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July 26, 1990

The Honorable Ramsey Clark 26 East 12th Street 6th Floor New York, New York 10003

Dear Mr. Clark:

As we discussed, there has been much confusion over how to proceed on the Joya Martinez matter. It has been especially frustrating that so much time has passed since Joya Martinez first came forward and, to date, there has not been any formal interrogation by those best qualified to test his credibility.

I have authorized a staff delegation -- primarily made up of staff from the Speaker's Task Force on El Salvador -- to travel to El Salvador on August 7 - 10, in order to continue our monitoring of the Jesuit case and to talk to various political parties about the ongoing negotiations between the government and the FMLN. I have also asked that they make some detailed inquiries into the matter of Joya Martinez. It would be helpful if Joya Martinez could be made available to the staff on August 6 in Washington, D. C. so that they can better prepare for their trip.

In addition, I have attached a letter that I have recently sent to Secretary of State Baker, asking that the Administration join with members of the Task Force in questioning Joya Martinez in September. I will keep you informed of any developments on this matter.

I hope to hear from you soon as to whether we can work something out on August 6. Thank you for your time and cooperation.

John Joseph Moakley Member of Congress DEPUTY WHIP

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The Honorable James A. Baker, III Secretary of State Department of State 2201 C Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20520

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Dear Mr. Secretary:

There has been a great deal of discussion surrounding the allegations of Mr. Cesar Vileman Joya Martinez, a deserter from the Salvadoran military, concerning the alleged operation of a death squad within the Salvadoran First Brigade during the 1988-89 period. I believe, given the serious nature of the charges, that a full and thorough investigation is warranted to substantiate or disprove Joya Martinez' account.

In January, members of the Speaker's Task Force on El Salvador met with Joya Martinez. We found his comments to be detailed and consistent with previous statements he has made.

Despite this, I am not prepared to make a judgment on the allegations made by Joya Martinez. Instead, I believe further investigation is required to determine the facts. Obviously, the Administration is in a better position than we in Congress to investigate the validity of Joya Martinez' allegations and I would appreciate receiving a detailed description of your efforts towards this end. I also believe that further direct questioning of Joya Martinez would be helpful. Indeed, I have suggested such action to the Administration on several occasions.

When Congress reconvenes in September, I intend -- under the auspices of the Speaker's Task Force on El Salvador -- to get a small, private, bipartisan group to question Joya Martinez at length. I would like to invite the Administration to participate in this meeting and help us in our deliberations. I appreciate the sensitive nature of this issue and am willing to take every possible step to assure that we proceed in a correct manner. I would, therefore, insist that Joya Martinez be allowed to have his counsel present during all questioning.

I would appreciate your consideration of this matter and would welcome your comments.

Sincerely Modelly
John Joseph Moakley