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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
HONORABLE EDWARD RAFEEDIE, JUDGE PRESIDING

- - - - -

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
vs.)
)
RAFAEL CARO-QUINTERO, et al.,)
)
Defendants.)
_____)

Case No. CR-87-422-ER

COPY

REPORTER'S PARTIAL TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1992

MARY TUCKER, CSR 9308
Official Court Reporter
429-D U.S. Courthouse
312 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, Calif. 90012
213/687-0530

1 APPEARANCES:
2

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I N D E X

WITNESS DIRECT CROSS REDIRECT RECROSS

LOPEZ, RENE

By Mr. Medrano

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EXHIBITS: NONE

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1 LOS ANGELES, CALIF.; WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1992; 10:30 AM

2 (Jury in)

3 THE COURT: Call your next witness.

4 MR. MEDRANO: Your Honor, the government calls
5 Rene Lopez to the stand.

6 THE COURT: Counsel, this is untimely this
7 request. Therefore, we will proceed with the examination
8 of this witness. You may make any objections you have.

9 RENE LOPEZ, GOVERNMENT WITNESS, SWORN

10 THE CLERK: Please be seated.

11 DIRECT EXAMINATION

12 BY MR. MEDRANO:

13 Q Mr. Lopez, how old are you?

14 A At the present time I am 34 years old.

15 Q Were you born in Mexico?

16 A Yes.

17 Q What city did you grow up in in Mexico?

18 A Guadalajara, Jalisco.

19 Q Mr. Lopez, have you been employed in Guadalajara with
20 the Municipal Secret Police?

21 A Yes.

22 Q When did you start with them?

23 A In the Secret Service?

24 Q Correct.

25 A In '74, 1974.

1 Q And until what year did you work with the Secret
2 Police?

3 A Until '76, end of '76, '77.

4 Q Briefly, what type of responsibilities did you have
5 with that agency?

6 A Investigating agent.

7 Q What type of things would you investigate?

8 A You could investigate at that agency theft, homicide,
9 different types of crime.

10 Q After you left the Municipal Secret Police what did
11 you do then for employment?

12 A Then I came here to the United States.

13 Q Approximately when was that?

14 A It was more or less in '77.

15 Q Did you work in the United States?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Where?

18 A I worked in San Fernando.

19 Q What did you do there?

20 A In an electronics place.

21 Q At any point did you ever return to Mexico to return
22 to working there?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Where did you return to in Mexico?

25 A Guadalajara, Jalisco.

1 Q Where did you work there when you returned?

2 A I work in the bottling company for Coke, Coca-Cola.

3 Q After that employment what did you do?

4 A Afterwards I worked in a shop for laminating and
5 painting with my brother.

6 Q Now, are you familiar with an agency called the State
7 Judicial Police?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Did you ever work for that agency, Mr. Lopez?

10 A Yes.

11 Q When did you start with them?

12 A I start in the middle of '79.

13 Q And was that in Guadalajara?

14 A Yes.

15 Q When you started did you first have to go to an
16 academy?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And after that academy is that when you received your
19 credentials?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Upon graduation from the academy what was the first
22 unit that you were assigned to?

23 A The homicide group.

24 Q Who was your direct supervisor there?

25 A Jose Maria Carlos-Ochoa, the commander; Mr. Pillado

1 (phonetic), the group leader.

2 Q Now did you investigate homicides in that unit?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Until what year were you in the State Judicial Police?

5 A Until '84.

6 Q Now after your initial assignment in Guadalajara were
7 you sent to another location?

8 A Within the same agency?

9 Q Correct.

10 A Yes.

11 Q Where did you go?

12 A I went to the town of Tamaulipas, Jalisco.

13 Q Is that close to Guadalajara?

14 A Yes. Approximately three hours.

15 Q After Tamaulipas were you transferred to another
16 location?

17 A To Mascota, Jalisco.

18 Q Do you recall approximately when it was that you were
19 transferred to Mascota?

20 A Around April more or less.

21 Q Of what year, sir?

22 A '84.

23 Q Now when you were in Mascota did you know or had you
24 heard of a man by the name of Ruben Zuno-Arce?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Did you ever actually see him in Mascota?

