

September 12, 2007

Cali, Colombia

José Miguel Insulza
Secretary General
Organization of American States

Washington, DC

Dear Dr. Insulza,

It is my pleasure to submit this report of the International Forensic Commission that examined the deaths of eleven Colombian deputies.

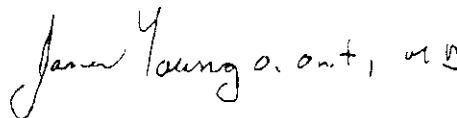
It was an honor for each of the persons who served on the International Forensic Commission to have been asked. We were fortunate that we were able to constitute a group who had so much international experience and who had in many instances worked together on previous missions. The addition of a forensic dentist as a consultant was also invaluable.

It is important to note the high degree of cooperation we received from all the Colombian forensic professionals. The Commission was very impressed with their knowledge and professionalism. They understood our role as independent observers and our need to reach our own conclusions. Both teams make the needs of the families for timely and accurate information the priority.

Finally we would like to thank the OAS staff for their invaluable administrative support. The technical job we faced was made much better by the logistical support we received.

Again, thank you for the trust showed in asking us to serve as a Commission. It was important to us that we serve the families and the OAS through this work.

Sincerely,



James Young, O.Ont., M.D.
Chief Forensic Doctor
International Forensic Commission

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REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL FORENSIC COMMISSION INVESTIGATING THE DEATHS OF COLOMBIAN DEPUTIES

Purpose of the Commission

The International Forensic Commission was formed at the request of the Colombian Government to collaborate and participate in the identification and investigation regarding the deaths in June 2007 of eleven deputies in the Department of Valle del Cauca.

On April 11, 2002, twelve members of the Departmental Assembly of the Cauca Valley were abducted by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). The deaths of eleven of the twelve kidnapped persons were announced on June 28, 2007, in a release from ANNCOL Agency which was dated June 23, 2007. The release said "On the 18th day of the present month 11 deputies of the Valley Assembly that we retained on April 2002, were killed by cross fire when an unidentified military group attacked the camp where they were located". The Government of Colombia disputes this version of events reporting they had no military exercises in the area at that time.

Since June 2007 the International Committee of the Red Cross served as a neutral contact to negotiate the release of the eleven bodies in order that they be identified and released to their families.

At the request of the Colombian Government the Organization of American States (OAS) established an International Forensic Commission (CFI/OAS). The Commission is strictly technical in nature and was coordinated by the Chief Forensic Doctor proposed by the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO). As well, the Commission was comprised of three experts proposed by France, Spain and Switzerland, and so designated. In addition, a forensic dentist was added as an advisor to the Commission.

The role of the Commission was to collaborate and participate in the identification and investigation on the cause and manner of the eleven deaths. To be successful the process needed to operate in a timely, accurate and transparent manner. Identification and investigation is traditionally the mandate of government agencies. Given the difficult relationship between parties in this situation, the Commission was formed to assist independently in the process. The Commission cannot and did not expect to replace the legal obligation of the Government of Colombia to investigate these deaths. The Commission did assist the Government in achieving timely, accurate and transparent results by:

- i) providing technical assistance and advice,
- ii) observing and studying the evidence to reach independent conclusions concerning the identity of the remains and then sharing these conclusions with the Colombian Government. This promoted the earliest possible release of the deceased to the families, and
- iii) using autopsy observations and any other significant information brought to the Commission's attention to reach any possible conclusions concerning investigative questions such as cause and manner of death.

These results are transmitted in this report to the Secretary General of the Organization of American States.

The forensic professionals involved in the Commission are all very established in their field of expertise. All understand that being an expert involves giving unbiased opinions based on the best scientific information available. These opinions may support one view of events over another or may agree with parts of different versions of events. Experts have no stake in the final conclusion other than to ensure it is based on the best available science. Experts are not hired to prove a particular point of view.

