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Letelier (RE 134)
CONSPIRATOR R
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RESULTS OF INTERVIEW WITH INDICTED LETELIER ASSASSIN

- o USG Team (Kozak, US Assistant Attorney, FBI Special Agent) now convinced that Chilean Army Capt. Fernandez is not a murderer or party to any conspiracy to murder. Recommend Release
- They have concluded after 10 hours non-stop interrogation that Fernandez has been truthful in asserting that he did not know of murder conspiracy when he entered the US on false documents to survey Letelier's movements immediately before the Sept. 1976 murder.
- Fernandez also asserts no involvement in other crimes and is willing to take a polygraph on all counts.
- o Therefore 20-yr. ^{minimum sentence in terms of plea-bargain} exposure determined by Asst. Attorney General Trott and US Attorney DiGenova under assumption of greater involvement by Fernandez in actual conspiracy is not applicable. US Assistant Attorney on team estimates that Fernandez could be found guilty only of relatively minor charges of entering US on false documents and making false statements.
- o Fernandez' knowledge of the crime itself then is limited. His statements nevertheless have helped substantiate Michael Townley's testimony. He also has first-hand knowledge about the cover-up after the crime, and of Pinochet's personal role in directing the cover-up.
- o Fernandez' account of direct personal conversations with Pinochet ^{clearly imply that Pinochet was directing the cover-up.} _{with implicates who}
- o His statements provide no irrefutable smoking gun that would tie Pinochet to ordering the crime itself. Only link is his second-hand account that DINA General Contreras (also under grand jury indictment) told the Chilean military judge investigating the case something to the effect that Contreras received orders from Pinochet to arrange the assassination.
- o From prosecutorial perspective, information provided by Fernandez of limited value: helps to clear up record of major unresolved case but will not in itself bring the really guilty parties closer to justice.
- o Foreign policy benefits are substantial:
 - Demonstrates determination of US anti-terrorist policy (we do not forget): ^{potent} useful message for those considering sponsoring terrorist acts in US;
 - Puts pressure on Pinochet without destabilizing country by focussing attention on one of regime's most sordid episodes, unlikely to inspire Army to come to his defense.

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