2 A Yes.

3 Q With the Court's permission, if I could ask the
4 witness to stand.

5 Can you tell my if you see Ruben Zuno-Arce in the
6 courtroom, sir.

7 A Yes.

8 Q Can you point at him and describe what he is wearing.

9 A The gentleman who is wearing the sweater.

10 THE COURT: There are two gentlemen wearing
11 sweaters there.

12 THE WITNESS: The one with the headset.

13 THE COURT: And glasses?

14 THE WITNESS: Yes.

15 THE COURT: Indicating Mr. Zuno.

16 BY MR. MEDRANO:

17 Q I'd like to direct your attention to '84 when you
18 worked in Mascota. At any point, Mr. Lopez, were you ever
19 involved in the investigation of the transportation of
20 marijuana?

21 MR. MEDVENE: Objection; relevance, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Overruled.

23 THE WITNESS: What was that again?

24 BY MR. MEDRANO:

25 Q When you were in Mascota were you ever involved in any

1 investigation of the transportation of marijuana?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Can you tell me how this came about?

4 MR. MEDVENE: Objection; calls for a narrative.

5 THE COURT: The objection is sustained.

6 BY MR. MEDRANO:

7 Q As part of your investigation what exactly did you do?

8 MR. MEDVENE: Objection. Calls for hearsay and
9 narrative, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Overruled. The witness may answer.

11 THE WITNESS: Can I answer?

12 THE COURT: Yes.

13 THE WITNESS: Actually, one time we did make an
14 investigation. It was a person who was bringing in that
15 narcotic, marijuana. We detained that person.

16 THE COURT: Well, I think you better ask another
17 question.

18 BY MR. MEDRANO:

19 Q Based on the detention of that man, did you take any
20 action after that?

21 MR. MEDVENE: Objection; relevance and
22 materiality, and calls for hearsay.

23 THE COURT: The Court will take the morning recess
24 at this time. The jury will be excused.

25 (Recess had)

1 BY MR. MEDRANO:

2 Q Mr. Lopez, after you detained this person with
3 marijuana did you interview that person?

4 A Yes, we did the investigation with him.

5 Q On the basis of the interview what were the next steps
6 taken by you and other agents?

7 A This person told us --

8 MR. MEDVENE: Objection; hearsay what that person
9 told them, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Sustained.

11 BY MR. MEDRANO:

12 Q Mr. Lopez, just tell me what you did after you
13 interviewed that man.

14 A We established a lookout from the road block at Talpa.

15 Q Was anyone with you when you set up this road block?

16 A Yes, the group from the judicial police and the group
17 from the Rural.

18 Q Approximately how many agents from each agency were
19 there?

20 A There was approximately from ten to 12.

21 Q Now, would you tell us what happened at this road
22 block, Mr. Lopez?

23 A Well, on guard on that road block, the person we had
24 detained previously had told us --

25 THE COURT: Never mind what he told you.

1 BY MR. MEDRANO:

2 Q Just say what happened at this point.

3 THE COURT: Do not say what anyone told you.

4 THE WITNESS: Yes.

5 A vehicle was stopped.

6 BY MR. MEDRANO:

7 Q What kind of vehicle was it?

8 A A dual-tired, stake bed truck.

9 Q Was anyone in that truck when you stopped it?

10 A Two persons that were in the cabin.

11 Q What happened next?

12 A Then a pickup came by.

13 Q Now, Mr. Lopez, at any point did you have a chance to
14 examine what was inside that large truck?

15 A Yes. When we raised the tarp we saw that it had
16 marijuana.

17 Q Approximately how much marijuana was in that truck?

18 A Approximately a thousand kilos.

19 Q Now you mentioned another truck arrived?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Who was in that truck, Mr. Lopez?

