

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION
COVER SHEET

SUBJECT: Christic Institute

IN
THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

86-1146 CV-KING

-----x
TONY AVIRGAN, and
MARTHA HONEY,

) Civil Complaint
No. _____

Plaintiffs.)

) For

v.

) RICO Conspiracy Injuries
RENE CORBO,
FELIPE VIDAL,
MOISES (DAGABERTO) NUNEZ,
FRANCISCO "PACO" CHALEZ,
RAMON CECILIO BALACIO,
RICARDO GRIS, 87-3
WILLIAM GRIS,

) and
MANUEL COSTA, 87-4
Intentional Interference
With the Business of the
Plaintiffs

ROGER LEE PALLAIS, (aka ROGER LEE WONG),
AMAC GALIL (aka PER ANKER HANSEN),

HECTOR CORNILLOT, 87-3

JORGE GONZALES,

BRUCE JONES,

ADOLFO CALERO,

ALVARO CRUZ,

FREDERICO SAENZ, 87-1

ROBERT OWEN, 87-3

AL - TOM POSEY, 87-11

ANDY MESSING, VA 87-1

JOHN SINGLAUB, 87-1

87-20 JAMES MCCOY, 87-1

87-9 RONALD JOSEPH MARTIN, SR. - fl

87-8 RAFAEL "CHICHI" QUINTERO, 87-1

MARIO DELAMICO, 87-1

87-6 TOM CLINES, 87-1

87-5 TED SHACKLEY, VA - 87-7

RICHARD SECORD, 87-6

ALBERT HAKIM, 87-34

87-4 PABLO ESCOBAR, and 87-1

JORGE OCHOA

Defendants.)

b7c

CIVIL COMPLAINT

DOC-11

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12/13/86
Legal

persons in any terrorist plans. His captors threaten to kill him if he does not write out this statement in his own handwriting. Carlos complies. He is then released -- being told that he will be approached again, within ten days, by his captors and taken to a public press conference where he will be required to publicly read his handwritten statement before television cameras.

Carlos, once freed, seeks out the Plaintiffs and asks for their help in escaping from the Defendants. The Plaintiffs arrange for security guards to live with Carlos and his family and after several weeks arrange for them to leave Costa Rica for the second time.

Agents of the Defendants, during this period of time, also make threatening telephone calls to the Plaintiffs TONY AVIRGAN and MARTHA HONEY - threatening to kill them if they do not stop their investigation of La Penca and of the information given to Carlos. A note stating this is also slipped under Carlos' front door.

In addition, the Plaintiffs are repeatedly followed by cars without license plates and with two-way radios and one of these cars stops in front of their house. One of the male occupants takes photos of the house. Several nights, cars without lights on park in front of their house. The Plaintiffs, in fear for their lives and those of their children, keep their children out of the country briefly, adopt strict security measures whenever leaving the house, and install expensive security systems in their house and office.

The Plaintiffs share their information with Associated Press

~~reporter Brian Barger and with The Christic Institute, a~~

Washington, D.C.-based public interst law firm, whom they ask for help.

During 1985, AP reporter Brian Barger, with his associate Bob Perry, investigate the Plaintiffs' claims and begin to break a series of nationally-publicized stories linking the Defendants with illegal drug-smuggling and arms dealing.

The Plaintiffs' information is then communicated to United States Senator John ~~Kerry~~¹³ on the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee. His staff investigates this information and substantiates the Plaintiffs' charges of gun-running and cocaine trafficking by the Defendants.

Attorney Daniel Sheehan, General Counsel for The Christic Institute, also investigates the charges of the Plaintiffs and, upon obtaining evidence adequate to convince him of the likeihood of the truth of these charges, agrees to represent the Plaintiffs in this Federal lawsuit.

Despite the efforts of David, Carlos and certain Costa Rican officials, the La Penca terrorist group is still very much at large. As such, it represents a danger not only to Eden Pastora and to those around him but it represents a danger to many innocent civilians -- as well as to efforts to bring peace and stability to Central America.

As a result of this conduct on the part of the Defendants and their agents, the Plaintiff TONY AVIRGAN has been seriously injured in his person and both he and Plaintiff MARTHA HONEY have been caused great mental distress and their practice of their profession has been intentionally interfered with by the Defendants.

nuestras necesidades legítimas de seguridad operativa, serán discutidas en más detalle en el futuro.

