADOR, IS WITHIN REACH.
IF, WORKING TOGETHER, WE CAN ACHIEVE THAT END, THEN
THESE DEATHS WILL NOT BE AS TRAGIC, AS SENSELESS, AS
THEY APPEAR TODAY.

OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES GO OUT TO DAVID PICKETT'S
WIFE ROSEMARY AND THEIR THREE CHILDREN; TO DANIEL
SCOTT'S WIFE WANDA AND THEIR FIVE CHILDREN; AND TO THE
PARENTS OF EARNEST DAWSON. WE ARE HERE TO PAY HOMAGE
TO THEIR DEPARTED LOVED ONES.

I THANK YOU FOR JOINING US.

END TEXT.

DIETERICH