Composition of the Commission

The International Forensic Commission was formed at the request of the Colombian Government. The Organization of American States established the Commission and this report is directed back to the OAS Secretary General. The Chief Forensic Doctor was proposed by the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO). The three experts were proposed by the countries known as the Group of Friends (France, Spain and Switzerland). The International Forensic Commission recognized the need for expertise in forensic dentistry for identification and added a forensic dentist as a consultant. The Commission members, with nationality, are listed below.

The brief *curricula vitae* for each appear in Appendix A.

The members of the International Forensic Commission are:

Dr. James Young – Canada

Coordinator

Forensic Doctor

Dra. Maria Cristina de Mendonça – Portugal

Forensic Pathologist

Dr. Hans Petter Hougen – Denmark

Forensic Pathologist

Lic. Luis Fondebrider - Argentina

Forensic Anthropologist

Advisor to the International Forensic Commission:

Dr. David Sweet - Canada

Forensic Odontologist

Sources of Information

The Commission relied on two sources of information, the observation of team members from the autopsies that were conducted on the bodies and the antemortem information provided by the families. The antemortem information included data such as age and height, finger print records, some detail of significant medical history and dental records, plus dental x-rays and custom-made dental appliances when available. As well, DNA samples from family members were provided and will be used by the Colombian Government as a final confirmatory test to establish identity in some cases using DNA.

Methods

The complex negotiations for the return of the remains were carried out by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). As a result of extraordinary effort, the bodies were located, exhumed and moved to Cali by the ICRC. They were then officially turned over to the International Forensic Commission at the *Regional Suoccidente del Instituto de Medicina Legal y Ciencias Forenses*. (See Appendix B)

As previously mentioned, the legal responsibility to identify the remains and investigate the deaths belongs to Colombian officials. The Commission can however observe, advise and reach independent opinions. In order to do this, the work was carried out in the following steps. First, the bodies were examined and photographed by the Technical Investigation Team from the General Public Prosecutor's Office and the Commission. Second, the National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences and the Commission surveyed the bodies to try to establish identity using all available methods including dental and medical information. Finally, thorough autopsies were conducted to confirm identity and gather forensic information from which to draw investigative conclusions. Samples for DNA testing were also obtained for eventual testing by the Colombian Government with other samples retained on behalf of the Commission should confirmatory testing be necessary. All steps in the chain of custody of the bodies were supervised by the Commission. The bodies were kept under seal and locked in a dedicated cooler at night.

Findings

The bodies were received from the ICRC the afternoon of September 9, 2007. External examinations with the Commission and the Technical Investigation Team from the General Prosecutor's Office began and were completed that evening. The autopsies with the Commission and the Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences were done all day September 10 and the morning of the 11th and the remains were released starting on September 11.

The bodies were received in white body bags which were sealed with a plastic lock and were numbered from 1-11. The next layer was a thick black plastic sheet. The bodies were then wrapped in blankets and each hand had a plastic bag on. One wrist was tagged with the same number as the body bag. The bags had been placed by the Red Cross in order to preserve evidence. The blankets had been used at the time of burial. All bodies were clothed and dressed

in a similar manner: simple plain shirts or t-shirts, pants, underwear, socks and no shoes. The bodies appeared to have been dressed after death as no bullet holes were seen in the clothing.

The condition of the bodies was remarkably good (in an initial state of saponification), particularly the areas of the bodies covered with clothing. These conditions meant that full autopsies could be conducted and fingerprints obtained from all bodies.

Identification

Dentitions were carefully examined and dental x-rays taken and compared to antemortem records of the eleven victims. The conditions of the bodies allowed this to be readily done.

A full set of fingerprints was also obtained from each of the deceased. Each of the eleven deputies had an existing fingerprint record on file.

X-rays, external and internal autopsy examinations were carried out in order to look for known medical conditions.

Age, height and gender comparisons were also carried out as a further test of the consistency of findings.

