

COUNTRY: EL SALVADOR  
SUBJ: RUBEN ZAMORA CALLS U.S. CONGRESS REPORT 'POLITICAL'

REF: PA1911153891 MEXICO CITY NOTIMEX 191417 -- GOVERNMENT  
REACTS TO U.S. CONGRESS COMMISSION REPORT

SOURCE: SAN SALVADOR RADIO CADENA YSU IN SPANISH 1800 GMT  
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TEXT:

// ((REPORT BY BALMORE PARADA))

((TEXT)) COMMENTING ON A U.S. CONGRESSIONAL REPORT LINKING GENERAL RENE EMILIO PONCE, DEFENSE AND PUBLIC SECURITY MINISTER, TO THE MURDER OF SIX JESUIT PRIESTS AND TWO OF THEIR MAIDS IN SAN SALVADOR; DR. RUBEN ZAMORA, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, SAID THAT THOSE REVELATIONS GO BEYOND THE STRICTLY LEGAL SPHERE. THIS PROBLEM HAS TAKEN ON POLITICAL CHARACTERISTICS, WHICH THE COUNTRY MUST HANDLE, THE LEFTIST POLITICIAN SAID.

((BEGIN ZAMORA RECORDING)) CONGRESSMAN JOSEPH MOAKLEY, WHO LEADED THE TEAM THAT HAS FOLLOWED THE JESUIT CASE ALL THESE YEARS, HAS MADE VERY SERIOUS STATEMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES, WHICH THE NEW YORK TIMES CARRIED YESTERDAY ON ITS FRONT PAGE. HE GAVE THE NAMES OF A GROUP OF HIGH-RANKING SALVADORAN OFFICERS WHO MADE THE DECISION AT A SPECIFIC MEETING TO KILL THE JESUIT PRIESTS. THE REPORT MENTIONED FULL NAMES, PLACES, AND DATES.

I FIND THIS EXTREMELY GRAVE, AND I THINK WE MUST REVIEW IT HERE WITH UTMOST ATTENTION AND SERIOUSNESS. I BELIEVE THAT WE WOULD HAVE TO READ THE DOCUMENT AND HIS REMARKS. I HAVE NOT YET READ THEM, BUT WILL GET HOLD OF THEM IN A FEW HOURS, AND I WILL BE ABLE TO ASSESS THE SITUATION. THESE REMARKS GO BEYOND THE STRICTLY LEGAL SPHERE. THE JESUITS' MURDER TRIAL UNDER THE COUNTRY'S JUDICIAL SYSTEM HAS MADE THE RESULTS KNOWN TO ALL. FOR THIS REASON, THIS MATTER IS A

FAR-REACHING POLITICAL PROBLEM AND OUR COUNTRY MUST HANDLE IT THAT WAY. ((END RECORDING))

IF THERE IS SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE, THE IMPLICATED OFFICERS CAN BE PUT ON TRIAL AGAIN. THIS MATTER, HOWEVER, MUST BE FIRST HANDLED POLITICALLY, HE SAID.

((BEGIN ZAMORA RECORDING)) IF THERE IS SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE A TRIAL CAN BE HELD AGAIN. I FEEL, HOWEVER, THAT WE MUST HANDLE THE SITUATION IN A POLITICAL MANNER BECAUSE IT HAS ACQUIRED A POLITICAL CHARACTERISTIC. WE HAVE A DEFENSE MINISTER ACCUSED BY A U.S. LAWMAKER, WHO HAS FOLLOWED THE WHOLE TRIAL AND CONDUCTED AN INVESTIGATION. MOAKLEY REPRESENTS THE LEADERSHIP OF THE U.S. CONGRESS. ((END RECORDING))

REFERRING TO RECENT CLASHES IN THE GENERAL AREA OF CUSCATLAN, ZAMORA CALLED THEM A BLOW TO THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATION AND PEACE. THE CLASHES STEM FROM THE GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE TO GIVE A CLEAR RESPONSE TO THE UNILATERAL TRUCE ORDERED BY THE GUERRILLAS, HE SAID. ZAMORA MADE THOSE REMARKS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE SECOND HABITAT AND SOCIAL CHANGE CONGRESS, CALLED "PEACE, RECONSTRUCTION, AND LOW-INCOME HOUSING."