

WHO'S A TERRORIST?

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Dear Newswatch Magazine Listeners/Readers:

The United States Government is rightly out to destroy those responsible for the September 11, 2001 act of terrorism on our shores. President Bush drew a line in the sand indicating if any nation that would not help us capture and destroy these terrorists, as a harbinger of terrorists, would also be destroyed.

When the total death toll came in, it was stunning. Americans were shocked and dismayed that this could happen in America. President Bush announced, "If any government sponsors the outlaws and killers of innocents, they have become outlaws and murderers themselves. And they will take that lonely path at their own peril." Remember, he said "any government." Americans are not always told the truth or even part of it if it benefits those working for World Government - the New World Order.

For the past 55 years the United States has been running a terrorist training camp, whose victims massively outnumber the people killed by the attack on New York, the embassy bombings and the other atrocities laid, rightly or wrongly, at al-Qaida's door. The camp is called the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation, or Whisc. It is based in Fort Benning, Georgia, and it is funded by Mr. Bush's government.

Until January 2001, Whisc was called the "School of the Americas," or SOA. Since 1946, SOA has trained more than 60,000 Latin American soldiers and policemen. Among its graduates are many of the continent's most notorious torturers, mass murders, dictators and state terrorists. As hundreds of pages of documentation compiled by the pressure group SOA Watch show, Latin America has been ripped apart by its alumni.

In June 2001, Colonel Byron Lima Estrada, once a student at the School of the Americas, was convicted in Guatemala City of murdering Bishop Juan Gerardi in 1998. Gerardi was killed because he had helped to write a report on the atrocities committed by Guatemala's D-2, the military intelligence agency run by Lima Estrada with the help of two other School of the Americas graduates. D-2 coordinated the "anti-insurgency" campaign which obliterated 448 Mayan Indian villages, and murdered tens of thousands of their people. Forty percent of the cabinet ministers who served the genocidal regimes of Lucas Garcia, Rios Montt and Mejia Victores studied at the School of the Americas.

In 1993, the United Nations truth commission on El Salvador named the army officers who had committed the worst atrocities of the civil war. Two-thirds of them had been trained at the School of the Americas. Among them was Roberto D'Aubuisson, the leader

of El Salvador's death squads; the men who killed Archbishop Oscar Romero; and 19 of the 26 soldiers who murdered the Jesuit priests in 1989. In Chile, the school's graduates ran BOTH Augusto Pinochet's secret police and his three principal concentration camps. One of them helped to murder Orlando Letelier and Ronni Moffit in Washington, DC in 1976.

Argentina's dictators Roberto Viola and Leopoldo Galtieri, Panama's Manuel Noriega and Omar Torrijos, Peru's Juan Velasco Alvarado and Ecuador's Guillermo Rodriguez all benefited from the School of the Americas instruction. So did the leader of the Grupo Colina death squad in Fujimori's Peru; four of the five officers who ran the infamous Battalion 3-16 in Honduras - which controlled the death squads there in the 1980s - and the commander responsible for the 1994 Ocosingo massacre in Mexico were trained at the School of the Americas. School of the Americas graduates are also, NOW, involved in the dirty war now being waged, WITH U.S. SUPPORT, in Colombia. In 1999 the U.S. State Department's report on human rights named two SOA graduates as the murderers of the peace commissioner, Alex Lopera. In 2000, Human Rights Watch revealed that seven former pupils ARE CURRENTLY running paramilitary groups there and have commissioned kidnappings, disappearances, murders and massacres. In February 2001, an SOA graduate in Colombia was convicted of complicity in the torture and killing of 30 peasants by paramilitaries. The school is now drawing more of its students from Colombia than from any other country.

The FBI defines terrorism as "violent acts & intended to intimidate or coerce a civilian population, influence the policy of a government, or affect the conduct of a government," which is a precise description of the activities of School of America's graduates. In 1996, the U.S. government was forced to release seven of the school's training manuals. Among other TOP tips for terrorists, they recommended blackmail, torture, execution and the arrest of witnesses' relatives. This is a U.S. GOVERNMENT sponsored school to train terrorists!!!

The evidence linking the School of the Americas to CONTINUING atrocities in Latin America IS STRONGER than any evidence linking al-Qaida training camps to the attack on New York. Why does President Bush not declare war on Fort Benning's School of the Americas? Unfortunately, America fits President Bush's OWN definition of a nation at risk for harboring, aiding and abetting terrorism. This editor is deeply saddened over the hypocrisy of those in Washington, DC. They will go to any lengths to "create" an enemy that will help them establish their long awaited New World Order. [Thanks to The Guardian, October 30, 2001, for much evidence. It is the most prestigious Sunday newspaper in London, England.]

Sincerely,

David J. Smith