



**Director of
Central
Intelligence**

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*Thursday
18 August 1983*

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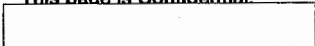
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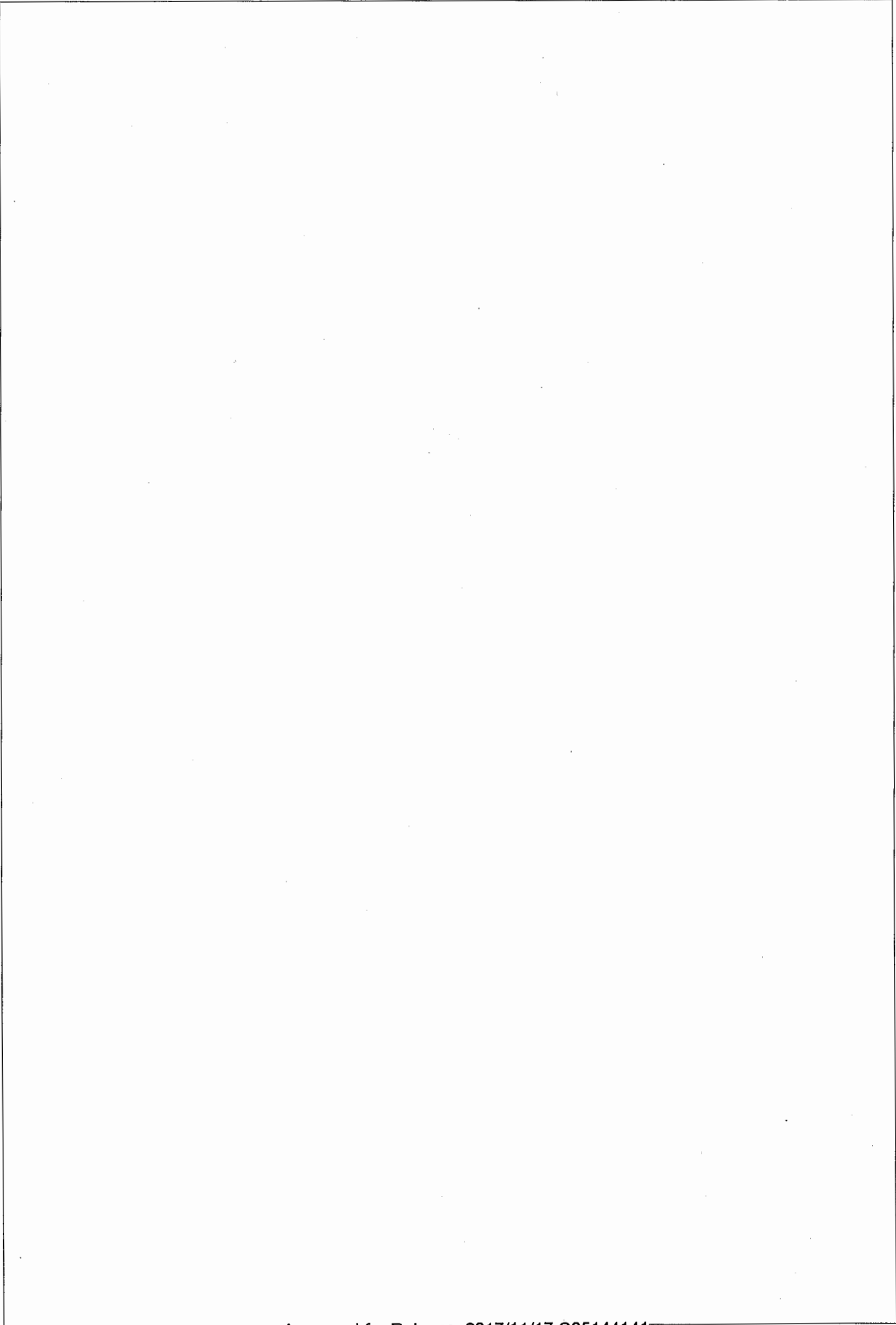
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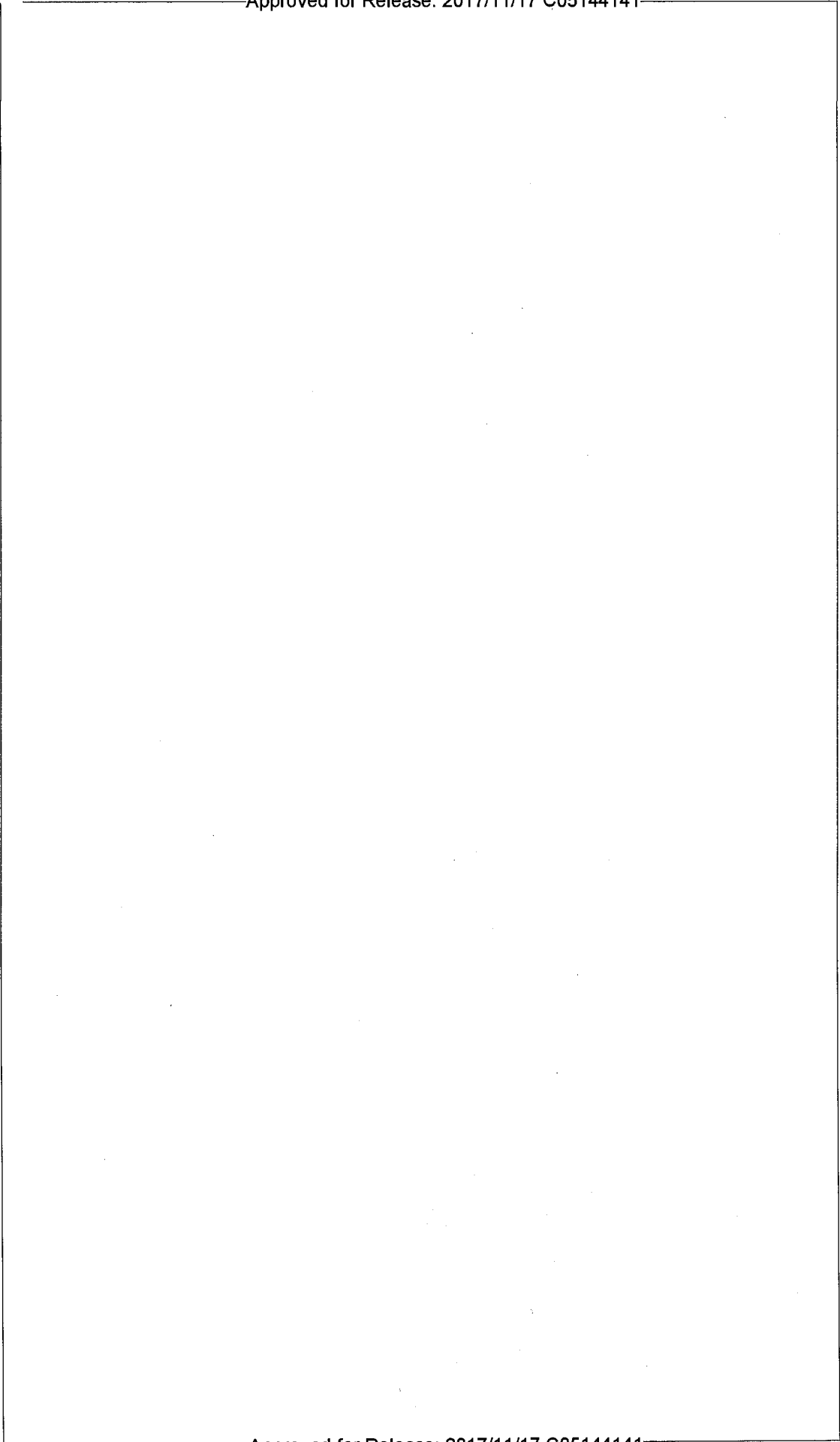
