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Transcript of Raul Salina's answers to questions submitted by Swiss Prosecution Team Almoloya Prison, December 6, 1995

This government document leaked out. It covers the Swiss investigators' for Raul in the presence of Salinas's lawyers and two witnesses. (Note: Some o not included in the transcription.)

statement by raul salinas de gortari

With reference to the list of questions duly appended to the casefile, [Salinas] r

TO QUESTION 1: Yes, and I wish to give a brief explanation, unless a more will be permitted upon conclusion of the questioning, but first -- since the list c with the Swiss authorities - I want to express the following to the Swiss gover institutions and the Swiss people: Switzerland is a country that my family and and I -- have known, loved and respected for many years.

My wife went to school in Switzerland when she was a girl, I have taken part in competitions in Lucerne, my nephews -- my brother's sons -- studied in Switze are currently in school there. All of this explains the great confidence with whi accounts in Switzerland, being cognizant of its standards and rules, and the true country's institutional banking system. Secondly, I want to express my apologi government and to the country's financial institutions, especially Banque Pictet house which opened its doors to me in good faith, and I'm going to explain wh myself under a different identity.

To begin with, I beg the Swiss authorities to understand that we are not before furthermore, I am subject to a trial in which I have been falsely accused of hon statements are limited by the imperatives of the fact that I am defending mysel Furthermore, I am unaware that the Mexican authorities have charged me with drug trafficking. This is why I ask the Swiss authorities to understand that I am absolutely truthful, but that [illegible] to know the action of the Mexican autho myself. Fourth, in regard to the first and subsequent questions asked me, I wish solely responsible for these accounts and I absolve my brother-in-law Antonio Zertuche and my wife Paulina Castanon de Salinas of any responsibility. Next, apologies for my mistakes, but I have never taken part in any criminal activity drug trafficking.

TO QUESTION 2: In Banque Pictet, Geneva, and in Julius Baer Bank and Ci was also an adount in another Geneva bank which was closed last year. Please to my present situation, there are facts that I can't remember precisely, but to the



the part of the casefile to which I have had access, I can frankly confirm everyt responsible for. I think those are the banks that I can recall at the moment. Let there is a long-time account in another Swiss bank, also located in Geneva, but remember the name of the bank, which I think I visited only once, and the acce submitted from the US.

Juan Cullermo Guitierra Gomez

TO QUESTION 3: At Banque Pictet, in the name of Juan Guillermo Gutierre: Geneva bank whose name I can't remember precisely at the moment, there was name of Juan Jose Gonzalez Cadena. In another Geneva bank whose name I al. believe the account is under the name Dozart. There is an account in the name Gortari and another in the name of a company, Noborona (I can't state it's corre have the documents available, but the account paperwork was submitted from Baer Bank in Zurich. I'm not familiar with Julius Baer Bank; and I can't tell yo there are or under whose names in Zurich, because the accounts were opened b York and through a Swiss company called Confidas. Now I want to explain the strategy. To begin with, I categorically deny the slightest connection with drug categorically deny that these funds could have the slightest connection with the the illegal dealing in drugs. Any statement by any authority in any country pur relationship between these funds and drug trafficking [illegible] because it is a presumption. I never had the slightest connection with drug trafficking or any also an absurd presumption. My brother, former President Salinas, fought orga with total firmness. This prison is one sign of that fight and -- in contradiction Constitution, which they are violating by holding me here on trial together with the heads of the major drug trafficking rings that were fought by President Sali here: Miguel Angel Felix Gallardo, Rafael Caro Quintero, Ernesto Fonseca; Jo Guzman was here; Humberto Garcia Abrego was or is here, along with dozens President Salinas fought doggedly, all of which -- I repeat -- makes the idea that me might be connected with drug trafficking an absurdity. Let me add that two was arrested I was in the US, a country that I have visited dozens of times duri and I was never detained or questioned by US authorities when I entered the co contrary, I was always warmly received, because I don't have any [2+ lines mis from any activity related to my work as a government official, it's not dirty mo gained. I worked in the government in 1989 in a government corporation called 1990-91 in the Secretariat for Planning and Budget, under the secretaryship of My direct superior was Carlos Rojas, the current Secretary. There was never at corruption or abuse of power in the institutions where I worked as a government an explanation for this money: after deciding to organize an association of inve to construct various mechanisms for putting together a fund that could be repat the end of my brother's administration -- for various investment projects and w obtain a greater volume of credits, because I was and am convinced that the ec growth of Mexico will require extensive foreign financing. The mechanisms [i. different identities is explained precisely because I was trying to protect my far only later, when I -- together with an investor friend-- obtained access to the sy Citibank, through Confidas, that I could use my real name. The goal was to bri businessman friends to put together an offshore fund for reasons of safety and entanglement with the political vicissitudes of President Salinas' term. As I dor knowledge of the steps the Mexican authorities are planning to take, I'm not go names of the businessmen who invested in one form or another, since some inv loans and others in the form of advances on individual projects. If I were in Sw I'd happily furnish full details, but I can't provide information when I find myst I don't have my files [illegible] other people, but I declare to the Swiss authorit [illegible] and we are going to present this explanation clearly. I certainly errec by having her sign, but she holds no responsibility for, and has no exact knowl participants and projects. In reality, my wife, Paulina Castanon, [illegible] was and faithful spouse. She can probably think of some names of friends who part

