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## The unknown secret report that could have saved Galán's life

Colonel José Homero Rodríguez, ex-official of the DAS Protection Directorate, revealed the existence of the document.



The unknown secret report that could have saved Galán's life

On Thursday, the Supreme Court of Justice continued the trial against the ex-director of the DAS Miguel Maza Márquez, tried for the assassination of the presidential candidate Luis Carlos Galán. At the hearing came a transcendental report: a secret report with recommendations to protect the politician, one of the country's most endangered people in the late 1980s.

The report, dated July 27, 1989, weeks before the death of Galán, was prepared by Colonel José Homero Rodríguez, who was in charge of the decision of the Directorate of Protection. According to him, his recommendation was unknown. So warned via teleconference from Miami, United States, in the development of the hearing on Thursday.

With a certain voice, the retired officer revealed that at the time he had drawn up a plan to adopt measures complementary to those of Colonel Manuel González, his direct superior,

taking into account the security circumstances surrounding Galán.

The plan recommended restructuring the escort and retraining the men. He also asked to reinforce the protection equipment in Bogotá and during the tours of the candidate. The operations should include increasing the security of Galán and his family and giving him an 'F type escort', which was recommended for all presidential candidates at that time and consisted of three drivers, 11 escorts, three vehicles (one of them Armored), three motorcycles and three radios.

According to the story, Galán had a Renault 18 of his property, with a small armor, and another truck, besides the motorcycles that reinforced its security. Just the day of his death an armored pickup arrived from the United States.

Colonel Rodriguez also said that in the security plan it was necessary to complement surveillance and make technical revisions in residences and offices in order to determine if the candidates were subject to telephone interference, among other things.

The document stated that when the situation of threat against Galán was analyzed, available personnel, physical training, stress management, automatic weapons and increased protection of the candidate and his family should be organized. To this was added a book of minutes and elaborate, on the part of the escort chief, an internal code for the displacements.

This document was signed by Colonel González and two copies remained in the DAS. The truth is that nothing recommended was taken into account. Colonel Rodriguez indicated that there was concern on the part of the members of Galán's protection because the new escort chief, Jacobo Torregrosa, "was doing things wrong, outside the rules." Therefore the family of the candidate requested a meeting with the DAS directives.

In the opinion of Colonel Rodriguez, Torregrosa was an "irresponsible" who took one of the escort cars for other purposes. The audience continues and little by little they are getting more details of what happened in the weeks before the assassination of the leader of the New Liberalism.

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