Con motivo al carácter secreto de la posibilidad de revisar entre las personas responsables de la Administración y las personas que deseo exponerle lo siguiente: estoy dispuesto a aceptar dicha entrevista en estricto secreto, deseo y veo prudente para todas las partes interesadas que en esta entrevista también estén presentes el Señor Subsecretario de Estado, Elliott Abrams y Alfredo Cesar. Considero necesario la existencia de un claro entendimiento entre El Gobierno de los Estados Unidos y las organizaciones del BOS y ARDE.

En cuanto a la preocupación concerniente de la posible conexión entre los señores Jorge Morales, Gerardo Duran, y la organización a la cual yo represento deseo establecer claramente que estos individuos nunca han pertenecido a ARDE ni disfrutan de una amistad estrecha con mi persona. En el caso de Duran, este individuo ha prestado servicios de piloto contratado en el pasado tanto al ingeniero Alfonso Robelo como al Comandante Fernando Chamorro así como a nosotros. Tan pronto llegaron a nuestro conocimiento los rumores que el Señor Duran podía estar relacionado con el tráfico ilícito de drogas, nuestra organización se distanció totalmente del Señor Duran, ya hace más de un año. El Señor Jorge Morales donó un avión C-47 a nuestra organización a través de la primera esposa de nuestro compañero Adolfo Chamorro. Yo conocí al Señor Morales en una oportunidad muy breve pero posteriormente basado en rumores de otra posible conexión con el tráfico ilícito de drogas también nos distanciamos de ese señor. El avión C-47 en cuestión salvó a nuestro movimiento en aquel momento y fue el mismo en el cual usted voló cuando me visitó en la Penca en 1985. Para su información le adjunto copia de reciente correspondencia al Señor Abrams en la cual explicamos nuestra política con respecto al tráfico ilícito de drogas. Quedo convencido que cualquier persona que observe las condiciones de la pena de muerte o la supervivencia de nuestra organización no dudará en creer por un instante que existió un acuerdo para cometer un muy lucrativo negocio del tráfico ilícito de drogas.

Con referencia al atentado en contra de mi vida en La Penca el 30 de Mayo 1984, yo le aseguro categoricamente que jamás he acusado a ninguna entidad del gobierno de los Estados Unidos. La desinformación sobre este hecho comenzó con un cable de la agencia española de noticias EFE en el cual la corresponsal Janina Camps atribuyó esa declaración falsa a mi persona. Yo inmediatamente desautorizé ese falso reporte en un comunicado público. La rapidez con la cual el ejército comunista lanzó una ofensiva masiva en contra de las fuerzas de ARDE, inmediatamente después del atentado, deja poca duda que mi asesinato era parte integral de un plan militar del EPS bajo dirección cubana.

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NEWS RELEASE
MEDIA ADVISORY FOR 10:30 AM
THURSDAY, MAY 29, 1986

A
Contact: Beth Bogart
(202) 745-0707

FEDERAL LAWSUIT WILL CHARGE CONTRAS
WITH DRUG AND GUN SMUGGLING, MURDER AND BOMBING U.S. JOURNALISTS

Press Conference Day of Filing, May 29th, in Washington

WASHINGTON, DC -- A federal lawsuit charging 29 Americans, Nicaraguan contras (including FDN leader Adolfo Calero), and others with criminal conspiracy involving gun-running, drug-smuggling, murder and the bombing of a press conference with American reporters will be filed in Miami Federal Court on Thursday, May 29th. The suit also names World Anti-Communist League chairman John Singlaub for violations of the Neutrality Act.

Details of the lawsuit will be announced at a press conference on Thursday, May 29, at 10:30 am in the Bourke-White/Zenger Room, 13th Floor of the National Press Club in Washington, to be attended by the plaintiffs and their attorney.

The lawsuit, filed on behalf of two U.S. journalists who investigated the 1984 bombing of a press conference called by former contra leader Eden Pastora (one of whom was crippled in the attack), charges that the contras and their American supporters committed murder, trafficked in cocaine, plotted the unsuccessful assassination attempt on Pastora and planned to kill U.S. Ambassador Lewis Tambs, laundered money, smuggled weapons, threatened investigators and obstructed justice.

The federal lawsuit naming Calero, Singlaub, and others represents the first time that allegations of contra involvement in gun and drug smuggling, terrorist bombings and murder are united in a coherent case and presented in a U.S. court of law, with specifics and sources clearly identified.

