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CITE TDCS-314/13191-67

DIST 2 SEPTEMBER 1967

Political matters
COUNTRY: MEXICO

DOI : 30 AUGUST 1967

SUBJECT: *X* VIEWS OF MEXICO CITY POLICE OFFICIALS ON INVOLVEMENT
OF GOVERNOR OF GUERRERO IN MASSACRE OF COPRA WORKERS

ACQ : MEXICO, MEXICO CITY (1 SEPTEMBER 1967) FIELD REPORT
NO. HMM-11,303

SOURCE : *X* REPUTABLE MEXICAN JOURNALIST WITH WELL-ESTABLISHED
CONTACTS IN JOURNALISTIC, GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS
CIRCLES IN MEXICO. HE HAS BEEN A RELIABLE, THOUGH
INFREQUENT, REPORTER FOR MANY YEARS. HE ACQUIRED
THE INFORMATION IN THIS REPORT [FROM THE TWO POLICE
OFFICIALS NAMED BELOW.] (C)

(SUMMARY: [TWO MEXICO CITY POLICE] OFFICIALS REPORT, ON THE
BASIS OF EVIDENCE SEEN BY THEM PERSONALLY, THAT PROFESSIONAL
GUNMEN EMPLOYED ON A PERMANENT BASIS BY GUERRERO GOVERNOR
RAIMUNDO ABARCA ALARCON WERE INVOLVED IN THE MASSACRE OF
COPRA WORKERS IN ACAPULCO ON 20 AUGUST 1967. IT IS DOUBTED

THAT THE INCIDENT WILL RESULT IN THE REMOVAL OF THE GOVERNOR,

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WHO IS DESCRIBED AS A PAST-MASTER AT CONCEALING HIS INVOLVEMENT IN MURDERS, BECAUSE THERE IS NOT ENOUGH "PUBLIC EVIDENCE"

AGAINST HIM, AND BOTH THE GOVERNOR AND FEDERAL DEPUTY CESAR DEL ANGEL FUENTES WILL PROBABLY BE ABSOLVED OF CHARGES OF COMPLICITY IN THE CRIME. END SUMMARY.

1. ON 30 AUGUST 1967, [REDACTED] *MEXICO*

[REDACTED] (C) STATED THAT GUERRERO GOVERNOR, RAIMUNDO ABARCA ALARCON, WAS INVOLVED IN THE MASSACRE OF COPRA WORKERS AT ACAPULCO, GUERRERO, ON 20 AUGUST. ROCHA EXPLAINED THAT PROFESSIONAL GUNMEN WHO FIRED ON THE COPRA WORKERS FROM THE UNION BUILDING WHICH THE COPRA WORKERS SOUGHT TO ENTER INCLUDED SIX PERSONS WHO SERVE AS ARMED ESCORTS FOR GOVERNOR ABARCA AND HIS AIDES.

2. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (C) STATED THAT HE HAD CHECKED PERSONALLY ON THE CASE AND HAD VERIFIED THAT THE GUNMEN WHO FIRED FROM THE UNION BUILDING WERE PROFESSIONALS KNOWN TO BE IN THE PAY OF GOVERNOR ABARCA ON A PERMANENT BASIS. [REDACTED] (C) ADDED THAT ALL EVIDENCE HE HAD SEEN TO DATE INDICATED THAT THE KILLING OF THE COPRA WORKERS WAS THE RESULT OF THE GOVERNOR'S HAVING SENT

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HIS HIRED GUNMEN TO DEFEND THE UNION BUILDING AND UNION OFFICIALS WHEN WORD WAS RECEIVED THAT THE COPRA WORKERS WERE MARCHING ON ACAPULCO TO DEMAND AN END TO THE ILLEGAL LEVY WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN FORCED TO PAY TO UNION LEADERS AND THE GOVERNOR. [](C) NOTED THAT ALL MAJOR INDUSTRIAL, AND ORGANIZED AGRICULTURAL AND MINING ENTERPRISES DELIVER ILLEGAL PAYMENTS TO THE GOVERNOR WITHOUT EQUIVOCATION, AND THAT IT IS MOST IMPROBABLE THAT THE COPRA WORKERS WOULD EVER HAVE CONSIDERED PROTESTING THEIR OWN LEVY HAD THEY NOT BEEN INCITED TO DO SO BY CESAR DEL ANGEL FUENTES, FEDERAL DEPUTY FROM VERACRUZ.

