

Ejército de Chile
Graduados Escuelas de las Américas IV

Augusto Pinochet is not a graduate of the School of the Americas; yet his influence is held in high esteem. In 1991, visitors could view a note from Pinochet, and a ceremonial sword donated by him, on display in the office of the Commandant (Charles Call, MH, 8/9/93)

Graduates of the School of the Americas have also comprised 1 out of every 7 members of the command staff of DINA, the notorious Chilean intelligence agency responsible for many of the worst human rights atrocities during the Pinochet years. SOA grads who were members of the DINA command staff include: Luis Alberto Medina Aldea, Jorge Aro Peigneguy, Eugenio Videla, Rene Riveros, and Guillermo Salinas, as well as other officials mentioned below.

Hugo Acevedo, 1970, Combat Arms Orientation

DINA: According to testimony by Luz Arce, Acevedo was a key official in the repressive forces of the DINA. (Primera Confesión desde el Interior de la DINA, Revista APSI, Santiago de Chile)

Ernesto Baeza Michelsen, 1964, Comando y Estado Mayor

Cited in Spanish Human Rights Case, 1998: One of 30 officials cited in the case against Augusto Pinochet for crimes of genocide, terrorism, torture, and illegal arrest. Former head of Investigations Police who allegedly chose 50 members of his institution to take part in the actions known as Covem, in which 14 people were arrested. One of the 14, a journalism student, Eduardo Jara, died as a consequence of the torture he received. (Derechos Chile)

LTC German Barriga, 1986, Instructor

Repression of socialist party: According to testimony by Luz Arce, Barriga was in charge of repression of the socialist party by the DINA. (Primera Confesión desde el Interior de la DINA, Revista APS, Santiago de Chile)

COL Pablo Belmar, 1987, Guest Instructor; 1968, Basic Arms Orientation Course

Torture, murder of U.N. official, 1976: Directly implicated in the 1976 torture and murder of United Nations official Carmelo Soria, whose neck was broken after he was arrested and tortured by Chilean DINA personnel. Soria's car and body were dumped in a Santiago canal in order to make his death appear accidental. (Americas Watch Report, Unfinished Business: Human Rights in Chile at the Start of the Frei Presidency, 1994) According to former SOA instructor Maj. Joseph Blair, as a guest instructor in 1987, Belmar was responsible for teaching the human rights component.

Alejandro Burgos, 1975, Basic Officer Orientation

Manipulation of Political Prisoners: According to testimony by Luz Arce, Burgos was involved in a plan to get left-wing political prisoners who had been tortured into collaborating with the DINA to meet with the U.S. Ambassador to show that they had changed their political convictions. (Primera Confesión desde el Interior de la DINA, Revista APS, Santiago de Chile)

COL Alfredo Canales, 1974, Basic Officer Orientation Course

Barred exhumation of body, July 14, 1994: In an event related to the disappearance of four soldiers in 1974, Canales personally barred the exhumation of a body believed to have been illegally buried on Army premises. Canales had earlier given his approval to the exhumation. (Nicaragua Solidarity Network of Greater New York Weekly News Update on the Americas, 7/30/94)

Washington Carrasco Fernandez, 1961, Contra-Resistencia, Informacion Militar para Oficiales Cited in Spanish Human Rights Case, 1998: One of 30 officials cited in the case against Augusto Pinochet for crimes of genocide, terrorism, torture, and illegal arrest. (Derechos Chile)

Sergio Espinoza Davies, 1972, Combat Arms Orientation

Participation in Secretive War Tribunals, 1973: In October 1998, Human Rights Watch wrote a letter to the Secretary General of the United Nations requesting the removal of Espinoza Davies as head of the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan because of his role as a member of secretive war tribunals which judged political opponents during the Pinochet dictatorship. In one case in October 1973, Espinoza's tribunal sentenced six socialist leaders to death after an irregular proceeding. Four of the men were executed the next morning. (Human Rights Watch)

LTC Alfonso Faundez Norambuena, 1969, Chilean Officer Orientation
Concentration Camp: Faundez was active in the Villa Grimaldi concentration camp in which nearly 4,500 prisoners were held. (Presos Políticos de Chile)

1LT Armando Fernandez Larios, 1970, Combat Arms Orientation

"Caravan of death," 1973: Fernandez Larios was second in command to General Sergio Arellano Stark, whose tour of northern cities in 1973 resulted in dozens of summary executions. (Americas Watch Report, Chile in Transition, 1989)
Assassination of former defense minister Prats and his wife, 1974: Fernandez Larios was one of two DINA agents charged with assassinating General Carlos Prats González, who was defense minister under the regime Augusto Pinochet overthrew. Prats and his wife were killed by a car bomb in Buenos Aires, Argentina. (Americas Watch Report, Unfinished Business: Human Rights in Chile at the Start of the Frei Presidency, 1994)
Assassination of former foreign minister Orlando Letelier, 1976: Indicted in 1979 by U.S. grand jury for involvement in the Letelier assassination in Washington, D.C., three years earlier. (Letelier, Allende's foreign minister, was also murdered by a car bomb.) (Americas Watch Report, Chile in Transition, 1989)

Humberto Gordon Rubio, 1954, Infantry Weapons; 1954, Operaciones y Mantenamiento de Radio; 1955, Tank Gunnery Course

Cited in Spanish Human Rights Case, 1998: One of 30 officials cited in the case against Augusto Pinochet for crimes of genocide, terrorism, torture, and illegal arrest. Former head of the CNI secret police and also former member of the military Junta. (Derechos Chile)

