

POLITICAL DIPLOMATIC COMMISSION OF THE FDR-FMLN

PRESS RELEASE  
NOVEMBER 16, 1989

The bodies of the Jesuit Priests Ignacio Ellacuria, Martin Baro, Armando Lopez, Joaquin Lopez, Ramon Moreno and Segundo Montes were found assassinated, this morning.

The most recent reports that we have received indicate that about 30 members of the Salvadoran army stormed their house and took them outside where they were executed. All of the cadavers were found with bullet wounds in the head.

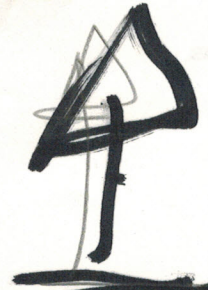
During the last few days, RADIO CUSCATLAN, the radio station of the Salvadoran Armed Forces which has been the national station since Sunday, has listed names of leaders of the civilian opposition to be assassinated. The names of these assassinated Jesuit priests were found on these lists.

"The aforementioned condemnations and criticisms, categorically state that the Jesuits urgently need to be removed from the country, because weapons have been hidden at UCA (University of Central America) for almost 10 years. The Spanish Jesuit Priest Ignacio Ellacuria was pointed at as being primarily responsible for this" (LA PRENSA GRAFICA, Monday, Nov. 13 1989, page 2).

In addition, through its radio program, RADIO CUSCATLAN has made death-threats against Archbishop Rivera y Damas, Bishop Rosa Chavez, Doctor Guillermo Manuel Ungo and Ms. Aronette Diaz.

"..on the nationally broadcasted radio station, there are condemnations and severe criticisms made against Monsignor Arturo Rivera y Damas and Auxiliary Bishop Gregorio Rosa Chavez, because on Sundays, instead of giving sermons that pertain to the gospel they make communist discourse in favor of the FMLN, the Democratic Convergence and FENASTRAS."

"One hears hundreds of condemnations made against Humberto Centeno, Ruben Zamora, Guillermo Manuel Ungo and other leaders of the Democratic Convergence and the FDR" (LA PRENSA GRAFICA, Monday, November 13, 1989, page 2).



"Rivera y Damas only speaks to incite the people to fight. He should go to Cuba. We detest him. Aronette and Ungo should be taken to the public plaza so we can kill them and spit on them" (Broadcasted on Radio Cuscatlan, November 12, 1989, morning).

The Popular Social Christian Movement, MPSC, condemns the various attempts made against the national and international press. This has put the lives of the reporters from the following printed, televised and radio media in grave danger:

CDC Noticias  
Miami Herald  
Washington Post  
Univision  
San Francisco Examiner  
Reuters  
YSKL de El Salvador

According to the press statement put out by the MPSC on November 15, Rene Hurtado, a reporter from the Salvadoran radio station YSKL, has been captured.

Therefore the international community must demand that the government of El Salvador:

- a) Stop the bombardments against the civilian population.
- b) Establish a cease fire so that civilians can be evacuated, and create relief centers for their aid.
- c) Permit the creation of an airlift so that humanitarian aid can be provided to the civilian population.

That the government of the United States:

- a) Stop all of the military aid immediately.
- b) Guarantee the security of the civilian opposition.