



Foto: www.ledger-enquirer.com

The School of the Americas (WHINSEC)

SOAWatch – www.soaw.org



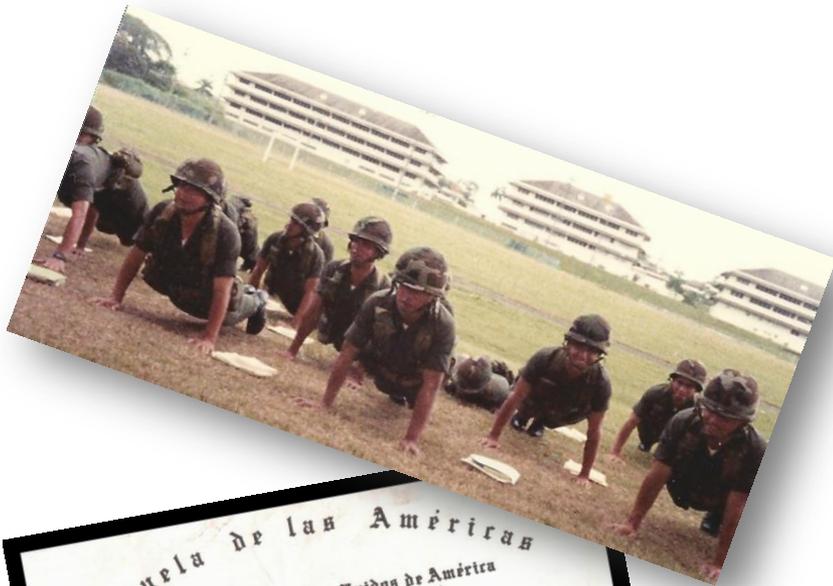
The School of the Americas

School of Assassins



The School of the Americas, (SOA), is a military academy of the United States Army, founded in 1946 in Panama, and that gives military training to soldiers and police from Latin America. Currently, it continues to operate in the United States, since 2001, under the name, Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC).

Historical facts



1946: Founded in Panama and was initially known as the US Army's Latin American Center – Ground Division.

1963: Renamed the “School of the Americas” (SOA).

1984: SOA moves to Fort Benning, Georgia, USA.

1996: SOA training manuals become public in the US, they encourage the use of torture against detainees.

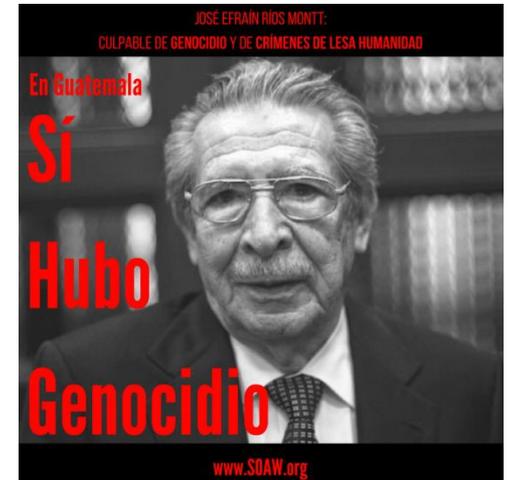
2001: The School is renamed as the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC)



Do these names sound familiar?

They were trained at the School of the Americas

- Efraín Vásquez y Ramírez Poveda (Venezuela)
- Romeo Vásquez y Luis Javier Prince Suazo (Honduras)
- Rafael Videla (Argentina)
- Hugo Banzer (Bolivia)
- Manuel Contreras y Miguel Krassnoff (Chile)
- Efraín Ríos Montt (Guatemala)
- Jaime Lasprilla (Colombia)
- Manuel Noriega (Panamá)
- Roberto d'Aubuisson (El Salvador)
- Vladimiro Montesinos (Perú)



Torture manuals



In 1996, the U.S. press reported on the Training Manuals, used in the School of the Americas, which covered "torture, blackmail, extortion and reward payment for dead enemies."

