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Objet: 25th Anniversary of El Salvador Jesuit Murders
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25th Anniversary of El Salvador Jesuit Murders

Declassified Documents from 1989 Show Initial U.S. Unwillingness to Consider Salvadoran Military's Responsibility

As Evidence Grew, State Department Advised U.S. Ambassador: "Please Hold This Information Very Closely"

Spanish Court Moves Closer to Prosecution of Surviving Defendants

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Washington, DC, November 16, 2014 -- Twenty five years have passed since the horrifying murders in El Salvador of six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter, during a rampage by Salvadoran security forces in the early morning hours of November 16, 1989, on the campus of the University of Central America (UCA) in the country's capital. It has been twenty five years of grieving by the victims' families and the Jesuit community; and twenty five years of waiting for justice to identify and prosecute the killers.

The National Security Archive has spent the past quarter of a century collecting declassified US documents on El Salvador, including the Jesuit murders. Hundreds of those documents have been entered as evidence in a criminal human rights case against 20 alleged perpetrators currently under investigation in Spain. Thousands more are published in two Digital National Security Archive collections. Today, in commemoration of the deaths, the Archive posts ten documents written by US officials on the day of the murders and during the week that followed.

Check out today's posting at the National Security Archive - <http://www2.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/NSAEBB/NSAEBB492/>

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