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February 5, 1990

Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D.C. 20530

Honorable J. Michael Quinlan
Director
Bureau of Prisons
320 First Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20534

Dear Mike:

This letter relates to the treatment of General Manuel Noriega and Lieutenant Colonel Luis Del Cid who are presently being detained in correctional facilities under your control. These individuals came into United States custody during Operation Just Cause in Panama. The United States has resolved to accord all regular military personnel of foreign nations captured during armed conflict the basic protections of the Geneva Convention Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War, August 12, 1949, 6 U.S.T. 3316, TIAS No. 3364 ("Geneva Convention"). Pursuant to that policy, Colonel James Burger of the United States Army has been appointed as the military officer responsible for ensuring that the conditions of detainment of General Noriega and Lieutenant Colonel Del Cid are in accord with the relevant provisions of the Geneva Convention.

Pursuant to my authority as Attorney General of the United States, I hereby instruct you to take the following steps to ensure that Colonel Burger may effectively carry out his mission:

- 1) Colonel Burger is to be allowed access to the prisoners during reasonable hours and is authorized to inspect their conditions of detainment.
- 2) Bureau of Prisons personnel responsible for the conditions of detainment of General Noriega and Lieutenant Colonel Del Cid are to be briefed by Colonel Burger on the requirements of the Geneva Convention and are to implement his instructions concerning the treatment of these prisoners consistent with the Convention.
- 3) Bureau of Prisons personnel responsible for the conditions of detainment of General Noriega and

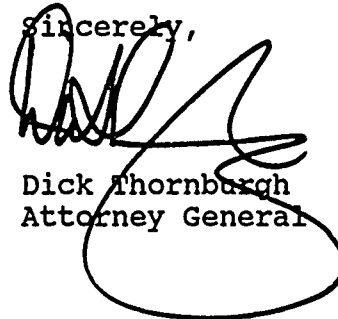
Lieutenant Colonel Del Cid are to be instructed that all written and oral complaints of the prisoners concerning treatment under the Geneva Convention are to be transmitted by them to Colonel Burger who, subject to direction by my Office and the Department of Defense, shall have authority to evaluate the merits of such complaints and, if necessary, to institute corrective procedures.

4) All Bureau of Prisons regulations and local detainment facility rules shall remain in force and shall be applied to the above named prisoners, except to the extent that such rules and regulations may be determined to be inconsistent with the requirements of the Geneva Convention. Such determinations are to be made by Colonel Burger, under the direction of my Office and the Department of Defense.

To facilitate your efforts in assisting Colonel Burger, I have enclosed a copy of the Geneva Convention which should be distributed to the directors of the relevant detainment centers.

Colonel Burger's phone number is 695-3170. Bob Mueller, Assistant to the Attorney General, will be the contact person for the Office of the Attorney General. His phone number is 633-2291.

Sincerely,



Dick Thornburgh
Attorney General