According to Amnesty International:

**"Torturers are not born: someone educates them, trains them and supports them"
"Ending torture implies not only ending the trade in materials intended for that purpose, but also ending the trade that contributes to creating "professional torturers.""**

Excerpts from the book "AN EXECRABLE TRADE: THE TRADE OF TORTURE" by Amnesty International

The US government rejected the 1996 Manuals But Torture Manuals are still being used - Here is an Example:

EDICIÓN IMPRESA

PORTADA INTERNACIONAL POLÍTICA ECONOMÍA CULTURA SOCIEDAD DEPORTES

Hemeroteca ▾

Año 2009

EL PAÍS KIOSKO y más

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DOMINGO, 19 de abril de 2009

EL PAÍS

REPORTAJE:

La CIA torturaba con manual

The CIA uses Torture Manuals

YOLANDA MONGE | Washington | 19 ABR 2009

Archivado en: Tortura CIA Prisioneros guerra Servicios inteligencia Estados Unidos
Derechos humanos Integridad personal Espionaje Seguridad nacional Fuerzas seguridad Conflictos

Recomendar 0
Twitter 0
Enviar
Compartir
Enviar

Los interrogadores de la CIA sabían del pánico a los insectos de Abu Zubaida, sospechoso de pertenecer a Al Qaeda, e idearon la forma más sencilla de hacerle hablar: alimentar sus fobias. "Informáis a Zubaida de que le vais a meter un bicho en la caja en la que está encerrado". Esta recomendación para sacar información del sospechoso está recogida en uno de los cuatro documentos, hasta ahora secretos, hechos públicos esta semana y redactados por los abogados de George W. Bush en el Departamento de Justicia para justificar los métodos usados por la Agencia Central de Inteligencia para interrogar a prisioneros en la guerra contra el terrorismo.



The CIA uses Torture Manuals

http://elpais.com/diario/2009/04/19/internacional/1240092005_850215.html



Henry Kissinger

Remember, "State Terrorism" would not be possible without the complicity of the US and the School of the Americas who have supported the military dictatorships of:



Hugo Banzer and Augusto Pinochet



Augusto Pinochet and Videla

SO AS TO NOT FORGET STATE CRIMES *

Perú: 1980-2000: 79.000

Guatemala: 1962-1994: 200.000

Argentina: 1976-1983: 30.000

Chile: 1973-1990: 3.197

Panamá: 110

Honduras: 184

El Salvador: 1980-1991: 75.000

Brasil: 1946-1988: 434

Colombia: 262.197

Uruguay: 1973-1985: 315

Paraguay: 1954-1989: 400

* This data does not include those who have been killed in recent decades.



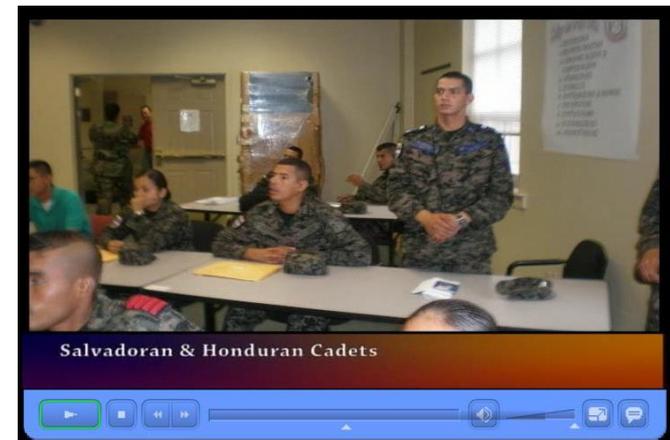
The School of the Americas

- Between 1946-2019: 73 years.
- Trains soldiers, police, and the US Border Patrol
- Approximately 83,000 Latin American soldiers / police officers have graduated.
- Argentina, Venezuela, Bolivia, and Nicaragua does not send troops to the School of the Americas



**PREVIOUSLY FOUGHT
COMMUNISM, NOW FIGHTS
TERRORISM
THOSE WHO DIE ARE THE SAME
ONES: THE PEOPLE**

Video of WHINSEC



**Major Guillermo Sandoval of
Honduras - Fighting Terrorism? -
Honduras violates Human Rights**

New graduates uploaded on Facebook a photo of a class called "Basic Operations to Clear a Room". In the picture, the board clearly reads, "Eliminate the Enemy."

