

RELEASED IN PART B6

Doherty, Kathleen H

From: Vann, Stephen A
Sent: Thursday, June 05, 2003 8:39
To: Doherty, Kathleen H
Subject: FW: [redacted] adoption case

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-----Original Message-----

From: Jacobsen, Michael J
Sent: Wednesday, June 04, 2003 7:59 PM
To: Foster, Michael; Matus, Luisa F
Cc: Hernandez, Roy; Martineau, Geoffrey; Haas, Martha; Fuller, Gerry W(WHA/CEN); Wilson, Brian W (WHA/CEN); Vann, Stephen A(CA/OCS/CI); ThompsonJones, Mary; McFarland, Stephen G; Smith, Daniel B(CA); Brownlee, Ian G(CA/OCS/ACS/WHA); Bond, Michele T(CA/OCS)
Subject: [redacted] adoption case

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Mike - The PGN investigator will be coming over to see us tomorrow Thurs June 5 at 3 PM.

Luisa - Please make arrangements to admit Lic. [redacted] tomorrow via the front entrance. Gracias.

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-----Original Message-----

From: Bond, Michele T
Sent: Wednesday, June 04, 2003 1:19 PM
To: Foster, Michael(Guatemala)
Cc: Jacobsen, Michael J(Guatemala); Hernandez, Roy(Guatemala); Martineau, Geoffrey(Guatemala); Haas, Martha(Guatemala); Fuller, Gerry W(WHA/CEN); Wilson, Brian W(WHA/CEN); Vann, Stephen A; ThompsonJones, Mary(Guatemala); McFarland, Stephen G(Guatemala); Smith, Daniel B; Brownlee, Ian G
Subject: RE: FW:

Thanks, Mike. When I talked to CCAI, I told them the "raid" would likely consist of confiscation of paper files and staff interviews, perhaps an arrest, but not a SWAT team charging the orphanage. They are very comfortable with the fact that we keep getting right back to them with answers to their questions and concerns (and they get confirmation about all that we are doing via [redacted] and their contact) so I do not think the anxiety levels are rising here.

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Michele Thoren Bond
 Managing Director, CA/OCS
 202-647-9018

-----Original Message-----

From: Foster, Michael
Sent: Wednesday, June 04, 2003 3:12 PM
To: Bond, Michele T(CA/OCS)
Cc: Jacobsen, Michael J; Hernandez, Roy; Martineau, Geoffrey; Haas, Martha; Fuller, Gerry W (WHA/CEN); Wilson, Brian W(WHA/CEN); Vann, Stephen A(CA/OCS/CI); ThompsonJones, Mary; McFarland, Stephen G; Smith, Daniel B(CA); Brownlee, Ian G(CA/OCS/ACS/WHA)
Subject: RE: FW:

Michele, I just spoke with Mike J. and we are in agreement that we need to have the PGN investigator working on [redacted] case come in to see us, so we can get first hand info on their near-future intent regarding the orphanage. Once we have some better info we can then decide on the best measures to protect any AmCits and children involved with the orphanage. Generally, at this point we feel

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REVIEW AUTHORITY: Frank Tumminia, Senior Reviewer

that our presence and observation of any "raid", which will probably not involve a large group of heavily armed police crashing the doors, will adequately protect the immediate security needs of any AmCits present. The Mission will also work with the Guatemalan authorities to try to ensure measures are taken to protect the children from harm or being transferred elsewhere, as well as longer-term security issues for the AmCits involved.

Let me add that there are no security guarantees here and we are constantly concerned for the safety of AmCits in country, in these particular unique circumstances or otherwise. Guatemala is a dangerous place and it is typical to use threats and intimidation, frequently violence, to resolve matters of all types. This is what we face on a daily basis. Too many people, as [redacted] themselves admitted, come here for admirable purposes without an understanding of the difficulties they may face in this highly corrupt and risky environment. Mike

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-----Original Message-----

From: Bond, Michele T

Sent: Wednesday, June 04, 2003 11:21 AM

To: Jacobsen, Michael J(Guatemala); Foster, Michael(Guatemala)

Cc: Hernandez, Roy(Guatemala); Martineau, Geoffrey(Guatemala); Haas, Martha(Guatemala); Fuller, Gerry W(WHA/CEN); Wilson, Brian W(WHA/CEN); Vann, Stephen A; ThompsonJones, Mary (Guatemala); McFarland, Stephen G(Guatemala); Smith, Daniel B; Brownlee, Ian G

Subject: FW: FW:

I received a call from the Congressional Coalition on Adoptions Institute, where the staff has been in touch for several days with "a contact" who is in touch with [redacted] CCAI reported that [redacted] believe they will be asked to testify this week, and that following that testimony the PGN plan to "raid" the orphanage. The CCAI staff and some of the congressional offices they are working with (NFI) are concerned that other Amcits in or near or connected to the orphanage could be hurt during the raid, or that the children might be moved to a different institution and adoptions disrupted. I strongly recommended that [redacted] talk to Mike Foster and Mike Jacobsen directly about their information so an assessment could be made about possible risks to Amcits. I then received the following e-mail which spells out their concerns in more detail.

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Michele Thoren Bond
Managing Director, CA/OCS
202-647-9018

-----Original Message-----

From: Wendy Cosby [mailto:Wendy@ccainstitute.org]

Sent: Wednesday, June 04, 2003 1:54 PM

To: 'Bond, Michele T'

Cc: 'Kerry Hasenbalg'

Subject: FW:FW:

Hi Michele,

I have attached some information for you on the case in a timeline format.

I also just wanted to let you know that I spoke directly to the family on a conference call with their contact after I spoke to you. We were mainly calling to reiterate to the family that they need to be informing the embassy on everything that they are telling their contacts here. I just recently found out that BCIS HQ here has been in contact with Roy Hernandez and he is sending them the information needed to grant HP to the child. They have stated that it will be expedited very soon, but didn't give a specific timeframe. The family is expecting to testify some time this week and will soon be going into protective custody of the Guatemalan government. [redacted] were told by

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the embassy that they cannot guarantee their safety in Guatemalan protective custody. (We were very sensitive and did not offer any information other than for the family to contact the embassy directly.....since we were on a non-secure line.)

The embassy should be in contact with the PGN to determine the type of raid (i.e. arrests etc) and when it will be taking place. Congressional offices are concerned about additional families that are in Guatemala now fostering the children they hope to adopt. I've been told that many of these families (possibly 20-30) are staying in Antigua (I am not sure of the spelling but it sounded like that). If there is a raid and only the director of the orphanage is taken in to custody, the fear is that others connected i.e. "henchmen" may retaliate and this situation may put additional citizens in harms way. [redacted] have actually seen 2 or 3 other citizens where they are staying too. We have been brainstorming ways to help ensure the safety of other citizens in-country, and wonder if, in a prudent and discreet way, it is possible to have families there register with the embassy so that way if anything happens the embassy can be in touch with them. One such brainstorm is to talk to one of the families in Antigua [redacted] contact knows a family in that city personally), and have the contact mention to other families that it might be best to register with the embassy since a note was recently posted about a possible suspension on adoptions in Guatemala. This way, the families (who don't know the situation at all) can register with the embassy under the pretense that it is for updates on the latest adoption news. -what do you think?

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The name of the orphanage is "Podesta" and the director is Guillermo Bosque. He has been working with a lawyer named Blanca Martinez and the PGN has been trying to connect the two information from [redacted] helps them to do that. FYI, [redacted] and she is the one who initially told the Roberts to travel to Guatemala to complete their adoption months ago. -this information is in the timeline...

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I hope that this is helpful to you.

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