Speakers at the news conference will include the plaintiffs, journalists Tony Avirgan and Martha Honey, and their attorney, Daniel Sheehan of the Christic Institute. Avirgan was injured while covering the bombed Pastora press conference for ABC. His wife, journalist Martha Honey (a stringer for ABC, CBC, and others) has been threatened with death for investigating the Pastora bombing on behalf of the Newspaper Guild. Attorney Sheehan was the lawyer in the Karen Silkwood and Greensboro Civil Rights cases.

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PAPERCLIP
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250 West 57 Street

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New York NY 10107

Telephone 212-489-5630

807 Eighteenth Street NW

Washington DC 20009

OFFICE OF INDEPENDENT COUNSEL
555 THIRTEENTH STREET, N.W., SUITE 701
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004
(202) 383-8940

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

March 20, 1987

Floyd I. Clarke
Assistant Director
Criminal Investigative Division
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Mr. Clarke:

Pursuant to an investigation being conducted under the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, FBI assistance is being hereby requested to assist in my inquiry. You are requested to:

Search FBI Headquarter's general and elsewhere indices and all FBI computerized data bases to identify all records and information identifiable to the individual(s). (See attached) Please make all such records available for review by the earliest possible date. This should be a complete and thorough search.

1- ENCLOSURE

b7c

Sincerely,

Lawrence E. Walsh

By: [Redacted]

DE-302

211-26-1592

20 JUL 31 1987

Completed
7-26-87

Rec'd APCU, WCC 4:46 pm on 3-24-87

Doc #12

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Subject is described as follows:

Name: Christic Institution

DOB: _____

POB: _____

SSAN: _____

Nationality: _____

Current Residence: _____

Employment: _____

Other identifiable characteristics:

Possible address: 1324 N. Capital Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

b7c

Rcd PCU,WCC 4th pm on 3-24-81 [REDACTED] 1597

~~NEWS RELEASE~~
for Immediate Release
THURSDAY, MAY 29, 1986

Beth Bogar
22) 745-070

FEDERAL LAWSUIT CHARGES CONTRAS
WITH DRUG & GUN SMUGGLING, MURDER AND BOMBING U.S. JOURNALISTS

~~WASHINGTON, DC -- A federal lawsuit charging 30 Americans, Nicaraguan contras (including FDN leader Adolfo Calero), and others with criminal conspiracy involving gun-running, drug-smuggling, murder and the bombing of a press conference with American reporters was filed today in Miami Federal Court. The suit charges the contras with violations of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO), and also names World Anti-Communist League chairman John Singlaub for violations of the Neutrality Act.~~

~~The lawsuit, filed on behalf of two U.S. journalists (one of whom was seriously injured in the attack) who investigated the 1984 bombing of a press conference called by former contra leader Eden Pastora, charges that the contras and their American supporters committed murder, trafficked in cocaine, plotted the unsuccessful assassination attempt on Pastora and planned to kill U.S. Ambassador Lewis Tambs, laundered money, smuggled weapons, threatened investigators and obstructed justice.~~

~~The federal lawsuit naming Calero, Singlaub, and others represents the first time that allegations of contra involvement in gun and drug smuggling, terrorist bombings and murder are united in a coherent case and presented in a U.S. court of law.~~

~~The lawsuit is being filed by Tony Avirgan and Martha Honey, two Costa Rica-based journalists, represented by their attorney, Daniel Sheehan of the Christic Institute. Avirgan was injured while covering the bombed Pastora press conference for ABC. He and his~~

Washington DC 20009 PA:

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Telephone 202. 745 0707

DOC #13

(others), have been threatened with death for investigating the Pastora bombing on behalf of the Newspaper Guild. The Committee to Protect Journalists. Dave Marash, anchorman at WRC-TV in Washington, spoke at the news conference representing the Committee.

The RICO conspiracy civil suit asks a total of \$2,540,000 in actual and punitive damages charged the defendants with injuries, battery, assault, intentional infliction of mental distress and intentional interference with the business of the plaintiffs.

Attorney Sheehan was the lawyer in the Karen Silkwood and Greensboro Civil Rights cases, and has since April of 1984 been investigating private paramilitary operations directed at Central America.

