

CIA Papers Suggest Murder of Ecuador's Former President



Quito, March 12 (teleSUR-RHC)-- After reviewing declassified CIA documents, Ecuadorean Attorney General Galo Chiriboga revealed Wednesday that former Ecuadorean President Jaime Roldos could have been murdered, a theory that has surrounded the 34-year old case.

?President Roldos was the first democratically elected president after Ecuador's last military dictatorship, which lasted from 1976 to 1979.

Chiriboga made his claim after reviewing several CIA documents that show the Ecuadorean army participated in the Operation Condor, during the 1970s and 1980s.

The Condor Plan was a transnational political assassination program coordinated and carried out by the South American right-wing military dictatorships with U.S. support. It targeted left-wing and progressive leaders, as well as the heads of guerrilla groups resisting these dictatorships.

"We are now at an investigating phase to determine what role played our country in the famous plan that was carried out throughout Latin America," Chiriboga explained.

The attorney general added that Roldos could have been targeted as part of Operation Condor.

President Roldos died in May 1981 in a plane crash surrounded by mysterious circumstances.

Official investigations were closed briefly after Roldos' death, and the plane's black box was never found. Critics have pointed out that the investigations made at the time are filled with inconsistencies.

In May 2013, the Ecuadorean government opened a new investigation on the former president's death, to finally establish responsibilities and determine what happened.

According to the attorney general, the ongoing investigation is being carried out with collaboration from the U.S. National Security Archive and Paraguay's Public Prosecutor's Office.

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