22 A There were two persons there.

23 Q Were you able to recognize any of those two people?

24 A It was Ruben Zuno-Arce.

25 Q Do you know who the second man was?

1 A No, I didn't know him by name.

2 Q Who was driving that truck?

3 A Ruben Zuno-Arce.

4 Q What kind of truck was that that he was driving?

5 A It was a pickup, white.

6 Q Who was in command of your men, the State Judicial
7 Police, at the road block?

8 A Alenta Flores (phonetic).

9 Q Can you tell me what happened when Zuno's truck
10 arrived?

11 MR. MEDVENE: Objection; calls for a narrative,
12 Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: Overruled.

14 THE WITNESS: What was the question?

15 BY MR. MEDRANO:

16 Q Tell me what happened when Zuno's truck arrived?

17 A Zuno talked to the commander of the judicial, Alenta
18 Flores, and with the commander of Rural.

19 Q Do you know the Rural commander's name?

20 A No.

21 Q What happened?

22 A Then says Alenta Flores, our commander, ordered us --

23 MR. MEDVENE: Objection, Your Honor, hearsay.

24 THE COURT: Overruled.

25 THE WITNESS: Alenta Flores, our commander,

1 ordered us to just let go of the vehicle, of the dual
2 tires. Alenta Flores telling us that belongs to the
3 chief, referring to Zuno.

4 BY MR. MEDRANO:

5 Q Did he let the truck go?

6 MR. MEDVENE: Renew the objection. Move to
7 strike.

8 THE COURT: Well, the last answer of the witness
9 is ordered stricken and the jury will disregard it.

10 Restate the question.

11 Last question was: Did you let the truck go?

12 BY MR. MEDRANO:

13 Q The truck filled with marijuana?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Was Zuno also allowed to leave that road block?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Did you make arrests at the road block?

18 A No.

19 Q Mr. Lopez, after your assignment to Mascota were you
20 assigned to a different location after that?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Where were you sent to?

23 A Yabalico (phonetic), Jalisco.

24 Q Mr. Lopez, at any time were you discharged from the
25 State Judicial Police?

1 A Yes.

2 Q Approximately when, sir?

3 A The beginning of September in '84.

4 Q And why were you discharged, Mr. Lopez?

5 A Because of investigation that took place.

6 My partner killed somebody in a confrontation,
7 bullet confrontation

8 Q After that incident were you discharged?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Now, sir, you are familiar with a man by the name of
11 Ernesto Fonseca-Carrillo?

12 A Yes.

13 Q When did you first meet Fonseca?

14 A The last days of September in '84.

15 Q Who introduced you to him?

16 A Commander Gabriel Gonzalez-Gonzalez.

17 Q Where were you when you were introduced to Fonseca?

18 A We were in one of the houses of Ernesto Fonseca.

19 Q Did this house have a name?

20 A They called it El Campamento.

21 Q Where was it located, Mr. Lopez?

22 A In Tapocan (phonetic)

23 Q If I can ask you to look right in front of you. There
24 should be Government Exhibit 105.

25 A Yes.

1 Q Do you recognize what that is?

2 A Yes.

3 Q What is it?

4 A Ernesto Fonseca-Carrillo.

5 Q What did Fonseca tell you when you joined him?

6 A That he was a commander of the Federal Judicial. And
7 that I was going to do fine and there would be no problems.

8 Q When you arrived at the house to meet Fonseca did you
9 have a gun with you?

10 A No. When I arrived there I didn't have a weapon.

11 Q After meeting Fonseca were you provided with a
12 firearm?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Who gave it to you?

15 A Ernesto Fonseca.

16 Q What did he provide to you?

17 A He gave a gun, a .38 caliber super.

18 Q Now on this day that you were hired were you paid any
19 sums of money by Fonseca?

20 A Yes, he did give me money.

21 Q How much?

22 A 100,000 pesos.

23 Q Now at that moment when you hired in September of '84
24 what was your understanding of your responsibilities, Mr.
25 Lopez?

1 A Well, at that time he told me I was going to be a
2 madrina.

3 Q What is a madrina?

4 A Madrina in Mexico is referred to as a person who joins
5 a corporation under the orders of a commander or a group
6 leader.