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27

and logical, since we got together socially with these businessmen friends. I do brother-in-law, Antonio Castanon, has the vaguest idea about this strategy, since with me and I simply feel affection and gratitude toward him for having stuck brotherly loyalty during these terrible ten months, dropping his work and his achimself to Paulina's support.

TO QUESTION 4: In my previous answer, I tried to explain the origin and pure and pointed out that some of the account applications were submitted after 198 submit them directly myself and that there are even some banks whose names I Obviously, all of this information is in my files, but right now I can remember I'll deal with them now. In the case of Banque Pictet in Geneva, I can speak of from 1989 to June 1993, and the second from June 1993 to present. In the first introduced to Banque Pictet by Ms Margarita Nava Sanchez, and one or two acremember -- were opened with her, but it was precisely within the strategy that After June 1993, Ms Nava's name was removed from these accounts, and a new under the name of Juan Guillermo Gomez, together with my wife Paulina. An I Jose Gonzalez Cadena was opened at the Suizo [Schweizer?] bank, Geneva, an The accounts at Citibank Zurich were opened by Confidas, and right now I can there were. At Julius Baer Bank, I [illegible] the account numbers or other refe present accounts, or the other Dozart account. I seem to remember that another when Ms Margarita Nava ceased to participate and the funds were transferred to

X

TO QUESTION 4B: I think there's an account at Julius Baer in my name; in t persons at Pictet: under the name of Juan Guillermo Gomez Gutierrez; and then under the name of Juan Jose Gonzalez Cadena, another pseudonym. Under con an account at Julius Baer under the name Novarone, I think, and there should a under the name of Juan Manuel Gutierrez Gomez, a real person. Citibank New called Trocca through Confidas; I don't remember how many accounts there ar Dozart is also a trust, originally set up by my present wife's former husband an inheritance from the deceased first husband, whose name was Alfredo Diaz Or I can remember at the moment.

TO QUESTION 4C: At Pictet, under the name of Juan Guillermo Gomez Gut is fere? Schweizer [?] Bank in Geneva, under the name of Juan Jose Gonzalez Cadena; Citibank Geneva, and at the bank (whose name I can't recall) which has the Do the name of Raul Salinas.

TO QUESTION 5: Right now, I'm not sure if it was in July 1989, at Pictet, the Nava, and the account in the name of Juan Jose Gonzalez Cadena was opened a probably around the same time; the Citibank accounts were later, and the Julius from the previous year.