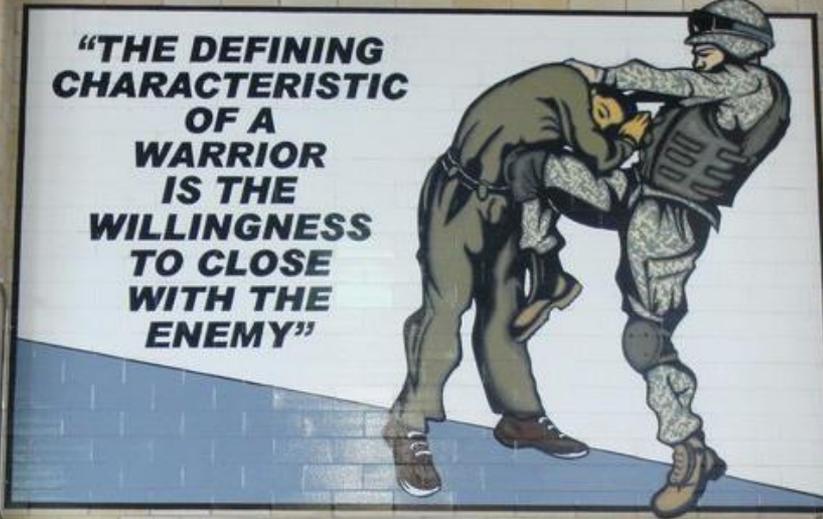


FUNDAMENTOS DE OPERACIONES PARA DESPEJAR UN CUARTO

1. Dominar el cuarto.
2. Eliminar al enemigo.
3. Control de situación y personal.
4. Rebuscar los muertos.
5. Rebusco de cuarto.
6. Evacuación personal y equipo.

WHINSEC

Continues the mindset of "Enemy" and "Violence"



"The defining characteristic of a warrior is the willingness to close with the enemy".



Photo WHINSEC



Countries that stopped sending troops: Argentina, Venezuela, Bolivia, and Nicaragua



In 2004, under President Hugo Chavez, Venezuela. Pictured: Roy Bourgeois, Hugo Chávez, and Lisa Sullivan.



In 2007, under President Evo Morales, in Bolivia. Pictured: Roy Bourgeois, Evo Morales, and Lisa Sullivan.



In 2006, under the Minister of Defense, Nilda Garre, in Argentina. Pictured: Nilda Garre, Roy Bourgeois and Hebe de Bonafini of "Mother of Plaza de Mayo".



In 2012, under President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua. Pictured: Daniel Ortega and the SOAW Delegation

Countries that continue sending troops to the SOA



2018 official figures

COUNTRIES	TOTAL	WOMEN	MEN
Antigua	1	0	1
Barbados	1	0	1
Belize	6	0	6
Brazil	7	0	7
Chile	208	25	183
Colombia	529	70	459
Costa Rica	14	0	14
Dominican Republic	24	3	21
Dominica	2	0	2
Ecuador	10	1	9
El Salvador	114	2	112
Grenada	2	0	2
Guatemala	20	0	20
Haiti	6	0	6
Honduras	130	8	122
Mexico	33	0	33
Panama	38	1	37
Paraguay	5	0	5
Peru	68	1	67
St. Kitts & Nevis	1	0	1
St. Vincent & the Grenadines	1	0	1
Trinidad & Tobago	2	0	2
Uruguay	2	0	2
United States of America	61	11	50
Total	1285	122	1163

The Coup d'etats have continued (Soft or Violent)



Venezuela

April 11, 2002
SOA Graduates
participated
The Coup failed



Honduras

June 28, 2009
SOA Graduates
participated
The Coup succeeded



Ecuador

September 30, 2010
Military Involved
The Coup failed



Paraguay

June 22, 2012
Impeachment

Brazil

August 31, 2016
Impeachment



The repression in Latin America continues



Colombia



Honduras



Chile



Ecuador

30 years: The Martyrs of the UCA



On November 16, 1989, at the Central American University (UCA) in El Salvador, six priests and two women were murdered. The priests Ignacio Ellacuría, Ignacio Martín-Baró, Segundo Montes, Amando López, Juan Ramón Moreno, Joaquín López y López and the Women, Elba Ramos and her 16 year old daughter, Celina.

Among the Involved: Graduates of the School of the Americas



Other facts on El Salvador



December 10, 1981 Mozote Massacre. It is estimated between 800 and one thousand people and children killed



The nuns, Ita Ford, Maura Clarke, Dorothy Kazel and the missionary Laywoman Jean Donovan are killed on December 2, 1980

On March 24, 1980, Monsignor Oscar Romero was assassinated



**Among the Involved:
Graduates of the
School of the Americas**



Honduras



On March 2, 2016, COPINH leader Berta Cáceres is murdered. According to the Guardian newspaper, among those involved in this crime are Major Mariano Díaz Chavez and Lieutenant Douglas Giovanni Bustillo both received anti-terrorism training in 2005 in the US. Bustillo also received training at the School of the Americas.

**Among those responsible was Douglas Giovanni Bustillo:
Graduate of the School of the Americas**



Colombia



An investigation into “False Positives” by Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) in Colombia (2000-2010) concluded that a good percentage of the officers who participated in these crimes (around 5000 extrajudicial killings) were trained at the School of the Americas / WHINSEC .