7 Q And do you do whatever you're ordered to do as a
8 madrina?

9 A Yes.

10 Q When you joined Fonseca on this particular day did you
11 think he was a comandante?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Still in approximately the fall of 1984 are you
14 familiar with a hotel in Guadalajara called the Holiday
15 Inn?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Did you ever have an opportunity to go to that hotel
18 in the company of Fonseca?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Did anyone else go with Fonseca?

21 A Yes.

22 MR. MEDVENE: Could we get a date, Your Honor?

23 MR. MEDRANO: We said fall '84, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: You can cross-examine about the date,
25 Counsel.

1 MR. MEDVENE: Yes, Your Honor.

2 BY MR. MEDRANO:

3 Q Who else went with Fonseca to the Holiday Inn, Mr.

4 Lopez?

5 A Samuel Ramirez-Razo and a bodyguard for Mr. Fonseca.

6 Q Were there more than one bodyguard?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Approximately how many?

9 A About eight more or less.

10 Q What happened when you arrived at the Holiday Inn?

11 A Two men gave Ernesto Fonseca a box of weapons in
12 return for some money.

13 Q Did you examine the weapons yourself?

14 A Well, at that time we didn't. We just saw them when
15 Samuel Ramirez-Razo opened the box.

16 Q Once Fonseca obtained the weapons where were they
17 taken to, if anywhere?

18 A To Ernesto's house.

19 Q Do you recall the house?

20 A It was El Campamento.

21 Q Did you examine the guns at that house?

22 A Yes.

23 Q What was in that box?

24 A There were long rifles.

25 Q For example?

1 A AK .47 called goats horn. R15, R18.

2 Q Is that AR 15? I didn't hear you.

3 A AR 15.

4 Q What did you end up doing with the guns once you
5 arrived at Fonseca's house?

6 A We cleaned all the weapons because they were full of
7 grease.

8 Q Mr. Lopez, as you continued working for Fonseca in '84
9 did you come to meet the other people that worked for
10 Fonseca?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Were any people that worked for Fonseca with the State
13 Judicial Police?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Can you identify some of those people, please.

16 A Yes.

17 Q Go ahead.

18 A Do you want the names?

19 Q Please.

20 A Ernesto Piliado-Garza, Victor Manuel Lopez-Razon,
21 Victor Ruzo, Florez Lepe, Juan Jose-Bernabe, Jorge
22 Godoy-Lopez, Ramon Lira, Hector Lopez-Malon.

23 Do you also want the names of the commanders?

24 Q Yes, sir, I would.

25 A Gabriel Gonzalez-Gonzalez, Jose Maria Carlos-Ochoa,

1 Francisco Ramos, Benjamin Ochoa.

2 Q Mr. Lopez, did you meet anyone by the name of Jorge
3 Godoy?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And did he also work for Fonseca?

6 A Yes.

7 Q I believe in front of you should be Government Exhibit
8 163. Can you tell me if you can identify that.

9 A Yes.

10 Q Can you identify that person?

11 A Juan Jose Bernabe-Ramirez

12 Q You can put it down. Thank you.

13 Now, were there men from any other agencies that
14 you met that also worked for Fonseca?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Are you familiar with the agency the D.F.S.?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Anyone from the D.F.S. work for Fonseca that you met?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Who, please?

21 A Espino-Verdin, Jorge Salizar, Elisio Soto, Ruiz
22 Velasco.

23 Q Is that Luis or Ruiz?

24 A Ruiz.

25 A Do you want more?

1 Q If you know any more.

2 A With the nickname of El Ruzo, El Nino, Salvador Chava.

3 No more.

4 Q Finally, Mr. Lopez, were there any other employees
5 besides yourself that worked for Fonseca that were not
6 affiliated with any particular type of agency?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Give me those names, please.

9 A Ezequiel Godinez, Roberto Montano, others with the
10 nickname El Tapano. Another one Pedro Eurco (phonetic).
11 Address (phonetic), Jose Chorán (phonetic) Manuel Montano,
12 El Chun Chun. I believe those are it.

13 Q Did you know a man by the name of Samuel Ramirez-Razo?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Did he work for Fonseca?