TO QUESTIONS 6 AND 7: [Answer identical to that to Question 5]

TO QUESTION 8: The first Pictet account was opened by Ms Margarita Navopened it under the name of Juan Guillermo Gomez Gutierrez. At Citibank — is specifically—the entire strategy was devised by Ms Amy Eliot, who was acquinvestors to make transfers. Ms Eliot's correspondent in Zurich was a woman n who no longer works for the bank; subsequently it was a woman of Spanish or antecedents, because she spoke Spanish very well. I opened the account under Julius Baer in Mexico, with some Swiss representatives of the bank; I believe I all of the Julius Baer accounts were opened with Mr Curtis. The Dozart account Angeles through a bank employee, but I don't recall/the names of either the per

Julius Baer Mexico, Curits = Curtis Lowell Jun. who is also a board member of Julius Baer Cayman. Clients?

Curtis Lowell

TO QUESTION 9: I am the person empowered.

TO QUESTION 10: The total amount is on the order of \$100 million, withour [illegible] and, in accordance with the strategy that I outlined previously, I can owner or beneficiary of this total, but I repeat that, at the appropriate time, I wi to the Swiss authorities. I am asking the Swiss Prosecuting Attorney [Carla del members of my family and my defense team so that they can speak with you produce that, since I don't know what indictment they might level at other people, since in reality I'm the manager of a strategy and not the owner or

TO QUESTION 11: The reason is that on the one hand, in exchange for my copromotion I could obtain resources that could cause me tax problems; in fact, a resources is for me, for my consulting and promotional work, but basically...be the accounts were opened under different names I wasn't familiar with the system proposed to me, so fictitious names were used in order not to create a political previously known about Citibank's Confidas system I wouldn't have resorted to kept the account at Pictet simply because of that bank's efficiency. But I can ad "Dozart" was inherited, that account already existed, and I opened the account own name, so that actually I kept only one fictitious name, at Pictet. I've alread Pictet is an excellent institution, very efficient, so I decided not to close that achand, I closed the Juan Jose Gonzalez Cadena account and transferred the mon under my own name.

TO QUESTION 12: As I recall, only the Juan Jose Gonzalez Cadena account by depositing travelers' checks, all the rest were interbank transfers.

TO QUESTION 13: [See previous answer].

TO QUESTION 14: I think that I've answered in my previous replies, but I was I've never had the slightest connection with the crime of financing the drug trace false; the money comes from lawful sources and it's not possible to believe that date back to over six years ago, no one would have believed back then that they drug trafficking if in fact they were so connected [sic]. The money is lawful in to do with drug trafficking.

TO QUESTION 15: It's a trust, and I'd have to see the documents in order to a purpose [illegible] I don't recall.

TO QUESTION 16: The transfer orders might have been issued by myself, by Sanchez, Mrs Paulina Castanon de Salinas, Ms Amy Eliot or in the fictitious na Guillermo Gomez Gutierrez and Juan Jose Gonzalez Cadena; in any case, who acting in accordance with my instructions, as I'm the person responsible for the

TO QUESTION 17: I don't recall the number of the account, but remembering belong to accounts managed through officers of Citibank and Confidas (and so these are accounts that were opened by bank officers, I didn't open them direct since I don't have all the files I couldn't even tell you today what names the off the accounts.

TO QUESTION 17A: It is [was?] in Citibank, and my wife, Paulina Castanor bank officers who opened and managed it should have [had?] access.

TO QUESTION 17B: I replied to that in previous answers.

3/

TO QUESTION 17C: I don't remember.

TO QUESTION 17D: That has already been answered.

TO QUESTION 17E: I don't recall at the moment, I neither confirm nor deny

TO QUESTION 18: I don't recall the number, but in fact it's the name that wa Citibank Zurich.

TO QUESTION 18A: I can't specify the amount, but it should be around \$45

TO QUESTION 18B: That has been answered previously, it's completely verift took place through Citibank New York.

TO QUESTION 19A: I believe I've already answered that question.