The Government of Colombia intends to further confirm identity using DNA testing. The Commission is satisfied that the other identification methods used confirm the identities using accepted international standards. It was not necessary in the view of the Commission to complete the DNA testing before the release of the bodies. The Commission was satisfied to allow the release based on the immediate proof available to it and felt timely release was by far in the best interests of the families.

Information on the case-by-case identification is included in the subsequent pages.

CFI/OEA IDENTIFICATION RECORD

NAME OF DECEASED: ALBERTO QUINTERO HERRERA

CORRESPONDING POSTMORTEM ID No: SPOA 76001600019920070599-1

DATE OF IDENTIFICATION: September 10, 2007

EVIDENCE OF DENTAL IDENTIFICATION:

No formal dental record is present but dentist was a friend of victim and dictated and supplied detailed information about treatment. The treatments present in the body match the dentist's reported treatment. In a closed population, these traits are unique. Positive identification established on dental traits.

EVIDENCE OF OTHER IDENTIFICATION:

Positive fingerprint identification.

Stature corresponds.

Age consistent.

DATE OF CONFIRMATION BY COLOMBIAN FORENSIC EXPERTS: September 11, 2007

DATE OF BODY RELEASE: September 11, 2007

CFI/OEA IDENTIFICATION RECORD

NAME OF DECEASED: CARLOS ALBERTO BARRAGÁN LÓPEZ

CORRESPONDING POSTMORTEM ID No: SPOA 76001600019920070599-2

DATE OF IDENTIFICATION: September 10, 2007

EVIDENCE OF DENTAL IDENTIFICATION:

A very large number of sophisticated dental treatments had been completed for this patient, including posterior crowns and a lower left bridge. Gunshot wounds had disrupted the jaw and fragmented the bones and some teeth, but a high quantity and quality of comparative points remain. Positive identification established on dental traits.

EVIDENCE OF OTHER IDENTIFICATION:

Positive fingerprint identification.

Stature corresponds.

Age consistent.

DATE OF CONFIRMATION BY COLOMBIAN FORENSIC EXPERTS: September 11, 2007

DATE OF BODY RELEASE: September 11, 2007

CFI/OEA IDENTIFICATION RECORD

NAME OF DECEASED: CARLOS ALBERTO CHARRY QUIROGA

CORRESPONDING POSTMORTEM ID No: SPOA 76001600019920070599-3

DATE OF IDENTIFICATION: September 10, 2007.

EVIDENCE OF DENTAL IDENTIFICATION:

Antemortem dental treatment was completed at la Universidad del Valle dental school and matches the treatment found in the body. Non-treated teeth are reported as virgin, healthy teeth, which is also entirely consistent. Positive identification established on dental traits.

EVIDENCE OF OTHER IDENTIFICATION:

Positive fingerprint identification.
Stature corresponds.
Age consistent.

DATE OF CONFIRMATION BY COLOMBIAN FORENSIC EXPERTS: September 11, 2007

DATE OF BODY RELEASE: September 11, 2007

CF/OEA IDENTIFICATION RECORD

NAME OF DECEASED: **JAIRO JAVIER HOYOS SALCEDO**

CORRESPONDING POSTMORTEM ID No: **SPOA 76001600019920070599-4**

DATE OF IDENTIFICATION: September 10, 2007

EVIDENCE OF DENTAL IDENTIFICATION:

The dental record of Jairo Hoyos Salcedo indicates that he wore a full upper denture and a partial lower denture. It is not clear if data about teeth nos. 43 and 33 remaining in the lower jaw as partial denture retainers were received from the dentist and a family member. This body is missing all upper teeth and teeth nos. 43, 34, 35 are present in the lower jaw. Thus a complete (full) upper denture and lower partial would have been worn by this person. This is entirely consistent with identification of Body 4 as Jairo Javier Hoyos Salcedo, in this closed population. Positive identification established on dental traits.

EVIDENCE OF OTHER IDENTIFICATION:

Positive fingerprint identification.