16 A Yes. He was the right hand of Fonseca.

17 Q Mr. Lopez, you mentioned several nicknames. Was it
18 common for you and other --

19 THE COURT: I don't think that's relevant what was
20 common.

21 BY MR. MEDRANO:

22 Q When you started working for Fonseca, who was it that
23 would pay you?

24 A Ernesto Fonseca.

25 Q How often would he pay you?

1 A What do you mean? I didn't understand.

2 Q When would you be paid?

3 A For two or three months he paid us monthly. Then he
4 didn't have a date.

5 Q And when you were paid, how much did you usually
6 receive?

7 A Sometimes we get 50, 80. It would vary.

8 Q Now did Mr. Fonseca have more than one residence in
9 the Guadalajara area?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Approximately how many did he have?

12 THE COURT: Counsel, this is all cumulative.

13 MR. MEDRANO: I will move on, Your Honor. Thank
14 you.

15 BY MR. MEDRANO:

16 Q Still directing your attention to the fall of '84,
17 Mr. Lopez, are you familiar with a hotel that's called the
18 Las Americas Hotel?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Did you ever have an opportunity to go there with
21 Fonseca?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Government's Exhibits 133A and 133B, Your Honor.

24 Mr. Lopez, can you look at those two photographs
25 and tell me if you recognize them.

1 A Yes.

2 Q What are they, sir?

3 A It is the Las Americas Hotel.

4 Q When you went to this hotel with Fonseca did other
5 bodyguards go as well?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Now would you tell me what happens when you arrive at
8 the hotel with Fonseca?

9 A When we got to the hotel by orders of Samuel
10 Ramirez-Razo we stopped and he ordered us to park at the
11 entrance.

12 Q The entrance to the hotel?

13 A Yes.

14 Q While you were there did you see anyone else arrive at
15 the Las Americas Hotel?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Who, sir?

18 A It was General Gardoqui.

19 Q Was anyone with him?

20 A There were two other military agents.

21 Q Were any of those three people in a uniform?

22 A The three of them, except they weren't wearing their
23 caps.

24 Q Did you see anyone else arrive from your position at
25 the front?

- 1 A Yes. We saw federal agents arrive.
- 2 Q Do you recall their names?
- 3 A One of them.
- 4 Q What is that?
- 5 A Juan Gilberto Hernandez-Parra.
- 6 Q What happens next then?
- 7 A Then by orders of Samuel Ramirez-Razo he told us to
8 guard on one side of the hotel on Albinta Lopez-Mataoes
9 (phonetic).
- 10 Q Did you in fact do that?
- 11 A Yes.
- 12 Q And did you maintain a security position at the side
13 of the hotel?
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 Q For how long, sir?
- 16 A For about two hours more or less.
- 17 Q Were other bodyguards with you?
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q Are all of you armed?
- 20 A Yes.
- 21 Q What is the next thing that happens?
- 22 A Then by orders of Samuel Ramirez-Razo he ordered us to
23 leave, to go to the entrance of the hotel once again.
- 24 Q And did you do that?
- 25 A Yes.

1 Q From your position are you able to observe the front
2 of the hotel?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Can you tell me what you saw from that vantage point?

5 A Well, we could see several persons exiting the hotel.

6 Q Were these persons from different agencies?

7 A Yes, several agencies of the government.

8 Q Well, did you see anyone there from the military?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Who, please.

11 A General Gardoqui.

12 Q If I can ask the agent to put Exhibit 131 in front of
13 you. Do you recognize that photograph, sir?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Who is that?

16 A General Gardoqui.

17 Q Did you see any other besides General Gardoqui from
18 your vantage point?

19 A There was Jorge Garma and Benisia Santoyo (phonetic)

20 Q Who was Benisia Santoyo in 1984?

21 A He was from the 15th military zone.

22 Q Was he in charge of that military zone?

23 A Yes.

24 Q When you see these people what are they doing exactly?

25 A They were exiting the hotel.

1 Q Now, did you see anyone exit from that hotel
2 affiliated with the Mexican Federal Judicial Police?

3 MR. BLANCARTE: Objection as to who entered and
4 exited the hotel; relevance.

5 THE COURT: This is admissibility. You may argue
6 the relevance. The objection is overruled.

7 BY MR. MEDRANO:

8 Q Did you see anyone from the Mexican Federal Judicial
9 Police leave that hotel?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Who sir?