MAJ Carlos Herrera Jiménez, 1971, Combat Arms Orientation Course
Torture, murder, 1984; murder, 1982: Sentenced in December 1991 for the torture and murder of a transport worker in La Serena. Also implicated in the abduction and murder of trade unionist Tucape Jiméneez in 1982. (Americas Watch Report, Unfinished Business: Human Rights in Chile at the Start of the Frei Presidency, 1994)

Eduardo Iturriaga Neumann, 1965, Basic Airborne Course
Exploitation of political prisoners: According to testimony by Luz Arce, Iturriaga and other officers of the DINA used political prisoners that had been tortured into collaboration as secretaries and analysts in their offices. (Primera Confesión desde el Interior de la DINA, Revista APS, Santiago de Chile)
Cited in Spanish Human Rights Case, 1998: One of 30 officials cited in the case against Augusto Pinochet for crimes of genocide, terrorism, torture, and illegal arrest. (Derechos Chile)

1LT Miguel Krassnoff, 1974, Urban Counterinsurgency Course
Cited in Spanish Human Rights Case, 1998: One of 30 officials cited in the case of Augusto Pinochet for crimes of genocide, terrorism, torture, and illegal arrest. A former member of the DINA, Krassnoff was known by political prisoners held and tortured at Villa Grimaldi, Tres Alamos and Cuatro Alamos. Implicated in the death by torture of former Spanish diplomat Carmelo Soria in 1976. Took part in the assault on the residence of former president Salvador Allende who was deposed by the Army in Sept. 1973. (Derechos Chile)

LTC Fernando Lauriani, 1971, Combat Arms Orientation Course
Cited in Spanish Human Rights Case, 1998: One of 30 officials cited in the case of Augusto Pinochet for crimes of genocide, terrorism, torture, and illegal arrest. (Derechos Chile) Kidnapping, disappearance, 1974: Implicated in the 1974 kidnapping and disappearance of brothers Juan Carlos and Jorge Elias Andrónico Antequera, Lauriani's was one of the few cases of military crimes to be tried after Pinochet's brutal dictatorship. Unfortunately, Pinochet brought all of his influence to bear and the case was finally handed to a military court, which, of course, absolved Lauriani and closed the case. (Americas Watch Report, Unfinished Business: Human Rights in Chile at the Start of the Frei Presidency, 1994)

COL Jaime Lepe Orellana, 1968, Basic Arms Orientation Course
Torture, murder of U.N. official, 1976: Directly implicated in the 1976 torture and murder of United Nations official Carmelo Soria, whose neck was broken after he was arrested by Chilean DINA personnel. Soria's car and body were dumped in a Santiago canal in order to make his death appear accidental. At the time the case was reopened in 1991, Lepe was General Pinochet's personal secretary. (Americas Watch Report, Unfinished Business: Human Rights in Chile at the Start of the Frei Presidency, 1994)

GEN Augusto Lutz, 1966, Comando y estado mayor Coup: Lutz was one of the military officials who participated with Pinochet in the coup against the Allende government. (Juicio a Pinochet en España, Equipo Nizkor)

Odlanier Mena, 1970, Comando y Estado Mayor
Cited in Spanish Human Rights Case, 1998: One of 30 officials cited in the case of Augusto Pinochet for crimes of genocide, terrorism, torture, and illegal arrest. (Derechos Chile) Exploitation of prisoners: Luz Arce, a political prisoner who was tortured by DINA officials, testified that Mena offered her freedom in exchange for working three years as a spy for the DINA. (Primera Confesión desde el Interior de la DINA, Revista APS, Santiago de Chile)

LTC Manuel Rolando Mosqueira Jarpa, 1970, Combat Arms Orientation
Concentration camp: Mosqueira was active in the Villa Grimaldi concentration camp in which more than 4500 people were held. (Presos Políticos de Chile)

COL Manuel Provis Carrasco, 1970, Combat Arms Orientation
Concentration camp: Provis was active in the Villa Grimaldi concentration camp in which more than 4500 people were held. (Presos Políticos de Chile)

COL Marco Antonio Saez Saavedra, 1970, Combat Arms Orientation
Concentration camp: Saez was active in the Villa Grimaldi concentration camp in which more than 4500 people were held. (Presos Políticos de Chile)

MAJ Guillermo Humberto Salinas Torres, 1974, Curso de Armas Combinadas para Cadetes Cited in Spanish Human Rights Case, 1998: One of 30 officials cited in the case of Augusto Pinochet for crimes of genocide, terrorism, torture, and illegal arrest. (Derechos Chile) Assassination, 1976: Salinas was linked to the assassination of Spanish citizen Carmelo Soria. However, due to Pinochet's amnesty laws, the case was stayed. (Caso Carmelo Soria, Equipo Nizkor)

Carlos Parera Silva, 1969, Irregular Warfare Operations
DINA: According to testimony by Luz Arce, Silva was one of the key actors within the repressive forces of the DINA. (Primera Confesión desde el Interior de la DINA, Revista APS, Santiago de Chile)

Rene Patricio Quilhot Palma, 1971, Combat Arms Orientation
Cited in Spanish Human Rights Case, 1998: One of 30 officials cited in the case of Augusto Pinochet for crimes of genocide, terrorism, torture, and illegal arrest. (Derechos Chile)

COL Jose Zara, 1965, Basic Airborne; 1970, Basic Officer Orientation
Linked to Pratts assassination: According to lawyers working on the case, Zara, as undersecretary of the Foreign Relations department of the DINA, provided logistical support for the assassination of the ex-Commander-in-Chief of the Chilean army, General Carlos Prats and his wife. (Situación de derechos humanos en Chile durante el primer semestre del 1996, Arzobispado de Santiago)



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