Stature corresponds.

Age consistent.

DATE OF CONFIRMATION BY COLOMBIAN FORENSIC EXPERTS: September 11, 2007

DATE OF BODY RELEASE: September 11, 2007

CFI/OEA IDENTIFICATION RECORD

NAME OF DECEASED: HÉCTOR FABIO ARISMENDY OSPINA

CORRESPONDING POSTMORTEM ID No: SPOA 76001600019920070599-5

DATE OF IDENTIFICATION: September 10, 2007

EVIDENCE OF DENTAL IDENTIFICATION:

A nightguard that was custom-made for this patient was submitted as an antemortem appliance that could be used for forensic physical comparison. The imbricated (crowded) upper anterior teeth gave a clue to this identity because there was a direct comparison of the nightguard (antemortem) to the upper jaw and teeth (postmortem). The nightguard matched perfectly. Positive identification established on dental traits.

EVIDENCE OF OTHER IDENTIFICATION:

Positive fingerprint identification.
Stature corresponds.
Age consistent.

DATE OF CONFIRMATION BY COLOMBIAN FORENSIC EXPERTS: September 11, 2007

DATE OF BODY RELEASE: September 11, 2007

CFI/OEA IDENTIFICATION RECORD

NAME OF DECEASED: NACIANCENO OROZCO GRISALES

CORRESPONDING POSTMORTEM ID No: SPOA 76001600019920070599-6

DATE OF IDENTIFICATION: September 10, 2007

EVIDENCE OF DENTAL IDENTIFICATION:

Detailed information was received about treatment on tooth no. 15 including a full porcelain crown and root canal treatment. These data are entirely consistent with identification of Body 6 as Nacianceno Orozco Grisales. Positive identification established on dental traits.

EVIDENCE OF OTHER IDENTIFICATION:

Positive fingerprint identification.

Stature corresponds.

Age consistent.

DATE OF CONFIRMATION BY COLOMBIAN FORENSIC EXPERTS: September 11, 2007

DATE OF BODY RELEASE: September 11, 2007

CFI/OEA IDENTIFICATION RECORD

NAME OF DECEASED: RUFINO VARELA COBO

CORRESPONDING POSTMORTEM ID No: SPOA 76001600019920070599-7

DATE OF IDENTIFICATION: September 10, 2007

EVIDENCE OF DENTAL IDENTIFICATION:

Minimal antemortem dental data was available except the presence of resin fillings in teeth nos. 12 and 22. These teeth are missing postmortem so no opportunity for comparison on these traits exists. Attritional wear is consistent with a 59 year-old and all the other bodies have been identified dentally. Thus, assuming that all eleven bodies recovered were deputies, this is Rufino Varela Cobo. Probable identification is established on dental traits and through elimination of the other ten victims.

EVIDENCE OF OTHER IDENTIFICATION:

Positive fingerprint identification.
Stature corresponds.
Age consistent.

DATE OF CONFIRMATION BY COLOMBIAN FORENSIC EXPERTS: September 11, 2007

DATE OF BODY RELEASE: September 11, 2007

CFI/OEA IDENTIFICATION RECORD

NAME OF DECEASED: FRANCISCO JAVIER GIRALDO CADAVID

CORRESPONDING POSTMORTEM ID No: SPOA 76001600019920070599-8

DATE OF IDENTIFICATION: September 10, 2007

EVIDENCE OF DENTAL IDENTIFICATION:

Orthodontist sister extracted teeth nos. 14, 18, 28, 38, 48 in preparation for orthodontic treatment and she supplied three orthodontic appliances for use in forensic physical comparisons to the upper and lower jaws and teeth. These traits are found in the body and the physical comparison is a conclusive match. Positive identification established on dental traits.

EVIDENCE OF OTHER IDENTIFICATION:

Positive fingerprint identification.

Stature corresponds.

Age consistent.

Individual features correspond: healed fracture in left radial bone (proximal 1/3).

