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FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6655

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DECONTROLLED

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: CASC (SULLIVAN, JOHN J.)
SUBJECT: DEATH OF AMCIT: JOHN J. SULLIVAN

REF: SAN SALVADOR 4500.

1. ON FRIDAY MAY 20, CONSUL MET WITH JUDGE FRANCISCO RAFAEL GUERRERO, SECOND JUDGE OF THE FIRST INSTANCE IN NUEVA SAN SALVADOR, CONCERNING THE NEXT STEPS TO BE FOLLOWED IN THE JOHN SULLIVAN'S CASE.

2. JUDGE GUERRERO THINKS THAT HE SHOULD RECEIVE FROM THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS DR. FREDERICK T. ZUGIBE'S REPORT AND NEW YORK ATTORNEY GENERAL, ROBERT ABRAMS' LETTER WITHIN THE NEXT TWO OR THREE WEEKS. ONCE HE HAS THE REPORT AND THE LETTER IN HIS POSSESSION HE PLANS TO MEET WITH THE CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL POLICE, COLONEL CARLOS REYNALDO LOPEZ-NUILA AND REQUEST AN INVESTIGATION. DR. GUERRERO SAID HE IS NOT OPTIMISTIC THAT THE POLICE WILL CONDUCT A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION BECAUSE POLITICAL MURDERS ARE DIFFICULT AND EXTREMELY SENSITIVE TO INVESTIGATE. HE SUGGESTED THAT OUR EMBASSY RECRUIT THE ASSISTANCE OF AN FBI AGENT TO HELP WITH THE INVESTIGATION.

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3. DR. GUERRERO PROMISED TO HELP AS MUCH AS HE CAN WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THERE ARE LIMITATIONS AS TO WHAT HE CAN DO TO PUSH THE CASE. HE SAID IT IS NOT UNCOMMON FOR JUDGES TO RECEIVE THREATS AGAINST THEIR LIVES AND THEIR FAMILIES DURING THE INVESTIGATION OF POLITICAL MURDERS. HE SAID HE DOES NOT SCARE EASY AND HE HAS RECEIVED SUCH THREATS IN THE PAST, BUT HE WILL NOT JEOPARDIZE THE LIFE OF HIS FAMILY EITHER. HALF JOKINGLY HE ASKED IF THE EMBASSY WOULD GRANT HIM AND

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Leonard Kusnitz, Senior Reviewer

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HIS FAMILY POLITICAL ASYLUM IN THE EVENT THEIR LIVES WERE IN SERIOUS DANGER BY HELPING OUT IN THIS CASE. HE WAS ASSURED THAT HE WOULD BE GIVEN EVERY CONSIDERATION IF THAT WERE THE CASE.

4. JUDGE GUERRERO HAD IN HIS POSSESSION A LETTER HE RECENTLY RECEIVED FROM NEW YORK ATTORNEY GENERAL ROBERT ABRAMS. HE ASKED CONSUL TO READ THE LETTER IN WHICH MR. ROBERT ABRAMS MAKES A STRONG APPEAL TO JUDGE GUERRERO TO BRING ABOUT JUSTICE IN THE MURDER OF JOHN SULLIVAN. DR. GUERRERO SAID HE PLANS TO ANSWER THE LETTER, BUT HE DOES NOT THINK THAT A NEW YORK ATTORNEY CAN POSSIBLY UNDERSTAND THE LIMITATIONS OF A JUDGE IN THIS COUNTRY UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES.
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