TO QUESTION 19B: Let me point out that, as I said before, Ms Margarita Na participate in June 1993, and if she has some other, later accounts not signed by Gomez Gutierrez, they could be accounts independent of the ones that I was av

TO QUESTION 20A: Because there was no reason to have two accounts, and stay with Banque Pictet.

TO QUESTION 20B: It's my impression that I didn't make the transfer directly that Ms Margarita Nava Sanchez is the one who communicated with the Pictet no specific reason that I can recall, I simply seem to remember that having two useless work for the bank and for my supervision, so it was decided to keep just remember the arguments pro and con. I suppose they were opened under the sa same funds that were in the other two accounts. I seems to me that it was a pundecision, since it involved the same people and the same money. I don't recall in February 1993, or if it was Ms Margarita Nava. I don't even remember if it was when I took steps to exclude Ms Margarita Nava from the accounts, because it removed Ms Nava's name from the accounts, so maybe the reason for changing order to leave Ms Nava out.

TO QUESTION 21: Although I can't confirm it, I believe that I don't have two It's my impression that Ms Margarita Nava opened an independent account, but think I'm telling the truth.

TO QUESTION 22A: There are only two possibilities, I would have to look c An alternative would be that it was a transfer by the investors: that seems the n alternative is that the New York office run by Ms Amy Eliot was managing so accordance with her optimization strategy, but it was the same money from the [illegible] a transfer in addition to what existed as of that date, that could be the [explanation], that it's one of the loans by the investors, but on the basis of the allowed to see at present, it's very [illegible] that it was an internal movement t funds, since \$25 million left Zurich on 8 June 1993 on an order from the Trocc investment in money market instruments, and twenty days later the same admin recall the money. Here in the documents is the name of an officer, Plange-Rohmovement is quite normal in the money market, there's nothing strange about t resources on various financial markets. That was the duty of the administrators facilities for doing so.

TO QUESTION 23A: I recall having ordered this transfer [on June 30 1993] -



carry out -- to a friend of mine (I could give you his name at a later time) for a was a lawful business deal. At this moment I don't wish to give the person's naprojected deal, I believe that it fell through, but I don't want to give more detail stated at the outset. Seeing this document, I can tell you that the total amount to trecipient was actually greater, this was just a portion, and there was nothing un to thank you for making documents that clarify things available to me. My fam can give you the name of the recipient. He is a friend of mine, and the deal was

TO QUESTION 23B: I believe that I have answered that question.

TO QUESTION 23C: I've answered that in previous replies.

TO QUESTION 23D: For the transfer.

TO QUESTION 23E: That's what was decided by the participants.

TO QUESTION 24: Because no transfer could be made until the funds had be they had to arrive, then they could be transferred.

TO QUESTION 25: [A document is presented for examination by Salinas] I s \$15 million was transferred, the total amount was higher, and these \$5 million that was moved. Various channels were used, as agreed upon by the participan agreement because the recipient wanted it this way. I believe that it would be v authorities to find out who the recipients were and learn that they are people w with drug trafficking. I'm sure that you can question them and find out that thei nothing to do with the crime being investigated here.

TO QUESTION 26: [A document is presented for examination by Salinas] As and addressee, it's the continuation of the first \$15 million transfer. If the Swiss can verify that the \$15 million and these \$3 million reached the same recipient recipient's business has nothing to do with the crime under investigation here.



that — since the money had nothing to do with drug trafficking — the accounts had had any doubt — because, say, my accounts had actually been linked with a would never have gotten my wife involved. We never expected that anyone we the accounts might be frozen for the crime of drug trafficking. What I did know Mexican authorities were aware of the existence of a fake passport in the name Gomez Gutier ez and that the money had to be moved, but someone lied and n baseless drug trafficking accusation. I also don't know what interests acted or had the Swiss government disclose its banking secrets; I know which interests are a me politically, but I can't understand how it was possible for the Swiss government or Swiss banking authorities I never would have sent my with has been violated on account of a lie.



