

PTQ1209

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ACTION OCS-03

INFO	LOG-00	AMAD-01	ARA-01	CA-02	CIAE-00	INL-01	DEAE-00
	OASY-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EUR-01	OIGO-01	INLB-01	TEDE-00
	INR-00	JUSE-00	L-01	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	PPT-01
	SCT-00	SS-00	DSCC-00	/013W			

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O 101653Z JAN 96
 FM AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2272
 INFO AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
 AMEMBASSY MEXICO
 ALL USCONS MEXICO

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 CIUDAD JUAREZ 000103

E.O. 12958: N/A
 TAGS: CASC, SNAR, MX (INERE, LAURA ANNE)
 SUBJECT: CHRISTMAS DAY MURDER IN JUAREZ OF AMCIT
 LAURA ANNE INERE

1. SUMMARY: JUAREZ CITY POLICE OFFICER EDUARDO VALLE-VEGA AND A FEMALE ACCOMPLICE, MARTHA MARIA RIOS LEDEZMA, HAVE BEEN FORMALLY CHARGED IN THE CHRISTMAS DAY MURDER OF A YOUNG WOMAN NOW IDENTIFIED AS AMERICAN CITIZEN LAURA ANNE INERE (DPOB 29SEP69 GERMANY), POLICE ARE INVESTIGATING LINKS TO THE VIOLENT DEATH OF ANOTHER YOUNG WOMAN AND A CONCURRENT DRUG-RELATED SHOOTOUT BETWEEN LOCAL POLICE WHICH

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 KILLED A LOCAL PARAMEDIC AND WOUNDED SEVERAL OFFICERS.

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2. DESPITE AN ALMOST TOTAL LACK OF IDENTIFICATION, POST SUCCEEDED IN LOCATING MS. INERE'S [REDACTED] PARENTS [REDACTED] WHO PERSONALLY IDENTIFIED HER REMAINS AND ACCEPTED CUSTODY OF THE ASHES AFTER LOCAL CREMATION. END SUMMARY. B6

3. POST WAS INITIALLY CALLED THE EVENING OF DECEMBER 27 BY AN AGITATED WOMAN GIVING HER NAME AS [REDACTED] SHE IDENTIFIED HERSELF AS THE ROOMMATE AND CO-WORKER OF AN AMERICAN WOMAN MURDERED BY JUAREZ POLICE AND GAVE HER FRIEND'S NAME (INCORRECTLY) AS ANA LAURA WASHINGTON, POB HAWAII. SHE SAID "ANA" HAD NO IDENTIFYING DOCUMENTS, PASSPORT, OR IMMEDIATE FAMILY IN THE AREA. [REDACTED] INDICATED "ANA" HAD BEEN SHOT SIX TIMES BY "THE POLICE" AND SAID SHE HERSELF HAD IDENTIFIED THE REMAINS BUT HAD BEEN UNABLE TO GET THE BODY RELEASED. JUAREZ HOMICIDE WAS CALLED IMMEDIATELY, BUT THE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE CASE WAS NOT AVAILABLE UNTIL THE NEXT MORNING. B6

4. POLICE CONFIRMED REPORTS IN THE LOCAL PRESS INDICATING THAT AFTER A LATE-NIGHT DISPUTE IN A LOCAL BAR OVER AN ALLEGED THEFT, MS. INERE WAS FOLLOWED OR TAKEN TO A DESERTED CEMETERY, WHERE SHE WAS SHOT AT LEAST SIX TIMES AND LEFT BLEEDING IN A DOORWAY. (PRESS REPORTS SUGGEST THE MURDER OF MS. INERE AND THE OTHER YOUNG WOMAN WHOSE BULLET-RIDDLED BODY WAS FOUND DECEMBER 26 WERE RELATED TO POLICE DRUG UNCLASSIFIED

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CORRUPTION AND THAT BOTH VICTIMS WERE ENGAGED IN DRUG SALES AT LOCAL BARS. MS. INERE'S FAMILY LATER INDICATED A HISTORY OF DRUG INVOLVEMENT AND THEIR OWN SUSPICIONS SHE MIGHT BE SELLING DRUGS TO SUPPORT HERSELF.)

5. THE CRITICALLY INJURED AMERICAN WAS DISCOVERED AND TAKEN BY AMBULANCE TO THE JUAREZ GENERAL HOSPITAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT, WHERE SHE DIED DURING THE EARLY HOURS OF DECEMBER 26 OF SHOCK AND EXTENSIVE ABDOMINAL

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TRAUMA DUE TO GUNSHOT WOUNDS. HOSPITAL ADMISSION RECORDS INDICATE SHE HERSELF GAVE ATTENDANTS HER NAME.

6. POST HAS NO REGISTRATION OR ARREST RECORD UNDER EITHER NAME, AND DUE TO THE GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF AN APPROPRIATION/CONTINUING RESOLUTION, WAS UNABLE TO REQUEST THE USUAL SEARCH OF PASSPORT FILES. TWICE THAT WEEK, HOWEVER, POST WAS VISITED BY [REDACTED] B6

[REDACTED] HE EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN OVER HER DEATH, HIS CERTAINTY THAT SHE WAS AN AMERICAN, AND ON HIS SECOND VISIT (JANUARY 4) PROVIDED SEVERAL OF HER PERSONAL DOCUMENTS: A 'TEXAS ORPHANAGE OUTREACH PROGRAM' VOLUNTEER CARD GIVING HER NAME AND DOB, AND A 1977 TEXAS STATE IMMUNIZATION RECORD IN THE NAME OF LAURA INERE. [REDACTED] SAID LAURA HAD LIVED AND WORKED IN JUAREZ FOR TEN YEARS AND HAD MENTIONED A GODFATHER IN EL PASO, BUT NEVER GAVE HIS NAME OR THE NAMES OF HER PARENTS. B6

