



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

*Soc. 4.01.1*

*P. Frankel, Max*

*CIA 4.03 Lauder, George*

*CIA 4.01 Death Squads*

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Phone: (703) 351-7676

15 October 1984

Mr. Max Frankel  
Editor, Editorial Page  
NEW YORK TIMES  
229 West 43rd Street  
New York, N.Y. 10036

Dear Mr. Frankel:

I noted with dismay the NEW YORK TIMES' stories of 3 March and 24 March 1984 which reported unverified charges that the Central Intelligence Agency was involved in death squad related activities in El Salvador. The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR carried a similar story. Because of the seriousness of these charges, the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence (SSCI) conducted an exhaustive investigation of them. On 10 October it issued its report which exonerated U.S. officials (including CIA) of the charges. The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR ran a full story on the SSCI's findings on its front page where its original story had appeared. That was fair. By contrast, to our knowledge the NEW YORK TIMES Washington edition has not carried a word of the SSCI report.

The NEW YORK TIMES says it carries "All the News Fit to Print." Apparently, a story that corrects previous NEW YORK TIMES reporting isn't fit to print. I think the TIMES owes the Agency and its readers better than that.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George V. Lauder".

George V. Lauder  
Director, Public Affairs