TO QUESTION 27B: Because we knew that the passport that the Mexican au for was in that safe deposit box, along with documents concerning Citibank, ar Guillermo Gomez Gutierrez was known to the Mexican authorities, they had to safe deposit box.

TO QUESTION 27C: The ultimate purpose of all of this money in the [illegit described was to promote business and employment in Mexico, and Ms Amy F to move those funds. I don't know what words were actually exchanged between

wife, but I suppose that Ms Eliot wanted to keep Citibank out of this problem c information about the drug trafficking accusation, I don't know, or she helped I trap, since we trusted Swiss banking secrecy and for this reason — even after ni incarceration and investigation — we weren't worried about moving these funds events which in large measure led to the decision to move the money: firstly, tl Mexican authorities knew about the fake passport and, secondly, Mrs Amy Elio

TO QUESTION 28: Luis del Valle is a tax expert who I have known for many services I have contracted on various occasions as a tax advisor. Basically, he's and an expert in tax matters.

TO QUESTION 28A: To accompany and advise my wife.

TO QUESTION 28B: I don't know what exact instructions Luis del Valle had spoken with him for ten months, but generally speaking he was to assist my wi

TO QUESTION 29: I already explained the reason that Antonio Castanon ope beginning of this hearing. I'm enormously grateful to him, since he has put asic responsibilities and, at this critical moment, he had to count on a mechanism the financially secure to provide continuing support for my wife, Paulina. Both Paupart of my defense team and they are devoting all of their time and energy to slave led to my indictment for the crime of homicide. The mechanism for proving security was by depositing a large sum to his account (but very small in relation group of investors that I could identify at a later time), I don't know whether or transfer, but the intention was to deposit a large sum to his account, about \$1 m purposes that I described. I'm sure that Paulina and Antonio have made statemed doing likewise, because they are people that tell the truth. I don't know why a serented, but I suppose it was for keeping documents. I don't have the foggiest nowere made or not, since I've had no contact with my wife.

TO QUESTION 30: I'm surprised that this business should appear in an inqui Swiss authorities, because I don't recall that it ever actually operated: it's sole p Margarita Nava a business reference. I think it was more a matter of vanity that this business never attempted or accomplished anything. At the beginning, who set up, there was an idea that it would engage in some -- lawful -- transactions, it ever carried out any operations, nor do I remember when it was shut down, s by Margarita Nava Sanchez. When it was set up I believe that its registered off Explanada -- I can't recall the number -- but I can't say this for sure because thi was given as a reference for Margarita Nava and Juan Guillermo Gomez Gutie Explanada -- but I want to point out that the Mexican authorities have attempte or property with the homicide currently under investigation and have fabricated this regard. I have already stated and denounced this before the judge, but none anything to do with crimes or misdemeanors, so I repeat: the crime under investigation.

TO QUESTION 31: It's a brokerage firm. I've had deposits in InverMexico w and which were liquidated some time ago, I don't recall when. I believe that the is still in operation, but I was simply a customer and I don't see why this should of the Swiss authorities' investigation.

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION 32: Do you hold, represent or manage acc name, fictitious names or corporate names in countries other than Switzerland?

TO QUESTION 32: I have to say that, as I understand the question, I do not I

accounts in other countries, except for Mexico. I don't know whether any of the group of investors might have foreign accounts which have nothing to do with the strategy that I described here, this banking took place in Switzerland and w banking secrecy -- banking secrecy that has been violated due to lies, because I any of the people mentioned have the slightest connection with the crime of fir trafficking. This is a false accusation, and this lie was the basis for violation of secrecy and for the arrest of two innocent people. I implore the Swiss authorities series of maneuvers carried out to persecute me and my family, to make a fair absolutely impocent involvement of Paulina Castanon de Salinas and Antonio (immediately establish a less severe, more benevolent and fair situation for thos There is no crime of drug trafficking; the strategy that I described will be prese authorities when they permit me to do so, and before the Mexican authorities v indictment is handed down, since things have proceeded to present without a fe trial has been opened for the crime under investigation here. Once again, I requ situation, justice and complete exoneration for Antonio and Paulina Castanon, detained in the investigation of a nonexistent crime.

