



GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-1600

March 9, 1990

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House Rules Committee
H-312

Honorable John Joseph Moakley
Chairman, Committee on Rules
H-312, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is to confirm our telephone conversation yesterday afternoon regarding Major Buckland.

As you know, Major Buckland made himself available to be interviewed by the bipartisan staff of the intelligence committee. I understand that while some of the El Salvador task force members and staff are on the intelligence committee, the committee's rules proscribe the sharing of classified information provided by Major Buckland with those who are not on the committee.

You advised me last week, as you had prior to your trip to El Salvador, that you and some your task force members wished to meet personally with Major Buckland.

I have stressed all along that Major Buckland was transferred from El Salvador under circumstances constituting a legitimate threat to his physical safety. In light of those circumstances we have sought to avoid publicity relating to Major Buckland, particularly the type of publicity that would arise from public testimony.

Accordingly, in order to assist you and the task force, while at the same time protecting the legitimate interests of Major Buckland, and in lieu of proceedings before the rules committee in furtherance of a resolution to subpoena Major Buckland, you and I agreed that the Major, accompanied by two Army representatives, would meet on an informal, no press coverage, confidential, and unrecorded basis with you and four members of your task

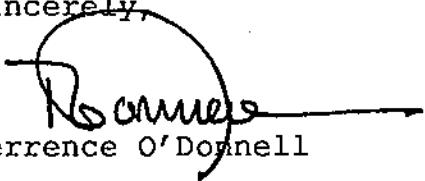
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force and Rep. Shuster, who also has asked the Department for a meeting with Major Buckland. We further agreed that the Department would work with Jim McGovern to schedule this meeting and that any staff members who attend will have security clearances at the secret level.

If this is inconsistent with your understanding of our conversation, please let me know. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Terrence O'Donnell