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EL SALVADOR/  
DEATH SQUADS

RATHER: A major obstacle to President Reagan's policy in Central America, especially where El Salvador is concerned, has been the Salvadoran death squads. The political right and the left in that country have been accused of random and wanton killings. Until now, those who have ordered the killings have been anonymous, but as Walter Cronkite reports, some of those on the political right now have names, and they are the names of high-ranking Salvadoran officials.

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(File tape) CRONKITE: A former high military official from El Salvador claims that the man who once directed his country's infamous death squads was a paid informer of the CIA. (To Unidentified Man): Do you think the United States or any of its agencies, the CIA, for instance, knew about the death squads? UNIDENTIFIED MAN (Voice of Interpreter): I understand, yes, precisely because they had people in their employ who were in the high levels in Salvador.

CRONKITE: Can you tell us who that is? UNIDENTIFIED MAN: Por ejemplo... (Voice of Interpreter): For example, Col. \*Caranza.

CRONKITE: Right there at the top.. UNIDENTIFIED MAN: Si. (Voice of Interpreter): Yes, sir.

CRONKITE: Col. Nicolas Caranza is the chief of the El Salvador Treasury Police. Our source was interviewed in disguise in a secret location in the United States. He was in a sensitive post in the top ranks of the Salvadoran Security Establishment. The official was brought to the United States and given financial assistance, which is expected to reach \$50,000. The money came from critics of the administration's Salvadoran policy. They made him available to CBS News. Our source fingered as the originator and still-active head of the death squads former army Maj. Robert D'Aubisson, the right wing's candidate for president in El Salvador's election next Sunday. UNIDENTIFIED MAN (Voice of Interpreter): The way it was carried out was that D'Aubisson worked under the orders of Caranza.

CRONKITE: And yet he is an employee of CIA. UNIDENTIFIED MAN (Voice of Interpreter): He always has been, for five or six years.

CRONKITE: Well, do you think that the CIA actually gave orders on some of these assassinations? UNIDENTIFIED MAN: No, no lo creo que si. (Voice of Interpreter): No, I don't believe so.

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