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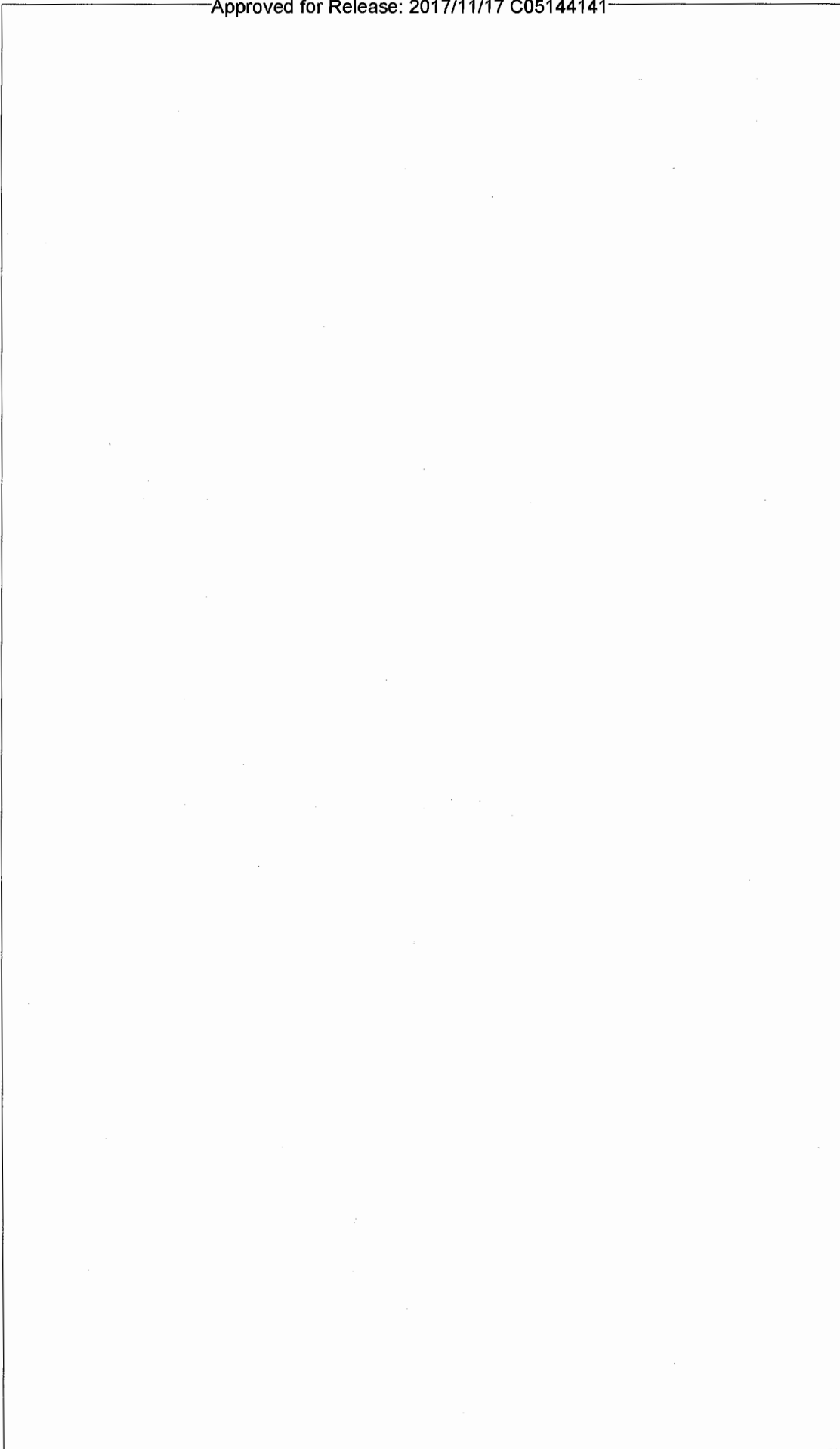
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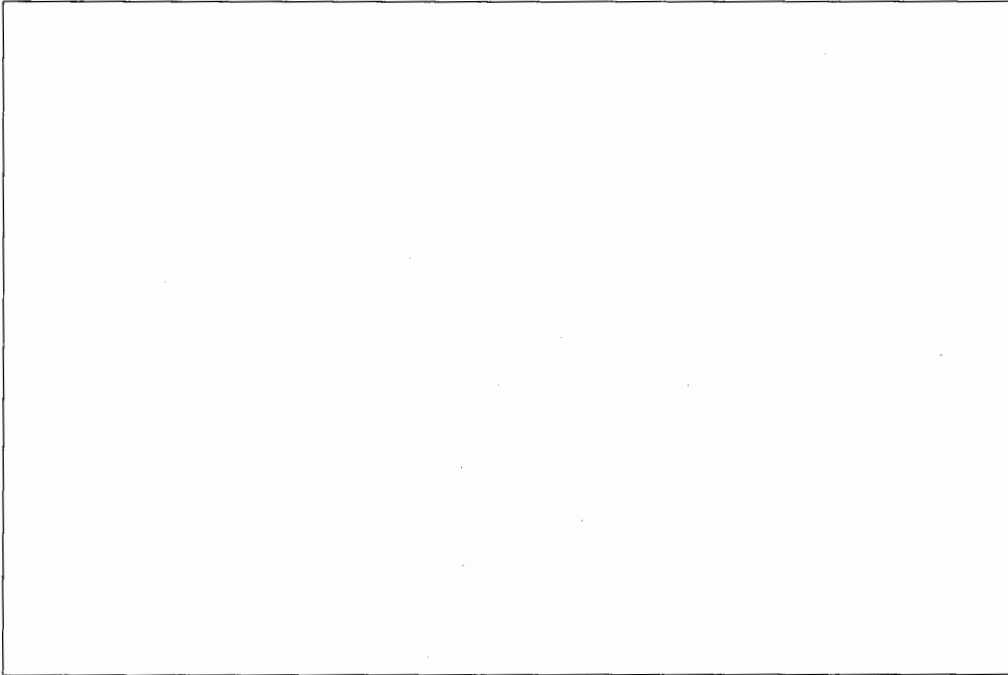
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(b)(3)**GUATEMALA-EL SALVADOR-HONDURAS: Military Cooperation**

