



FAX COVER SHEET



SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
AND THE ENVIRONMENT
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OF PAGES: 7 (NOT INCLUDING COVER SHEET)

*Comments
plus
memo*

Fr. Bill Woodward
Meeting with Cristiani

Bill
Cristiani *Justice*

any additions?
I'm looking on Embassy question next

Mr. President, I am grateful for your time. I have a great admiration for you and am well aware of the difficult task you face in dealing with the Jesuits' case and trying to negotiate peace. I wouldn't want your job for anything.

I have been asked, as you know, by the Speaker to monitor the Jesuits' case and I have tried to do so in a balanced and fair manner.

I hate to add to your burden -- but in an effort to clarify some matters -- I have a few questions.

1) The two prosecutors who are now working for the Jesuits resigned -- so they say -- because of interference and obstructionism from your Attorney General. Have you talked with the Attorney General about this matter? ~~if so, what did he say?~~ ~~if not, why not?~~ Have you talked with the prosecutors?

Did you order an investigation?

2) Obviously, there is more information to be had and there are more people involved in the Jesuit murders. And it also is clear that the cooperation by the military of this country in helping to move this case forward has been less than satisfactory. How do you account for the reluctance of military officers to either cooperate or tell the truth? *I'm not sure this is worth asking.*

3) I personally do not believe that the High Command is doing all it can to get to the truth. As a result I believe there are many in the military who might come forward with information but -- at this moment -- are afraid to. In light of that fact, I had hoped you, as President, would be able to counteract any misunderstandings about whether or not people should come forward.

a) I read with interest your State of the Union Address. It was a great speech -- but there was not one mention of the Jesuits' case. Why? Was that intentional? *at least in my translation,*

b) Would you agree with me that this case is not closed; that there is more information to be gathered; and that there are others not yet named who are involved?

c) Would you agree with me that, at a minimum, there are members of the Armed Forces involved in a cover-up?

d) Would you agree with me that, a minimum, General Ponce knew immediately after the crimes took place who was responsible? Have you personally asked Ponce what he knows and when he knew it? What did he say?

See new page

4) An incident that has been particularly bothersome to me concerns Captain Bonilla of the SIU. As you recall, Bonilla allegedly told an employee of the US Embassy that some of the officers mentioned in Ponce's February letter to the Minister of Justice actually said more than they did in their written depositions. It is my understanding that the Embassy notified you of this and you had a meeting at your residence with Ambassador Walker, yourself, ~~Mr. Cristiani~~, General Ponce and Captain Bonilla. When Bonilla was asked about the conversation he had with the US Embassy employee -- he denied it or said it was a misunderstanding.

It seems to me that if ^{you were} trying to ascertain whether ^{other} Bonilla knew more the worst thing you could do was have Ponce or any member of the military present when you were questioning him. Why didn't you question him alone first?

In the future, would you ^{handle} similar cases in the same way? In other words, would you have Ponce present or some other representative of the armed forces?

5) Have there been other potential witnesses who have come forward to you? If so, what have they said?

→ he'll say no -- But --

Negotiations

1. What is the major stumbling block at the negotiating table?

2. What is your assessment of the UN ^{mediating} negotiating team?

~~3. Are you encountering any resistance from the Army or the right-wing?~~

3. We have heard reports that you were strongly criticized by a group of 62 Haitian commanders last month for ~~the~~ your handling of negotiations and the Jesuits case --

Is that true? How much resistance are you getting from the military and the right wing?

1. The FMLN criticized your government during a recent round of negotiations for proposing forty or so "amendments" to the UN draft on military reform. What's
 to do with it?
 shyland

6. One of the big mysteries in this case is the role of the so-called honor board. The SCU turned the case over to the honor board on January 5. Eight days later they got the list of guilty men from the Board. The SCU ~~conducted no interviews~~ did not interview people from the Attack 1 during this time. The Honor Board denies asking anyone any questions. The prisoners say they were made to sign blank pieces of paper. There is no written record of what happened or of how the ~~got~~ guilty were identified. Do you know what happened during those days?

R. GITT - WING.

As you know, pamphlets have been circulated threatening any restaurant or hotel that serves foreigners, including those here on behalf of the United Nations. The Army has promised to investigate. But is it really any secret who is doing this? Doesn't it come from General Bustillo and his crowd?