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## **Guatemala: Colonel To Stand Trial In Murder Of U.S. Citizen Michael Divine**

*by Deborah Tyroler*

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At a Sept. 3 press conference, military court spokespersons said Col. Guillermo Portillo Gomez will face trial for his role in the June 8, 1990 abduction and murder of US national Michael Devine in El Peten department. Portillo Gomez is charged with ordering Devine's death. The prosecution's case is based on the fact that Portillo Gomez served as deputy commander of the Santa Elena military zone in El Peten at the time of the incident, and acted as commanding officer of the soldiers believed to have performed the murder. Fourteen military personnel, currently in custody, are accused of involvement in the killing. (Basic data from ACAN-EFE, 09/03/91)

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