The new Guatemalan Government probably hopes that its increasing support for US policy in Central America and its interest in closer military coordination with Honduras and El Salvador will result in US military assistance—as opposed to cash sales offered by the US last January. Defense Minister Mejia says he wants to obtain military aid, especially small arms and helicopter spare parts, directly from the US or through El Salvador. Mejia and his Salvadoran and Honduran counterparts last week discussed military coordination and the possibility of Guatemala obtaining military aid from El Salvador. The three ministers plan to meet again to discuss possible areas of cooperation. [redacted]

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Comment: Under former President Rios Montt, Guatemala did not cooperate actively with its two neighbors. Mejia already has issued a condemnation of Nicaragua's support of Salvadoran and Guatemalan guerrillas. Areas of possible cooperation include intelligence and training exchanges, arms interdiction efforts, coordinated border patrolling and blocking operations, and the loan of equipment. [redacted]

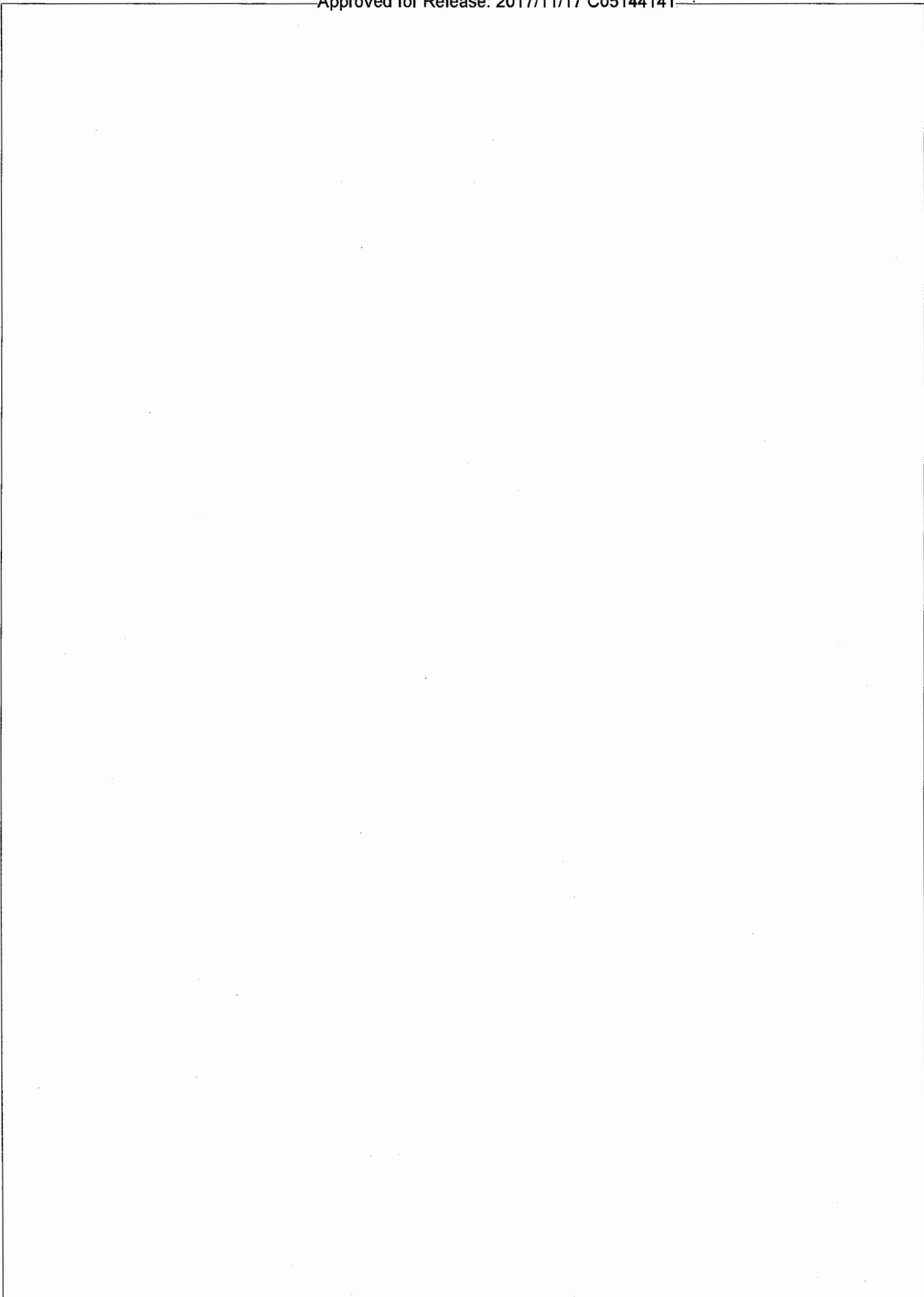
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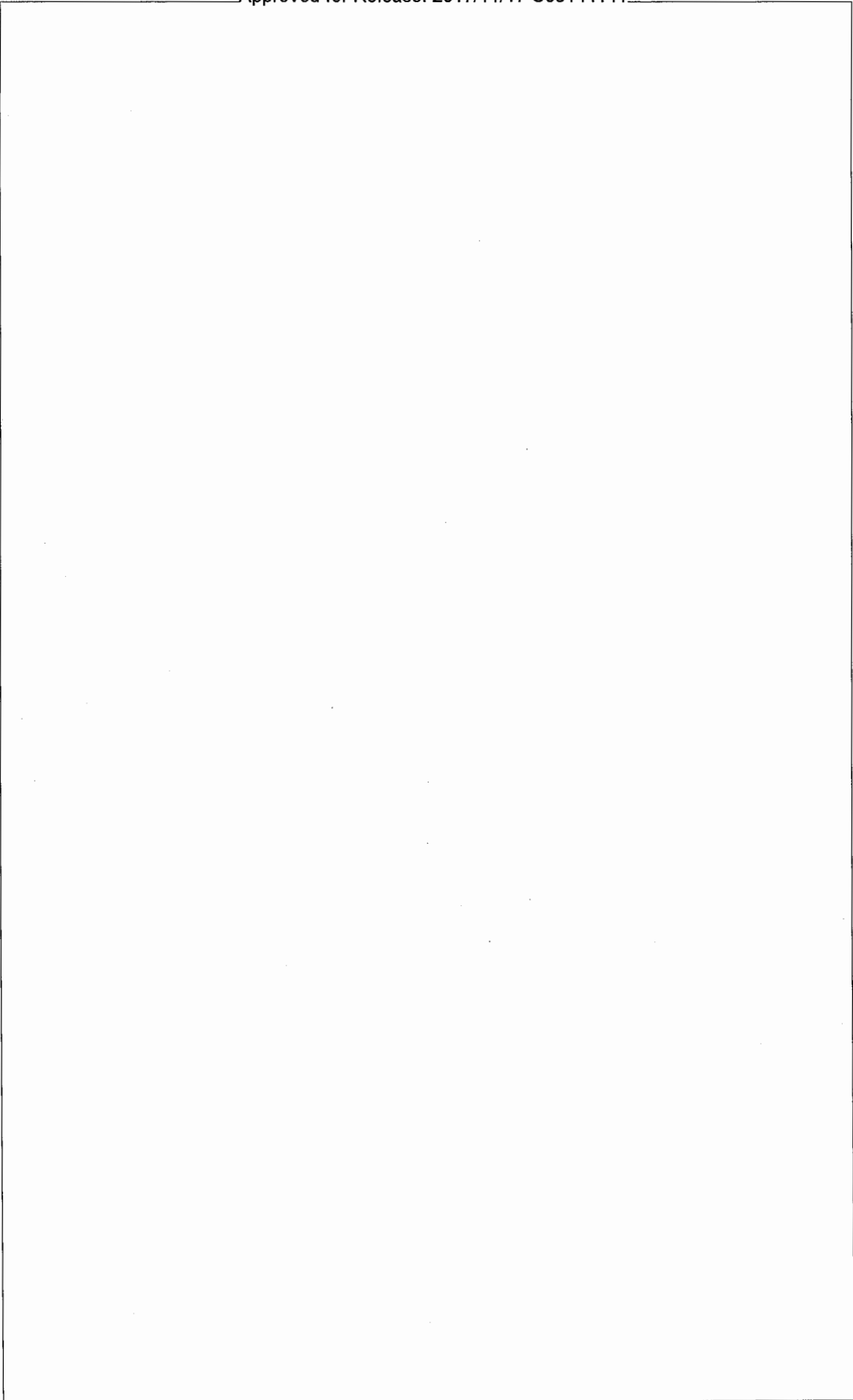
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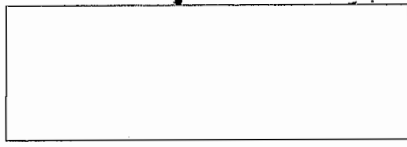
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