

1. Mr. David S. Morales is hereby recommended for the Intelligence Medal of Merit for his twenty-five years of dedicated service with the Central Intelligence Agency.

2. Prior to his entrance on duty with the Central Intelligence Agency in March 1951, Mr. Morales served from April 1946 to March 1951 in the United States Army.

3. Mr. Morales spent more than twenty years in the field in several different installations in the areas of Europe, Latin America and East Asia. He held senior level positions engaged in FI, CI, CA and PM operations. His record includes such items as participation in key roles in both of Latin America Division's two major PM/political action operations plus tours as Base Chief in Pakse Laos (supervised 45 employees); and, Regional Officer in Charge, Nha Trang, Vietnam (supervised 60 employees). These assignments were carried out in war zones requiring considerable personal courage.

4. Mr. Morales was commended twice by Chiefs of Station while assigned to the Cuban operation; by the Director of Central Intelligence for service in the Dominican Republic during the crisis; by the King of Laos during his assignment in Laos and by the Government of Vietnam for his service in that country.

5. Upon his return from Vietnam in 1971 Mr. Morales was assigned to FR Division, Washington Base, where he was targeted on Latin American ²⁴ military officers assigned to the Inter-American Defense Board and attending the Inter-American Defense College. This assignment was initiated by Latin America Division in an effort to get at the rich operational potential afforded by the presence ²⁹ [in the Washington area] of numerous Latin American officials. Mr. Morales, with his long years of experience in Latin America, and his native fluency in Spanish, proved ideal for this assignment. He developed numerous assets who were later pursued successfully and recruited in the field and he made several significant recruitments of his own.

6. Following the FR assignment Mr. Morales returned to the Latin America Division where he completed his final year with CIA. He served TDY as Acting Chief of Station, Paraguay for some months. During this period ¹⁶⁻¹⁹ "there was more activity and accomplishment flowing out of the Asuncion Station than had been seen in years". This is typical of Mr. Morales' resourcefulness, imagination and push to get the job done. The remainder of his Agency time was spent on a TDY to Panama and in the Cuban Operations Group, where his contribution was also very large.

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