12 A Juan Gilberto Hernandez Parra, Miguel Aldana, Manuel
13 Ibarra, Alfonso Vasquez, Armando Pavon-Reyes,
14 Espino-Verdin.

15 Q If I can ask the agent to put Exhibit 118 in front of
16 you.

17 Can you identify that person?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Who is it that?

20 A Juan Gilberto Hernandez Parra.

21 Q 109?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Who is that?

24 A Miguel Aldana.

25 Q 108, please.

- 1 A Manuel Ibarra,
2 Q 119, please.
3 A Espino-Verdin.
4 Q 17?
5 A Armando Pavon Reyes.
6 Q Mr. Lopez, who else did you see exit from that hotel?
7 A I saw some politicians exit.
8 Q Can you identify them, please.
9 A Like Enrique Alvarez del Castillo, Manuel Bartlett
10 Diaz, Ruben Zuno-Arce, Carlos Fernandez.
11 Q Agent, if I can ask you to put 134 in front of Mr.
12 Lopez. Can you identify that individual, sir.
13 A Yes.
14 Q Who is it?
15 A Manuel Bartlett Diaz.
16 Q And 129?
17 A Enrique Alvarez del Castillo.
18 Q Mr. Lopez, who else did you see exit from that hotel?
19 A People from the State's D.A. office.
20 Q Could you identify them, sir.
21 A Yes. Edgar Gallardo, Armando Pueya (phonetic), Jorge
22 Llarios (phonetic). That's it.
23 Q Anyone affiliated with the D.F.S.?
24 A From the directerate?
25 Q Yes.

1 A Espino-Verdin, Jorge Salizar, Elisito Soto, Ruiz
2 Velasco.

3 Q Did you see any state comandantes exit from that
4 hotel?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Who was that?

7 A Gabriel Gonzalez-Gonzalez, Benjamin Ochoa.

8 Q Finally, Mr. Lopez, did you observe any traffickers
9 exit from that hotel?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Could you identify those for us?

12 A Yes. There was Rafael Caro-Quintero, Felix Gallardo,
13 Manuel and his brother Sergio Salsito, Javier Barba,
14 Fernandez, Jorge Fonseca.

15 Q Did you see Ernesto Fonseca walk out of that hotel?

16 A No. When we approached the entrance he was already
17 outside.

18 Q Now, while this is happening are there bodyguards in
19 that area?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Are the bodyguards armed?

22 A Yes.

23 Q After this, sir, did Fonseca leave the vicinity of the
24 Las Americas Hotel?

25 A Yes.

1 Q And did you leave with Fonseca?

2 A Yes.

3 Q How about the rest of his bodyguards?

4 A They also did.

5 Q And where did you go to?

6 A Ernesto Fonseca's house.

7 Q Now, still directing your attention to the fall of
8 1984. Are you familiar with a residence located on a
9 street of Calle Mar Rojo?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Sir, at any time when you were present was there a
12 meeting held at this Calle Mar Rojo house?

13 A Yes.

14 Q If I can have the agent show Government Exhibit 135 to
15 the witness.

16 Do you recognize that photograph, sir?

17 A Yes.

18 Q What is it?

19 A That's Ernesto's house on Calle Mar Rojo street.

20 Q And if I could have the agent put Exhibit 173 in front
21 of the witness.

22 Do you recognize who that is, sir?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Who is it?

25 A Caro-Quintero.

- 1 Q 122, Agent. Who is that?
- 2 A Javier Barba.
- 3 Q 104?
- 4 A Felix Gallardo.
- 5 Q Finally 123.
- 6 A Manuel Salcido, El Cochi Loco.
- 7 Q Now let me take you back to Calle Mar Rojo.
- 8 When you were there on that particular day at this meeting
- 9 was Fonseca present as well?
- 10 A Yes.
- 11 Q Now what happens on this day, Mr. Lopez?
- 12 A First of all, Ernesto Fonseca ordered food and drinks.
- 13 Then by orders of Samuel Ramirez-Razo he told all the
- 14 personnel, all the bodyguards, to go to the kitchen because
- 15 important people were about to arrive. And they didn't
- 16 want us to be seen.
- 17 Q Did you in fact go to the kitchen?
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q Did the other bodyguards also go to the kitchen?
- 20 A Yes.
- 21 Q Now, from the location in the kitchen can one see in
- 22 the direction into the other parts of the house?
- 23 A Yes, through a window.
- 24 Q Through a window in the door?
- 25 A Yes.