Accessory nipple right side.

DATE OF CONFIRMATION BY COLOMBIAN FORENSIC EXPERTS: September 11, 2007

DATE OF BODY RELEASE: September 11, 2007

CFI/OEA IDENTIFICATION RECORD

NAME OF DECEASED: RAMIRO ECHEVERRY SÁNCHEZ

CORRESPONDING POSTMORTEM ID No: SPOA 76001600019920070599-9

DATE OF IDENTIFICATION: September 10, 2007

EVIDENCE OF DENTAL IDENTIFICATION:

Victim has sophisticated and numerous dental treatments including a porcelain fused to metal bridge from 44-45-46. Physical comparison of supplied casts to the teeth of victim are a match. A toothbrush (large head, brittle end) was found in the victim's mouth. Positive identification established on dental traits.

EVIDENCE OF OTHER IDENTIFICATION:

Positive fingerprint identification.

Stature corresponds.

Age corresponds.

Individual features correspond: cheloid scar on left forearm, osteoarthritis in left knee.

DATE OF CONFIRMATION BY COLOMBIAN FORENSIC EXPERTS: September 11, 2007

DATE OF BODY RELEASE: September 11, 2007

CFI/OEA IDENTIFICATION RECORD

NAME OF DECEASED: ÉDINSON PÉREZ NUÑEZ

CORRESPONDING POSTMORTEM ID No: SPOA 76001600019920070599-10

DATE OF IDENTIFICATION: September 10, 2007

EVIDENCE OF IDENTIFICATION:

Reported dental traits of missing person are minimal but include healthy teeth with minimal or no restorations. This is the same situation that was seen at the postmortem examination. Positive identification found on dental traits in a closed population.

EVIDENCE OF OTHER IDENTIFICATION:

Positive fingerprint identification.
Stature corresponds.
Age consistent.

DATE OF CONFIRMATION BY COLOMBIAN FORENSIC EXPERTS: September 11, 2007

DATE OF BODY RELEASE: September 11, 2007

CFI/OEA IDENTIFICATION RECORD

NAME OF DECEASED: JUAN CARLOS NARVÁEZ REYES

CORRESPONDING POSTMORTEM ID No: SPOA 76001600019920070599-11

DATE OF IDENTIFICATION: September 10, 2007

EVIDENCE OF DENTAL IDENTIFICATION:

Photos of a 1998 panoramic radiograph were submitted instead of the original film. The photo of the film shows crowding of 34-35 and amalgam fillings. This seems to be a pre-operative film for removal of tooth no. 48. Positive identification established on dental traits.

EVIDENCE OF OTHER IDENTIFICATION:

Positive fingerprint identification.
Stature corresponds.
Age consistent.

DATE OF CONFIRMATION BY COLOMBIAN FORENSIC EXPERTS: September 11, 2007

DATE OF BODY RELEASE: September 11, 2007

Investigation

A very thorough autopsy was conducted on each of the deceased in order to obtain investigative information. Cause and manner of death are the obvious questions that the autopsy can provide answers for in many instances. In this case the conditions of the bodies provided much better information than we had originally hoped. The Commission focused on cause of death, possible number, location and trajectory of the bullets and the recovery of bullets and bullet fragments.

The case-by-case summary of findings are detailed in the following pages.

CFI/OEA INVESTIGATION RECORD

NAME OF DECEASED: ALBERTO QUINTERO HERRERA

CORRESPONDING POSTMORTEM ID No: SPOA 76001600019920070599-1

SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

Evidence of perimortem trauma:

One gun shot wound to lower right limb, front to medial, distal 1/3.

Three gun shot wounds to the left side of chest, left to right.

One gun shot wound to right upper limb, left to right.

Three gun shot wounds to the chest, front to back.

One gun shot wound to left knee, down upwards.

One gun shot wound from genitalia to chest, right side, down upwards, front to back.

Other observations:

Two trajectories are down upwards.