7. POST CALLED EL PASO SOCIAL SERVICES AND A NUMBER UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 04 CIUDAD 00103 01 OF 02 101657Z OF LOCAL CHURCHES, BUT WAS UNABLE TO LOCATE THE OUTREACH ORGANIZATION. THE EL PASO TELEPHONE BOOK, HOWEVER, HAD ONLY ONE LISTING UNDER HER UNCOMMON SURNAME INERE. IN A LAST EFFORT TO FIND POSSIBLE RELATIVES, CONOFF CALLED [REDACTED] B6

[REDACTED] HE [REDACTED] SINCE IT APPEARED ALMOST CERTAIN FROM HER PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION AND OTHER DETAILS THAT THE DECEASED WAS IN FACT HIS DAUGHTER, [REDACTED] WAS ASKED IF HE COULD POSSIBLY COME DOWN TO CONFIRM HER IDENTITY. HE INDICATED THAT HE WOULD CALL HER MOTHER [REDACTED] SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, POST WAS ADVISED THEY ALL PLANNED TO VISIT JUAREZ JANUARY 5, AND WOULD NEED OUR ASSISTANCE B6 B6

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IN MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRANSFER OF THE REMAINS.

8. ON JANUARY 5, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] APPEARED AT POST. AS EVIDENCE OF HIS DAUGHTER'S CITIZENSHIP, [REDACTED] PRESENTED NO-FEE PASSPORT E1598593 ISSUED 26JULY84 IN THE NAME OF LAURA ANNE INERE (DPOB 29SEP68 GERMANY), AND A CROBA ISSUED 20MAR69 AT FRANKFURT AM MAIN, GERMANY, SHOWING ACQUISITION THROUGH BIRTH ABROAD TO TWO AMERICAN CITIZEN PARENTS.

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9. BOTH WOMEN WERE QUITE DISTRAUGHT, AND MRS. [REDACTED] TEARFULLY EXPRESSED HER APPRECIATION FOR POST'S EFFORTS, SAYING SHE HERSELF HAD SOUGHT LAURA FOR OVER SIX YEARS WITHOUT SUCCESS. SHE INITIALLY INDICATED SHE WANTED LAURA CREMATED IN THE UNITED STATES; AFTER POST FACILITATED SEVERAL CALLS TO DISCUSS FINANCIAL ARRANGMENTS WITH FACILITIES IN EL PASO AND JUAREZ, HOWEVER, SHE DECIDED CREMATION IN JUAREZ WOULD BE A BETTER CHOICE. CONSULAR ASSISTANTS MARTHA ORTEGA AND ADRIANA CHACON ESCORTED THE FAMILY TO THE MORGUE, WHERE MS. INERE WAS POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED, AND THEN TO A LOCAL BANK, GOVERNMENT OFFICES FOR PAPERWORK INVOLVED IN THE RELEASE OF THE REMAINS, AND A RELIABLE LOCAL FUNERAL HOME TO DISCUSS THE CREMATION ARRANGEMENTS. PRIOR TO THEIR RETURN TO THE U.S., THE FAMILY RETURNED TO POST, WHERE THEY REITERATED THEIR THANKS AND WERE GREETED BY CONSUL GENERAL COLBERT, WHO EXTENDED PERSONAL CONDOLENCES ON THEIR LOSS.

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10. POST HAS CONFIRMED MRS. [REDACTED] RECEIPT OF HER DAUGHTER'S REMAINS ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 6. AS SOON AS A MEXICAN DEATH CERTIFICATE IS AVAILABLE, THE CONSULAR REPORT OF DEATH WILL BE PREPARED AND COPIES REMITTED TO MS. INERE'S FAMILY. WE ARE MONITORING PROGRESS OF THE CRIMINAL CASE.

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11. GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN IMPACT:

-- IDENTIFICATION OF MS. INERE AND CONTACT WITH HER FAMILY WAS POSSIBLE ONLY BECAUSE [REDACTED]

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BOOK. DURING NORMAL OPERATIONS THE DEPARTMENT COULD
HAVE QUICKLY ACCESSED PASSPORT RECORDS ON MS. INERE.
-- NO POST VEHICLE WAS AVAILABLE TO ASSIST THE
FAMILY: A RECENT ACCIDENT TO AN OFFICIAL VEHICLE AND
LACK OF FUNDS FOR REPAIRS HAVE SEVERELY HINDERED ACS
OPERATIONS, INCLUDING PRISON VISITS AND ASSISTANCE IN
DEATH CASES. IN THIS INSTANCE CONSULAR ASSISTANT
ADRIANA CHACON GENEROUSLY VOLUNTEERED TO DRIVE THE
FAMILY IN HER PERSONAL VEHICLE.

12. CONSUL GENERAL'S COMMENT: THE EXTENSIVE AND
COMPASSIONATE ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY FSNS ORTEGA AND
CHACON AND CONSUL DAVIS TO THIS BEREAVED FAMILY IS AN
EXAMPLE OF THE PROFESSIONALISM AND SERVICE WHICH
CONSULAR EMPLOYEES PROVIDE AMERICANS. I SHOULD ALSO
NOTE THAT THE ASSISTANCE WAS PROVIDED JUST AFTER
THESE EMPLOYEES HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT THEY WOULD NOT
BE PAID FOR THEIR WORK DUE TO THE LACK OF AN
APPROPRIATION. END COMMENT. COLBERT

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