1 Q At any time, sir, do you observe when people start
2 arriving at the house?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Did any politicians arrive?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Who?

7 A Enrique Alvarez del Castillo, Ruben Zuno-Arce, Carlos
8 Fernandez.

9 Q Did you see anyone else arrive from any other agency?

10 A Yes, from the state.

11 Q Who did you observe?

12 A D.A. people.

13 Q Who was that?

14 A Edgar Gallardo, Armando Pavon-Reyes, Jorge Llarrios.

15 Q Any military people arrive?

16 A Jorge Garma, and another person with a military
17 uniform.

18 Q Did you see any state comandantes arrive at the house?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Who?

21 A Gabriel Gonzalez-Gonzalez, Jose Maria Carlos-Ochoa,
22 Benjamin Ochoa, Francisco Ramos.

23 Q Mr. Lopez, did you see any traffickers arrive at this
24 residence?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Who?

2 A Felix Gallardo, Rafael Caro-Quintero, Fernandez,
3 Javier Barba, Sergio Salcido, Jorge Fonseca; that's all.

4 Q Was Samuel Ramirez-Razo present as well?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Now, tell me what happens next?

7 A Well, once all of these important people arrived they
8 went into the study. Then Samuel Ramirez-Razo came into
9 the kitchen and ordered Romero and Roberto Mantano to go
10 with him.

11 Then Samuel Ramirez-Razo returned back to the
12 kitchen and he ordered us Guadalupe Hernandez and myself to
13 go take ashtrays to the study room.

14 Q Did you in fact do that?

15 A Yes.

16 Q With Guadalupe Hernandez?

17 A Guadalupe Hernandez and myself.

18 Q Does Guadalupe Hernandez go by any other name, Mr.
19 Lopez?

20 A We use to call La Petunia.

21 Q So what did you and La Petunia then do?

22 A We took ashtrays to the study room.

23 Q When you were in the study did you see there all of
24 these people that you just mentioned?

25 A Yes.

1 Q What do you do with the ashtrays?

2 A We left them on the table and we went out.

3 Q What is the next thing that happens?

4 A Then we went back to the kitchen and through the
5 window that the door had we saw Caro-Quintero come out of
6 the study.

7 Q You saw or heard Caro-Quintero?

8 MR. MEDVENE: He said he saw Caro-Quintero come
9 out of the study.

10 BY MR. MEDRANO:

11 Q I'm sorry. Did you see Caro-Quintero?

12 THE COURT: He's already answered that question.

13 BY MR. MEDRANO:

14 Q Did you hear anything?

15 A Yes.

16 Q And is Caro-Quintero by himself?

17 A No. Caro-Quintero came out of the study and right
18 behind him came Enrique Alvarez del Castillo. And I heard
19 Caro-Quintero telling Alvarez del Castillo, "What happened
20 to that person that we put you in charge of?"

21 Alvarez del Castillo replied to Caro-Quintero, "We
22 already have all the information. That person is located
23 already."

24 Then Caro-Quintero said -- no. I'm sorry. At
25 that time Ruben Zuno came out. Ruben Zuno told

1 Caro-Quintero, "There is no problem. Everything is going
2 to come out all right. All the information we are doing it
3 correctly."

4 Rafael Caro-Quintero told Enrique --

5 Q The names are wrong.

6 A Rafael Caro-Quintero told Enrique Alvarez del Castillo
7 and to Ruben Zuno, "You had your time with that job. You
8 should have already located the DEA person."

9 Ruben Zuno told Caro-Quintero, "There is no
10 problem. Everything is coming out just fine. Everything
11 is going to be all right."