CONCLUSIONS:

Cause of death: gun shot wounds to the chest and abdomen. Ten gun shot wounds from front to back (two are down upwards). Two types of ammunition recovered.

CFLOEA INVESTIGATION RECORD

NAME OF DECEASED: CARLOS ALBERTO BARRAGÁN LÓPEZ

CORRESPONDING POSTMORTEM ID No: SPOA 76001600019920070599-2

SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

Evidence of perimortem trauma:

Two gun shot wounds to the head, direction back to front.

Two gun shot wounds to the chest, direction back to front, downwards.

Gun shot wound to left arm, direction back to front.

Gun shot wound to right forearm, direction uncertain.

Gun shot wound to third and fourth fingers, direction uncertain.

Gun shot wound to back, direction back to front, downwards.

Other observations:

Projectiles and projectile fragments retrieved. Two different types of projectiles.

CONCLUSIONS:

Cause of death: gun shot wounds to head and chest. The trajectories were from different directions. Two different types of ammunition were found.

CFI/OEA INVESTIGATION RECORD

NAME OF DECEASED: CARLOS ALBERTO CHARRY QUIROGA

CORRESPONDING POSTMORTEM ID No: SPOA 76001600019920070599.3

SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

Evidence of perimortem trauma:

Gun shot wound to the head, direction left to right, slightly forwards.

Two gun shot wounds to the chest, direction upwards to the right.

Gun shot wound to the back, direction upwards to the left.

Gun shot wound to left arm, entrance surrounded by stippling. Direction back to front.

Gun shot wound to right thigh, direction back to front.

Other significant findings:

Projectiles and projectile fragments retrieved. Two different types of projectiles.

CONCLUSIONS:

Cause of death: Gun shot wounds to head and chest. The trajectories were from different directions. Two different types of ammunition were found. The shot to the left arm was fired from a short distance.

CFI/OEA INVESTIGATION RECORD

NAME OF DECEASED: JAIRO JAVIER HOYOS SALCEDO

CORRESPONDING POSTMORTEM ID No: SPOA 76001600019920070599-4

SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

Evidence of perimortem trauma:

One gun shot wound to the chest, left to right, back to front, with perforation of the heart.

One gun shot wound to the abdomen, down upwards from front to back.

Three gun shot wounds to the pelvis, back to front.

Two gun shot wounds to both feet, from back to front.

One gun shot wound in right thigh, down upwards.

CONCLUSIONS:

Cause of death: gun shot wounds to the chest with perforation of the heart. Eight gun shot wounds from back to front and front to back. One type of ammunition recovered.

CFI/OEA INVESTIGATION RECORD

NAME OF DECEASED: HÉCTOR FABIO ARISMENDY OSPINA

CORRESPONDING POSTMORTEM ID No: SPOA 76001600019920070599-5

SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

Evidence of perimortem trauma:

Three gun shot wounds from left shoulder to the chest, left to right, up downwards, with aorta perforation.

One gun shot wound to right forearm.

CONCLUSIONS:

Cause of death: gun shot wounds to the chest with aorta perforation. Four gun shot wounds (three from left to right, one to right forearm). One type of ammunition recovered.

CFI/OEA INVESTIGATION RECORD

NAME OF DECEASED: NACIANCENO OROZCO GRISALES

CORRESPONDING POSTMORTEM ID No: SPOA 76001600019920070599-6

SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

Evidence of perimortem trauma:

Gun shot wound to the back/left shoulder, direction downwards.

Gun shot wound to the right flank, direction upwards to the left.

Gun shot wound to the left flank, direction left to right.

Gun shot wound to the right buttock, direction downwards to the right.

Two gun shot wounds to the abdomen, direction downwards to the right.

Gun shot wound to the right thigh, direction upwards to the left.

Gun shot wound to the left calf, direction front to back.

Other significant findings:

Projectile fragments were retrieved.

CONCLUSIONS:

Cause of death: gun shot wounds to back and abdomen. The trajectories were from different directions.