In addition to this litigation, the Christic Institute is launching a nationwide campaign focusing on public education and calling for a congressional investigation into the charges outlined in the legal complaint.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

____ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552

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- (b)(7)(A)
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Section 552a

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Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

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- For your information: *The information denied you from the following page was withheld by the Office of Independent Counsel / Iraq Central*
 The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

Document number 13

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THE CHRISTIC INSTITUTE

The Christic Institute is a non-profit, interfaith public interest law firm and public policy center, formed in 1971 by the people who coordinated the investigation, trial and Supreme Court victory in the Karen Silkwood case. The Institute only takes cases which are in the public interest and have an important public policy component.

Besides handling the Silkwood case, the Christic Institute has worked on the Greensboro Civil Rights trial, the Sandinista Movement's first defense case, represented the victims of the Union Carbide disaster at Bhopal, and freed black mayor Eddie Carthan who had been imprisoned on contrived charges of robbery and murder.

The Institute is funded through the support of foundations, religious groups and private citizens.

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United States District Court

SOUTHERN

DISTRICT OF

FLORIDA

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

CASE NUMBER

CIV-KING

86-1146

~~TONY AVIRGAN and
MARTHA HONEY~~~~JOHN HULL, ET AL.~~

TO: (Name and Address of Defendant)

~~Adolfo Calero
11600SW 107th Terrace
Miami, Florida~~

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to file with the Clerk of this Court and serve upon

PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY (name and address)

~~DANIEL P. SHEEHAN, ESQUIRE
The Christic Institute
1324 North Capitol Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20002~~~~DAVID A. SNYDER, P.A.
45 Southwest 36th Court
Miami, Florida 33135-1040~~an answer to the complaint which is herewith served upon you, within -20- days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.HODEN M. March

CLERK

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FOIA:

DATE

MAY 29 1986

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BY DEPUTY CLERK

NEWS I E I
MEDIA ADVISORY FOR 10:30 AM
THURSDAY, MAY 29, 1986

Contact Beth [redacted]
(202) 743-1234

FEDERAL LAWSUIT WILL CHARGE CONSPIRACY
WITH DRUG AND GUN SMUGGLING, MURDER AND ASSASSINATION
U.S. JOURNALISTS

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Telephone 212. 489 5630

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807 Eighteenth Street NW
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AC

Mr. David Sullivan
Oficina del Senador Jesse Helms
Dirksen Building
Washington, D.C.

18 Abril 1986

Estimado Sr. Sullivan,

He evaluado con gran atencion los comentarios que usted me comunico en nuestra reunion de ayer. Considero que debido a la gran importancia atribuida a los puntos discutidos durante la misma es preciso que mis opiniones queden claramente establecidas por escrito y asi evitar interpretaciones erroneas que puedan atentar la naturaleza de nuestras relaciones con el gobierno de los Estados Unidos.

En cuanto a la preocupacion concerniente a la supuesta falta de cooperacion con el gobierno de los Estados Unidos, permitame explicarle que creo que he cooperado de forma amplia y seguire cooperando como aliado siempre y cuando esta relacion sea mutua y basada en estricto reconocimiento de comprension y respeto mutuo. No creo que ninguna agencia del gobierno de los Estados Unidos puede esperar cooperacion sobre medidas que tiendan a legitimar a la dictadura Marxista de Managua y que puedan demorar o impedir que nuestro pueblo obtenga su libertad e independencia dentro de un marco verdaderamente democratico y nacionalista. Nosotros reconocemos a los Estados Unidos como nuestro gran aliado y de la misma manera esperamos que el gobierno de los Estados Unidos nos extienda esa misma consideracion.

En referencia a la preocupacion que concierne la posibilidad de penetracion enemiga dentro de los cuadros dirigentes de nuestra organizacion deseo exponerle las siguientes ideas. Como aliado del gobierno americano estimo como hecho imprescindible en preservar la relacion y consideracion explicada en el parrafo anterior. Desde ese punto de vista, esperamos que cualquier informacion sobre posible penetracion enemiga en nuestra organizacion sea puesto ante nuestro conocimiento en una forma profesional y expedida que preserve la seguridad de nuestra organizacion asi como a las vidas de los hombres que luchan bajo mi mando y que permita el buen desarollo de medidas de contrainteligencia que sirvan nuestros intereses mutuos sin menospreciar la dignidad entre aliados que luchan contra un enemigo comun. El uso del detector de mentiras de forma generalizada por el gobierno de los Estados Unidos sobre los cuadros de nuestra organizacion no es appropriado. Sin embargo adiestramiento y asistencia de este tipo como contribucion a

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