



EXCISE

Department of State

INCOMING TELEGRAM

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ANS-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6517

SECRET SAN SALVADOR 8518

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DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS DOD ATTN CARLUCCI

E. O. 12065: RDS-1 11/06/01 (HINTON, DEANE R.) OR-M  
TAGS: MASS MILY PINS PINT SHUM ES  
SUBJECT: SOME TOUGH DISCUSSION WITH GARCIA

REF: (A)

1. (S - ENTIRE TEXT.)
2. THERE IS A DISTURBING NEW ASPECT OF PERSISTENT PROBLEM OF VIOLENCE WHICH SENIOR U.S. OFFICIALS SHOULD RAISE WITH DEFMIN COL. GARCIA DURING HIS WASHINGTON VISIT. INDEED, FOCUS SHOULD BE ON ARMY-AIR FORCE FIRE CONTROL PROCEDURES WHYLE, OF COURSE, CONTINUED EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE SECURITY FORCE EXCESSES AND TO SOLVE MURDER CASES INVOLVING AMERICANS SHOULD BE URGED ON GARCIA.
3. IN PAST, REPORTS OF DIRECT ARMY PARTICIPATION IN EXCESSES HAVE BEEN FEW. RATHER, PROBLEM OF ABUSES OF AUTHORITY HAS BEEN SEEN LARGELY AS ONE OF BETTER CONTROL OF SPECIALIZED SECURITY FORCES.
4. THUS, IT IS PARTICULARLY DISTURPING TO HAVE DETAILED

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Reviewed by: Scott E. Zeiss 827  
Date: 2/24/93

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Department of State IN/EX/ODR El Salvador SP Date 7/23/95

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portions withheld: classification ( ); deliberative ( );  
law enforcement ( ); privacy (✓), statutory ( );  
not relevant to El Salvador ( ).

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REPORTS OF SALVADORAN ARMY MASSACRES OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN ALONG THE RIO LEMPA AND IN CHALATENANGO. INDEED, OUR OWN OFFICIALS WERE WITNESSES TO A MACHINE GUN ATTACK ON APPARENTLY UNARMED CIVILIANS BY HELICOPTER. APOSTOLIC ADMINISTRATOR RIVERA Y DAMAS HAS ALREADY CALLED ATTENTION TO THE RIO LEMPA INCIDENT IN A TALK WITH UPI, WHICH HAS SUBSEQUENTLY BEEN DISTORTED AND EXPLOITED BY RADIO HAVANA. cc

5. SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS:

---THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA EFFORT AGAINST EL SALVADOR HAS ACCUSED THE ARMED FORCES SEVERAL TIMES RECENTLY OF GENOCIDE DURING ITS OPERATIONS. WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO COUNTER THAT PROPAGANDA.

---CREATION OF FREE FIRE ZONES IN EL SALVADOR OR ARMY-AIR FORCE BEHAVIOR AS IF SUCH ZONES EXIST COULD HAVE GRAVEST CONSEQUENCES FOR OUR CONTINUED COOPERATION AND OUR HOPES TO PROVIDE CONTINUED U.S. ASSISTANCE.

---U.S. PUBLIC OPINION AND CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR ADMINISTRATION COULD BE RAPIDLY ERODED UNLESS GARCIA AND COMPANY KEEP THEIR FORCES UNDER STRICT CONTROL.

6. IN MY VIEW, GARCIA WILL TAKE MESSAGE MORE SERIOUSLY IF IT COMES FROM SECDEF AS WELL AS FROM SECSTATE. IN ADDITION, PERHAPS BLUNT TALK BY SENIOR U.S. GENERAL, E.G. CHAIRMAN, JCS, WOULD BE EFFECTIVE.  
HINTON

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