3. [](C) ^{Mexico} STATED THAT IT WAS MOST UNLIKELY THAT THE ACAPULCO KILLINGS WOULD COST ABARCA THE GOVERNORSHIP SINCE THERE IS NOT ENOUGH "PUBLIC EVIDENCE" OF ABARCA'S INVOLVEMENT. [](C) EXPLAINED THAT UNLESS EVIDENCE POSSESSED BY FEDERAL AUTHORITIES WERE PUBLISHED, PRESIDENT GUSTAVO DIAZ ORDAZ WOULD HAVE NO REASON TO ORDER ABARCA OUT OF OFFICE. [](C) STATED THAT ABARCA WAS FULLY AWARE OF THE EXTENT OF THE GOVERNMENT'S INFORMATION ABOUT HIS INVOLVEMENT AND WAS WISELY PLAYING THE ROLE OF INNOCENT SCAPEGOAT. [](C) OFFERED THE OPINION THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD PLACE GREAT PRESSURE ON CESAR DEL ANGEL

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TO CEASE HIS ACCUSATIONS AGAINST ABARCA, AND THAT IN THE END, BOTH ABARCA AND DEL ANGEL WOULD BE ABSOLVED OF CHARGES OF BEING AMONG THOSE PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACAPULCO KILLINGS.

4. (c) [] NOTED THAT ABARCA HAD MANAGED TO AVOID BEING IM-

PLICATED IN THE MURDER OF ACAPULCO POLITICAL LEADER, ALFREDO

LOPEZ CISNEROS, ALTHOUGH IT WAS FAIRLY

CERTAIN THAT THE GOVERNOR WAS INVOLVED IN THAT KILLING AS WELL.

(c) [] SAID THAT LOPEZ CISNEROS HAD BECOME GREEDY FOR GRAFT AND

HAD TRESPASSED ON THE GOVERNOR'S OWN PRIVATE GRAFT PRESERVE, SO

THAT THE GOVERNOR WAS FORCED TO ELIMINATE HIM WHEN BUSINESSMEN

PROTESTED THAT THEY WERE BEING FORCED TO PAY GRAFT TO TWO

MASTERS AND WERE RECEIVING NO PROTECTION FROM THE GOVERNOR.

ACCORDING TO (c) [] ABARCA IS A PAST-MASTER AT CONCEALING HIS

TRACES WHERE KILLINGS ARE INVOLVED, AND THE PRESS IS NOT EVEN

MENTIONING THE GOVERNOR'S INVOLVEMENT IN A PREVIOUS MASS KILL-

ING EARLIER THIS YEAR. (FIELD COMMENT: IN MARCH 1967, THE

NATIONAL FARMERS' CONFEDERATION (CNC) ACCUSED GOVERNOR ABARCA

OF ORDERING THE KILLING OF TWENTY-FIVE PEASANTS IN SAN ANTONIO

DE LAS TEJAS BY RURAL GUARDS HEADED BY ELEUTERIO BELGADO SALTO

AND HIS FAMILY. ON 30 MARCH, THE CNC SUDDENLY DROPPED ALL

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CHARGES AGAINST THE GOVERNOR IN WHAT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN A POLITICAL DEAL. BELGADO HAS BEEN IMPLICATED IN THE KILLING OF LOPEZ CISNEROS.)

5. (C) [] SECONDED (C) [] ALLEGATIONS STATING THAT HE PERSONALLY HAD SEEN EVIDENCE THAT GOVERNOR ABARCA WAS MORE RESPONSIBLE THAN ANYONE ELSE FOR THE CONSPIRACY TO KILL LOPEZ CISNEROS AND FOR SENDING GUNMEN TO THE ACAPULCO UNION HEADQUARTERS WHERE THE KILLING OF COPRA WORKERS TOOK PLACE.

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