According to the study: "12 of the 25 WHINSEC Colombian instructors and graduates between 2001 and 2003, of whom we have information available, had been charged with a serious crime or commanded units whose members reportedly committed multiple extrajudicial killings."

Army commanders linked to "False Positives"

"In 2019, the Colombian government appointed, to key positions in the Army, at least 9 generals against whom there is credible evidence that involves them in extrajudicial executions and other abuses," according to Human Rights Watch.

Note: Colombia is the country that sends more soldiers to SOA / WHINSEC

Recently, Guillermo Botero, the Colombian Minister of Defense, had to resign due to his responsibility in the bombing of the Army, on August 31, 2019, in San Vicente del Caguán, Caquetá, where seven children died.

Human Rights organizations also request the resignation of the Commander in Chief of the Colombian Army, Nicacio Martínez, a SOA graduate, for his responsibility in these events.

Costa Rica



On June 21, 2017, José Pizarro Espinoza was arrested, with 237 kilos of Cocaine. In 2007, Pizarro was the director of the Costa Rican Public Forces. Pizarro received military training at the School of the Americas and from the US anti-drug agency (DEA).

José Pizarro Espinoza Graduate of the School of the Americas



Guatemala



After 37 years, justice arrived for the Molina Theissen family. On May 23, 2018, a Guatemalan Court sentenced 4 former Guatemalan officers, three of them graduates of the School of the Americas (SOA / WHINSEC), for the kidnapping and rape of Emma Guadalupe Molina Theissen, and for the forced disappearance of Marco Antonio Molina Theissen in 1981.

Among those responsible was Benedicto Lucas García, Manuel Callejas y Callejas, and Francisco Gordillo: Graduates of the School of the Americas

Chile



On July 3, 2018, those responsible for the death of singer-songwriter Víctor Jara were sentenced to 15 years and one day, for qualified homicide, and 3 years and one day, for simple kidnapping by Judge Miguel Vázquez. Among those convicted were graduates of the School of the Americas

Among those found responsible Raúl Jofré and Edwin Dimter, Graduates of the School of the Americas.

Pedro Barrientos, a SOA graduate, is awaiting extraditions from the US where he is living



Operación Cóndor

2019: In July, an Italian Court of Justice sentenced 24 former officials from Bolivia, Chile, Peru and Uruguay to life imprisonment for their role in Operation Condor, which was responsible for the forced disappearance of about twenty citizens of Italian origin in the decades of 1970 and 1980. Among those convicted are five graduates of the School of the Americas.



Among those responsible Luis Arce Gómez from Bolivia, he is already serving a 30-year sentence for genocide, Hernán Ramírez Ramírez from Chile; Luis Alfredo Maurente, Ernesto Avelino Ramas Pereira and Pedro Antonio Mato Narbondo of Uruguay, all Graduates of the School of the Americas

No More Deaths

SOA / WHINSEC, not only trains the military, they also train civilians and police officers from Latin America. US Border Patrol has also trained there.

ICE (U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Administration) will build “super realistic” facilities at Fort Benning to train its agents.

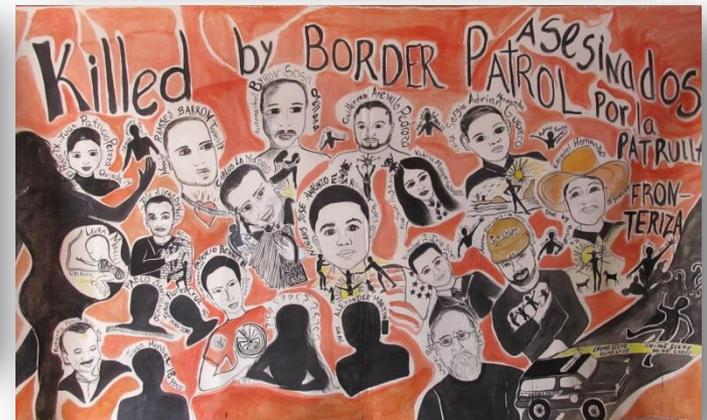
The Guardian reported that since 2003 more than 97 people have been killed by Border Patrol agents.

SOAW rejects the murder of people at the border and the persecution of immigrants.



José Antonio Elena Rodríguez
PRESENTE

Sergio Adrián Hernández Güereca
PRESENTE





"Murderers are not born they are made here"

Photos of activists from Mexico, in the Caravan for Peace, 2012



SOAWatch
www.soaw.org

