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TO AMBASSADOR SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE

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STATE 304287

NODIS

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E.O. 120651 GOS 11/13/81 (ENOFERS, THOMAS)

TAGS

MASS, MILT, PINS, PINT, SHUM, ES

SUbject:

DEPUTY SECRETARY CARLUCCI'S DISCUSSION WITH

MINISTER 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 OFFENSE.

THE SUBJECT ALSO SURFACED AT PRESS CONFERENCES AND

DURING ITS MEETINGS ON CAPITOL HILL. THE MINISTER

IS, THEREFORE, WELL AWARE OF THE SENSITIVITY CONCERNING

THIS SUBJECT.

SECRET

NODIS REVIEW

Cat A - Classification - A

Category: D89802

Cat B - Transmitted - D89802

Cat C - Censored - D89802

CAT A

Cat B

Cat C

TO BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
3. DEPTFL 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 DAO/IA RANCHO MET WITH COLONEL GARCIA AND CHIEF OF STAFF COLONEL FLORES LIMA SHORTLY PRIOR TO THEIR DEPARTURE FROM WASHINGTON ON NOVEMBER 19 IN RESPONSE TO DEPTFL AND TO EMPHASIZE SERIOUSNESS OF USG CONCERN. THE ONSENSIBLE 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 HIMI HIS ENCOUNTERS WITH THE PRESS, CONGRESSIONAL AND LABOR LEADERS HAD IMPRESSED UPON HIM THE MAGNITUDE OF HIS CONCEPTION 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 RUT AS GARCIA COULD NOW UNDERSTAND, CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT IS ESSENTIAL. U.S. PUBLIC AND CONGRESSIONAL OPINION has BEEN NEGATIVELY INFLUENCED BY ACCOUNTS OF EXCESSES COMMITED 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 SECRET
OF THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE THAT EVERY EFFORT WILL
BE MADE AND STEPS TAKEN BY THE ARMED FORCES TO CONTROL
THOSE EXCUSES.

6. GARCIA REPLIED BY REITERATING THAT HE UNDERSTANDS
THE SERIOUSNESS AND CONCERN, AND ASSURED DEPUTY SECRETARY
CAPLUGO THAT HE WOULD DO ALL IN HIS POWER TO CONTROL
EXCUSES 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
EXCUSES. WE UNDERSTAND THAT DEP SECRETARY CARLUGO
RELIFFS THAT LTG NUTTING COULD WELL SERVE THIS PURPOSE
BY DIRECT IN-COUNTRY ACCESS TO MOD GARCIA AND THE
SALVADORAN MILITARY. WE WILL BE DISCUSSING ENTIRE
SUBJECT AT INTRAGENCY MEETING AND WILL ADVISE OF
RESULTS. CLARK