CFI/OEA INVESTIGATION RECORD

NAME OF DECEASED: RUFINO VARELA COBO

CORRESPONDING POSTMORTEM ID No: SPOA 76001600019920070599-7

SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

Evidence of perimortem trauma:

Two gun shot wounds to the chest, direction upwards to the left, slightly backwards.

Gun shot wound to the left shoulder, direction downwards.

Gun shot wound to the back, direction upwards slightly forward.

Gun shot wound to the right arm, direction forwards to the right.

Gun shot wound to the right thigh, direction forwards to the right.

Gun shot wound to the right knee, direction upwards.

Other significant findings:

Projectiles and projectile fragments retrieved. Two different types of projectiles.

CONCLUSIONS:

Cause of death: gun shot wounds to the chest, left shoulder and back. The trajectories were from different directions. Two different types of ammunition were found.

CFI/OEA INVESTIGATION RECORD

NAME OF DECEASED: FRANCISCO JAVIER GIRALDO CADAVID

CORRESPONDING POSTMORTEM ID No: SPOA 76001600019920070599-8

SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

Evidence of perimortem trauma:

Approximately six gun shot wounds to the back, low dorsal region, back to front, right to left and down upwards. Two of which penetrate abdomen and chest.

Six gun shot wounds in right elbow, forearm and wrist.

Approximately three gun shot wounds to proximal 1/3 of right thigh and right iliac region, front to back, right to left and down upwards.

Other observations:

Many trajectories are down upwards. One of the wounds in right buttock shows close range signs – injury is surrounded by stippling.

CONCLUSIONS:

Cause of death: gun shot wounds to abdomen and chest. Approximately 15 gun shot wounds to the trunk, back to front and front to back. One in right buttock with close range signs. One type of ammunition recovered.

CF/OEA INVESTIGATION RECORD

NAME OF DECEASED: RAMIRO ECHEVERRY SÁNCHEZ

CORRESPONDING POSTMORTEM ID No: SPOA 76001600019920070599-9

SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

Evidence of perimortem trauma:

Three gun shot wounds to the chest, back, right to left, only superficial tissues, right scapula and few ribs involved.

Two gun shot wounds to the chest and abdomen, right to left, with vertebral lumbar injury.

One gun shot wound to right forearm, distal 1/3.

CONCLUSIONS:

Cause of death: gun shot wounds to the chest and abdomen with vertebral lumbar injury. Five gun shots wounds to the chest and abdomen, back, right to left. One type of ammunition recovered.

CFI/OEA INVESTIGATION RECORD

NAME OF DECEASED: ÉDINSON PÉREZ NUÑEZ

CORRESPONDING POSTMORTEM ID No: SPOA 76001600019920070599-10

SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

Evidence of perimortem trauma:

Gun shot wound to the back of the head, direction right to left
Gun shot wound to the back, direction downwards to the right, slightly forwards
Gun shot wound to the right forearm, direction back to front
Gun shot wound to the right forearm, direction downwards
Gun shot wound to the right hand, direction back to front
Gun shot wound to right thumb, direction back to front
Gun shot wound to right ring finger, direction back to front
Gun shot wound to right calf, direction upwards of the right, slightly backwards

Other significant findings:

Projectile fragments retrieved

CONCLUSIONS:

Cause of death: gun shot wounds to head and back. The trajectories were with different directions.

CFI/OEA INVESTIGATION RECORD

NAME OF DECEASED: JUAN CARLOS NARVÁEZ REYES

CORRESPONDING POSTMORTEM ID No: SPOA 76001600019920070599-11

SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

Evidence of perimortem trauma:

Gun shot wound to left shoulder, direction upwards to the right, slightly forwards

Two gun shot wounds to right forearm, direction upwards

Two gun shot wounds to right side of the back, direction right to left

Gun shot wound to the posterior aspect of the left thigh, direction upwards

Gun shot wound to the right buttock, direction right to left

Two gun shot wounds to the anterior/lateral aspect of the left thigh, direction upwards

Two gun shot wounds to the anterior aspect of the left calf, direction upwards

Two gun shot wounds to the posterior aspect of the right calf, direction upwards

Gun shot wound to left foot, direction unascertained

Other significant findings:

Projectiles and projectile fragments retrieved.

