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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE

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NOFORN/NOCONTRACT/NOCON

E.O. 12065: GDS 11/13/87 (ENDERS, THOMAS G.)

TAGS: MASS, MILT, PINS, PINT, SHUM, ES

SUBJECT: DEPUTY SECRETARY CARLUCCI'S DISCUSSION WITH
MUD GARCIA

REF: -SAN SALVADOR 851A

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. THE SUBJECT OF REFERENCE (SECURITY FORCE EXCESSES)
WAS DISCUSSED WITH MINISTER OF DEFENSE GARCIA AND
OTHER MEMBERS OF HIS PARTY ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS DURING
HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON, BOTH IN STATE AND DEFENSE.
THE SUBJECT ALSO SURFACED AT PRESS CONFERENCES AND
DURING HIS MEETINGS ON CAPITOL HILL. THE MINISTER
IS, THEREFORE, WELL AWARE OF THE SENSITIVITY CONCERNING
THIS SUBJECT.

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NODIS REVIEW

- Cat. A - Caption and text
transferred to MANDIFPC
Cat. B - Transferred to MANDIFPC
with additional notes
submitted by JCS
Cat. C - Caption and body
transferred by JCS

Reviewed by: [Signature] 883
2/24/93

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3. REFTEL ARRIVED AFTER GARCIA'S MEETING WITH SECDEF AND DEPSECDEF. SECRETARY DID, HOWEVER, SPEAK TO PROBLEM OF EXCESSES AND ABUSE IN HIS SESSION WITH GARCIA ON NOVEMBER 9. DEPSECDEF CARLUCCI AND DASD/IA SANCHEZ MET WITH COLONEL GARCIA AND CHIEF OF STAFF COLONEL FLORES LIMA SHORTLY PRIOR TO THEIR DEPARTURE FROM WASHINGTON ON NOVEMBER 10 IN RESPONSE TO REFTEL AND TO EMPHASIZE SERIOUSNESS OF USG CONCERN. THE OSTENSIBLE PURPOSE FOR THE MEETING WAS TO BID FAREWELL AND OBTAIN THEIR IMPRESSION OF THEIR WASHINGTON MEETINGS.

4. COLONEL GARCIA EXPRESSED GREAT SATISFACTION WITH HIS VISIT AND VOICED HIS GRATITUDE FOR GIVING HIM THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT THE VIEWS OF THE SALVADORAN MILITARY ON THE SITUATION IN EL SALVADOR. HE ADDED THAT THE TRIP HAD ALSO BEEN EDUCATIONAL FOR HIM; HIS ENCOUNTERS WITH THE PRESS, CONGRESSIONAL AND LABOR LEADERS HAD IMPRESSED UPON HIM THE MAGNITUDE OF MISCONCEPTION AND DISTORTION OF THE SITUATION IN HIS COUNTRY AND HOW SENSITIVE THE SUBJECT OF EXCESSES BY SECURITY FORCES IS IN THE UNITED STATES.

5. SECRETARY CARLUCCI FOLLOWED UP ON THIS POINT BY SAYING THAT THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION DESIRED TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE AS MUCH ASSISTANCE TO EL SALVADOR AS POSSIBLE BUT AS GARCIA COULD NOW UNDERSTAND, CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT IS ESSENTIAL. U.S. PUBLIC AND CONGRESSIONAL OPINION HAS BEEN NEGATIVELY INFLUENCED BY ACCOUNTS OF EXCESSES COMMITTED BY THE SECURITY FORCES. CARLUCCI ADDED THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE'S ABILITY TO GENERATE CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT WOULD BE FACILITATED IF WE COULD STATE THAT WE HAVE THE PERSONAL ASSURANCE

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OF THE MINSTER OF DEFENSE THAT EVERY EFFORT WILL
BE MADE AND STEPS TAKEN BY THE ARMED FORCES TO CONTROL
THESE EXCESSES.

5. GARCIA REPLIED BY REITERATING THAT HE UNDERSTANDS
THE SERIOUSNESS AND CONCERN, AND ASSURED DEPUTY SECRETARY
CARLUCCI THAT HE WOULD DO ALL IN HIS POWER TO CONTROL
EXCESSES BY THE SECURITY FORCES.

7. COMMENT: WE CONCUR IN YOUR VIEW THAT BLUNT TALK
BY A SENIOR US GENERAL MAY BE WORTHWHILE IN CONTINUING
TO KEEP PRESSURE ON THE SALVADORANS TO CONTROL THESE
EXCESSES. WE UNDERSTAND THAT DEP SECDEF CARLUCCI
RELIEVES THAT LTG NUTTING COULD WELL SERVE THIS PURPOSE
BY DIRECT IN-COUNTRY ACCESS TO HOD GARCIA AND THE
SALVADORAN MILITARY. WE WILL BE DISCUSSING ENTIRE
SUBJECT AT INTERAGENCY MEETING AND WILL ADVISE OF
RESULTS. CLARK

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