

MASTER EXHIBIT SERIES

EL SALVADOR

**PERSECUTION BY DEATH SQUADS/SECURITY
FORCES**

DEATH SQUADS

[ME/SLV/97.006A]

SEPTEMBER 1997

All the sources of information contained in this document are identified and are publicly available.

DISTRIBUTED BY:

INS RESOURCE INFORMATION CENTER
425 I STREET, NW
(ULLICO BUILDING, 3RD FLOOR)
WASHINGTON, DC 20536

PRODUCED BY:

HUMAN RIGHTS DOCUMENTATION EXCHANGE
(FORMERLY CENTRAL AMERICA RESOURCE CENTER)
P. O. BOX 2327
AUSTIN, TX 78768

EL SALVADOR - 6. Persecution by Death Squads/Security Forces

Focuses on persecution perpetrated with tacit or overt government support {includes six specific categories}: A. Death Squads - Includes material on the origins of recent death squad activity in E1 Salvador, death squad links with the government, and activities of specific death squads (ORDEN, ESA, etc.).

DISCLAIMER

The July 27, 1990 Regulations, "Aliens and Nationality: Asylum and Withholding of Deportation Procedures," mandated the creation of a new corps of Asylum Officers to provide an initial, nonadversarial adjudication of asylum claims. Asylum Officers use asylum law, interviews with asylum applicants, and relevant information on country conditions to determine the merits of individual claims for asylum.

The Resource Information Center was created to assist Asylum Officers domestically, and Immigration Officers determining refugee status overseas, by collecting and disseminating credible and objective information on human rights conditions. As specified in the Regulations (8 CFR 208.12), as amended, such information may be obtained from the Department of State, the Office of International Affairs, other Service offices, or other credible sources, such as international organizations, private voluntary agencies, news organizations, or academic institutions."

Master Exhibits are one means by which credible information on a given group or groups deemed "at risk" is presented to Asylum and Immigration Officers. Master Exhibits are submitted by private voluntary organizations, law firms, or other groups, which are credited on the title page of the Exhibit. The contents of each Master Exhibit distributed by the Resource Information Center, taken as a whole, meet certain basic standards on credibility, relevance and format, and can provide Asylum Officers with valuable background

material for evaluating country conditions.

This Master Exhibit provides publicly available information, analyses, or comment. All sources are cited. Updates to this Master Exhibit may be made from time to time. This Master Exhibit, however, cannot be, and does not purport to be, either exhaustive with regard to the country surveyed, or conclusive as to the merits of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum. It is for the Asylum Officer adjudicating a particular case to determine what evidentiary weight to give to the information in this Master Exhibit.

The inclusion of this Master Exhibit in the collection of Master Exhibits compiled by the Service does not constitute an endorsement of the information in this Master Exhibit. *The views expressed in this Master Exhibit, therefore, do not necessarily represent statements of policy of the United States Government, nor does this Master Exhibit reflect foreign policy concerns of the United States Government.*

E1 Salvador - Persecution by Death Squads

"Situation of Human Rights in E1 Salvador" United Nations Report, 22 October 1990 (p. 10)

"El Salvador: Killings, Torture and 'Disappearances'," Amnesty International AMR 29/27/90, October 1990 (pp.1-5 and p.25)

"Guatemala Links D'Abuisson to Oqueli's Death," Excelsior, 6 July 1990 (Central America News Pak #115)

"Salvadoran Killer Seeks U.S. Asylum," Miami Herald, 13 June 1990 (ISLA 3020)

"Church Criticizes Cristiani Comments," E1 Salvador On Line, 9 April 1990

"No Respite from Death Squads for the People of E1 Salvador," Brecha (CODEHUCA), March/April 1990

"El Salvador Chronology," E1 Rescate, March 1990

"A Year of Reckoning: E1 Salvador a Decade After the Assassination of Archbishop Romero," Americas Watch, March 1990 (ch. III- Violations by Death Squads and pp. 125-129)

"Salvador Home of Key Cristiani Backer Attacked," Los Angeles Times, 26 January 1990 (ISLA 57)

"Salvadoran Party Says Death Squad Killed 3," San Francisco Chronicle, 9 November 1989

"New Right-Wing Group Emerges in Wake of Bombing," FBIS, 17 April 1989

"Death Squads Again on the Scene," Central America Report, 6 January 1989

"ARDE Communique Against Leftist Groups" and "Leftists Zamora, Centeno React," FBIS, 28 December 1988

"El Salvador: 'Death Squads' - A Government Strategy," Amnesty International AMR 29/21/88, October 1988 (pp. 1-2,7-35,41-45,49)

"Death Squads Under Scrutiny", Latin American Monitor, October 1988

"Nightmare Revisited 1987-88 - Tenth Supplement to the Report on Human Rights in E1 Salvador," Americas Watch Report, September 1988 (pp.31-37)

"Death Squad Began as Boy Scout Troop," Washington Post, 29 August 1988 (ISLA 693)

"Killings Tied to Salvadoran Official," Miami Herald, 28 August 1988 (ISLA 694)

"El Salvador Death Squads Threaten Resurgence," Washington Post, 28 August 1988 (ISLA 690)

"As Salvador Vote Nears, Political Killings Increase," New York Times, 29 February 1988 (ISLA 701)

"Salvador Killings Imperil Cease-fire," Miami Herald, 25 September 1987 (ISLA 1300)

"Death Squad Claims Killing in El Salvador," Miami Herald, 26 September 1987 (ISLA 1302)

"Settling Into Routine: Human Rights Abuses in Duarte's Second Year," Americas Watch, May 1986 (pp.39-49)

"Confessions of a Death Squad Officer," and "We Always Have a List," The Progressive, March 1986 (CAM)

"32 are Killed in El Salvador," New York Times, 9 December 1985 (ISLA 2790)

"Salvadoran Death Squads," Washington Post, 8 December 1985 (ISLA 2789)

"Death Squads Dilemma for U.S. in El Salvador," Financial Times, 2 February 1984 (ISLA 589)

"Disappearance/Fear of Torture," Amnesty International Urgent Action AMR 29/04/84, 12 January 1984

"Death Squad Linked to El Salvador's National Police, Abducted Men Say," Christian Science Monitor, 7 December 1983 (ISLA 3297)

"Salvador Death Squads: Deadly Other War," Los Angeles Times, 18 December 1983 (ISLA 3298)

"Salvador Death Squads Assailed," Los Angeles Times, 14 May 1983 (ISLA 2267)

"2 Survive Garbage Heap of Salvador's War," Miami Herald, 11 May 1983 (ISLA 2266)

"Despite Salvadoran Vote, Killings Go On," New York Times, 25 April 1982 (ISLA 1790)

"Death Squads Blamed for 83 Decapitations," Miami Herald, 25 August 1981 (ISLA 582)

"More Decapitated Bodies are Found in El Salvador," Miami Herald, 23 August 1981 (ISM 581)

"Amnesty International Report 1980 (covers the period 1 May 1979 to 30 April 1980)," Amnesty International, 1980