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION 33: [Line missing] manage or administer 1

ANSWER: In my answer to your previous question, I thought that you were at there were other accounts in addition to those already mentioned in this interro any others. The accounts in the US and London already mentioned are part of t accounts that exist here; that is, they are basically part of the group of accounts and managed by Citibank. That's the way Citibank New York and Citibank Zu organized them. They have facilities for opening accounts anywhere and don't participation to do so.

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION 34: What benefits did you receive for mar accounts?

ANSWER: The benefits that I received have to be divided into two parts, since remains --to generate business with this money, and I was to share in the profit closed, depending on the structure and financing of each deal. Moreover, taxes on those deals when they went through -- here in Mexico, obviously. On the ot I might have a tax problem, but just to show the Swiss authorities my good into interrogation, significant profits were realized in the course of time, and I was adid -- make use of this money, which I received for the management and consufor each of these investors. There actually were significant profits, and I made repeat that I'm informing the Swiss government of this to demonstrate the truth statement, even though it could result in a tax problem for me.

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION 35: Was the group of investors which you this statement legally constituted in any manner?

ANSWER: No. But I want to make the following frank observations. The artic me, Article 127 bis of the Federal Code of Criminal Procedure, states that I hav all information concerning this judicial investigation, and I request that a copy be turned over to my lawyers, together with copies of all documents in the post authorities, since these proceedings are being conducted under Mexican law an this right. So I'm requesting copies of all information received by the Swiss aut this case. Of course, I'm also requesting the information that led to interventior authorities. That is, since it is guaranteed to me by law, I wish to know what ac information were brought before the American authorities tasked with investig Article 128 says that I have the right to know the identity of the plaintiff, so I h



who falsely accused me or linked me the crime of financing drug trafficking. I the Mexican authorities represented here inform me who was the complainant trafficking and who falsely linked me [to this crime]. According to the rights the the beginning of this hearing, I have the right to communicate with anyone I ch appropriate defense. In accordance with this right, I request that I be able to coimmediately with my wife, Paulina Castanon de Salinas. In conclusion, I want pointed out - I made mistakes, but I never engaged in criminal activity. I made and I accept responsibility for them, but any contact with drug trafficking is ab that the accounts still exist and that no attempt was made to erase them shows t of concealing the movements [of money] from the Swiss authorities, because the is lawful and we always trusted Swiss banking secrecy. I also want to add that, learned that Antonio and my wife Paulina were detained in Switzerland, becauconfidence in Swiss justice. I have only two more observations to make. First, Swiss authorities exercise great objectivity and care in examining any evidence authorities might submit with regard to drug trafficking, because I have proof t authorities invent and fabricate evidence. So I request that you, Madam Prosec the origin of any such item of evidence. I also want you to understand that Pres crossed a number of enormous private interests when he modernized this count happening today -- the persecution and attack against me and my family-- is pa modernizing and transforming Mexico. I knew that this visit by the Swiss auththe hand of God, I'm truly thankful that these events took place in Switzerland, confidence in Swiss law and Swiss officialdom. Once again, I submit that the e is at the disposal of the Swiss authorities, and I request that you allow my fami enter into direct contact and communication with you. Thank you for listening

[End of text]

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Summary

Obviously C.L. was the investment manager of Raul Salinas and help Salinas but at this point in time he has not been prosecuted for it. There is still an investigations going on which started in 1995 for money laundering, drug dealing and fraud and other charges, however, the Swiss prosecutors have not been successful yet. As far as I am informed "Sloppy due dilligence" is not chargeable in Switzerland. On top of it if a investment manager has other clients than Salinas" it is a strong argument not to be prosecuted in Switzerland. It is also assume C.L. made good money in this case! Anyway, there are hardly any prosecution in Switzerland in respect of money laundering even though about 1/4 the of the world's fortune is manage in Switzerland. One wonder if something is wrong here!