CONCLUSIONS:

Cause of death: gun shot wounds to back and thorax. The trajectories were with different directions.

Conclusions

The Commission is unanimous in reaching its conclusions.

The identity of all the deceased was established by using a number of recognized methods. The results obtained meet international standards and the outstanding DNA testing is only confirmatory in nature.

All of the deaths were as a result of multiple gun shot wounds. In most cases they are from different directions. In nine of the cases the fatal wounds are in the chest and/or abdomen and in two cases the fatal wounds are in the head. There were two cases of bullet injuries (an elbow/chest and buttock) that showed stippling, which indicates close range. From preliminary examination it appears that, in some cases, different types of bullets and bullet fragments were found.

Therefore the cause of death in each case is multiple gun shot wounds and the manner of death is homicide. The meaning of homicide in this instance is the death of one human caused by the actions of another human being. We are not making comment on who that person or persons are or on their culpability. Characteristics of the wounds exclude accidental or suicidal deaths.

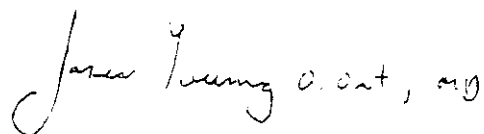
The Commission concludes that on issues such as different trajectories of bullet wounds multiple answers are possible. For example, a person as part of a dynamic process could twist and turn while being shot or, in the alternative, different trajectories could occur if shot from front and back at the same time. Any conclusions in our view should be based on the scientific facts as determined, not on speculation and theory. For example it is fact that two of the wounds were close range. However, any further conclusions beyond this would be speculation. Similarly two persons being killed by bullet wounds to the head does not automatically equate to executions. Everyone would prefer to have all the answers to every question surrounding the deaths. Given the circumstances in this instance we are severely limited. We have no witnesses, no access to a scene or scenes and no firearms to examine. Fortunately the bodies were recovered but it must be borne in mind that although the bodies were in better condition than anticipated, they were in a decomposing condition. There are limits to the conclusions that can be drawn. Therefore, the Commission is only comfortable in reaching the conclusions we have outlined.

The conclusions are that the deputies died of multiple gun shot wounds, there are multiple trajectories, there are two close contact wounds and different types of ammunition were found. Everything else is theory.

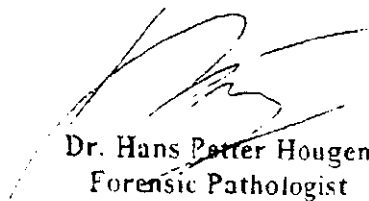
In our opinion such issues as determining whether the bodies were recovered from the site of the deaths or attempting an accurate reenactment would be more speculative than scientific. Determining who was responsible based on the information available to us would be even more speculative.

Finally, we would like to thank the families, the Colombian forensic professionals and the OAS personnel for their invaluable support and help. The Commission agreed to do this work at personal sacrifice because we believe that the best answers are important for the families and the

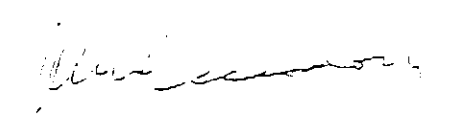
people of Colombia. We have given the most complete answers we believe the facts support. The Commission again expresses our condolences to the families.



Dr. James Young
Coordinator of the International Forensic Commission
Forensic Doctor



Dr. Hans Petter Hougen
Forensic Pathologist



Dra. Maria Cristina de Mendonça
Forensic Pathologist



Lic. Luis Fondebrider
Forensic Anthropologist