12 Q Who is it that said that?

13 A Ruben Zuno-Arce.

14 Q At any point, Mr. Lopez, do you leave the kitchen?

15 A We went to the living room of that house.

16 Q What happens in living room?

17 A Samuel Ramirez-Razo was in the living room. And he
18 was making a remark to us and Valencia-Saratos. He was
19 telling him, "The brother-in-law of my compadre hasn't
20 come." Compadre he was referring to Mr. Fonseca.

21 He said, "The brother-in-law of my compadre hasn't
22 come in with the errand."

23 Q What happened after that?

24 A Javier Barba came out of the study and called Samuel
25 Ramirez-Razo. Javier Barba and Samuel Ramirez-Razo went

1 into the study.

2 Q At any point did you observe anything?

3 A We then saw that all of these people who were in the
4 study started to exit. And while on the door of the study
5 room Samuel Ramirez-Razo told Ernesto Fonseca, "Compadre,
6 have you given him the present?"

7 Ernesto Fonseca told Samuel Ramirez-Razo, "No,
8 bring it to me."

9 Samuel Ramirez-Razo took out of the study a long
10 rifle.

11 Q What kind of rifle?

12 A AK 47.

13 Q What color was this rifle?

14 A It was gold plated.

15 Q What does he do with the rifle?

16 A Samuel Ramirez-Razo gave it to Ernesto Fonseca.

17 Ernesto Fonseca gave it to Alvarez del Castillo telling
18 him, "We hope you like it."

19 Q Did you hear any other conversation?

20 A Samuel Ramirez-Razo told Ernesto Fonseca, "Compadre,
21 have you told him that the person is going to be moved?"

22 Enrique Alvarez del Castillo replied, "Yes, we are
23 aware of that."

24 Q Still directing your attention to the fall of 1984,
25 Mr. Lopez, do you recall being at the El Campamento?

1 A Yes.

2 Q Did any incident occur at that residence when you were
3 present?

4 MR. RUBIN: Objection, vague.

5 THE WITNESS: Yes.

6 THE COURT: Well, I assume the witness will say
7 yes or no and then we will get more specific.

8 THE WITNESS: Yes.

9 BY MR. MEDRANO:

10 Q When was that, sir?

11 A Ernesto Fonseca sent some of his bodyguards to detain
12 a couple. In other words, this was a male and a female.

13 Q Where was this couple taken to?

14 A To Ernesto Fonseca's house called Campamento.

15 Q When you arrived at El Campamento was that couple
16 already there?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Now at any point are any of those two people
19 questioned?

20 A Yes.

21 Q By who?

22 A By Samuel Ramirez-Razo.

23 Q Why was that man being questioned?

24 A Because Ernesto Fonseca's wife had said that that
25 couple were annoying her residence.

1 Q So does Razo question one of these people?

2 A Yes, the man.

3 Q What else does he do?

4 A When questioning him he started torturing him.

5 MR. MEDVENE: Objection; relevance, materiality,
6 Your Honor. Nothing to do with Mr. Zuno.

7 THE COURT: Overruled.

8 BY MR. MEDRANO:

9 Q Now, sir, at any time do you intervene in that
10 interrogation?

11 A Yes.

12 Q What exactly did you do?

13 A Well, I told Samuel Ramirez-Razo why was he torturing
14 him so much. If he planed to kill him, why torture him. I
15 told him he better rather shoot him instead of making him
16 suffer so much.

17 Q Did you intervene?

18 A Yes.

19 Q And what did you do?

20 A I took away -- this man had a plastic bag over his
21 head.

22 Q What did you do with that bag?

23 A I tore the plastic bag.

24 MR. MEDRANO: Would this be a good moment to
25 break?

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THE COURT: We will adjourn at this time, ladies and gentlemen and reconvene at 1:30. Please keep in mind the admonition of the Court about not discussing this case or about exposing yourself to any publicity regarding the case.

(Luncheon recess had.)

* * * * *

I, MARY TUCKER, CSR, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript is true and correct.

Mary Tucker
MARY TUCKER, CSR

1-4-93

DATE