

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 89SAN SA014181

ADP449  
UNCLASSIFIEDPAGE 01 SAN SA 14181 302220Z  
ACTION ARA-00

INFO	LOG-00	ADS-00	AID-00	INR-07	SS-00	OIC-02	CIAE-00
	EB-00	DODE-00	H-01	IO-19	NSCE-00	NSAE-00	SSO-00
	HA-09	L-03	AMAD-01	LAB-04	TRSE-00	PA-02	STR-18
	SIL-01	INRE-00	RP-10	USIE-00	SP-02	SR-06	PRS-01
	P-02	/088 W					

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O 302215Z OCT 89  
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3224  
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA  
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA  
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE  
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA  
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PM

UNCLAS SAN SALVADOR 14181

DEPT ALSO FOR S/IL

E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: PHUM, ELAB, ES  
SUBJECT: FENASTRAS ALLEGES DETENTION OF 10 MEMBERS OF  
CHAN CHAN FAMILY

1. THE PRO-FMLN LABOR GROUP FENASTRAS ALLEGED  
OCTOBER 26 THAT 10 MEMBERS OF THE CHAN CHAN FAMILY  
HAD BEEN DETAINED IN SANTA ANA BY ELEMENTS OF THE  
SECOND BRIGADE IN AN EFFORT TO FORCE MARIA JUANA  
ANTONIA MEDINA, MOTHER OF MISSING FENASTRAS EMPLOYEE  
SARA CHAN CHAN, TO TURN HERSELF OVER TO AUTHORITIES.  
ACCORDING TO FENASTRAS (AND NUMEROUS US CIT CALLERS  
WHO APPARENTLY RECEIVED A FENASTRAS TELEFAX ON THE  
SUBJECT), THE DETENTIONS TOOK PLACE AT MIDNIGHT,  
OCTOBER 26.

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2. POLOFF WAS SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH ONE OF THE  
ALLEGED DETAINEES, GERTRUDE MEDINA, 67, ON SATURDAY,  
OCTOBER 28. HOWEVER, MARIA JUANA ANTONIA MEDINA  
ATTENDED THE MEETING IN HER MOTHER'S PLACE. MARIA,  
WHO WAS IN SAN SALVADOR AT THE TIME OF THE  
DETENTIONS, STATED THAT AS FEW AS 5, AND AS MANY AS 9  
MEMBERS OF HER FAMILY MAY HAVE BEEN DETAINED (NOT 10,  
AS FENASTRAS ORIGINALLY REPORTED). THEY WERE ALL  
RELEASED, SHE STATED, BY 10 A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY.

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HER BROTHER, EVIL DE JESUS MEDINA, WAS TOLD TO PRESENT HIMSELF EVERY WEEK TO SECOND BRIGADE AUTHORITIES UNTIL MARIA TURNED HERSELF IN. SHE ALLEGED. NO ONE NOTED ANY NAMES OF ANY OF THE CAPTORS, NOR DID THEY SEE ANY ARREST WARRANTS.

3. MARIA HAS NO INTENTION OF TURNING HERSELF IN. SHE DOES NOT KNOW WHY THEY WANT TO TALK TO HER, BUT ALLEGES SHE HAS BEEN ARRESTED TWICE. THE FIRST OCCASION, IN JULY IN SANTA ANA, SHE ALLEGES SHE WAS RAPED AND BEATEN BY MEMBERS OF THE SECOND BRIGADE, BUT SAYS SHE DID NOT REPORT THE ARREST TO ANYONE. SHE CANNOT SUPPLY ANY NAMES OF ANY OF HER ALLEGED CAPTORS. THE SECOND OCCASION TOOK PLACE IN SEPTEMBER, WHEN SHE WAS ONE OF 61 FENASTRAS DEMONSTRATORS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY AFTER BURNING BUSES AND OCCUPYING A CHURCH. SHE ALSO CLAIMS SHE WAS RAPED AND BEATEN DURING THAT DETENTION, BUT DID NOT FILE A COMPLAINT BEFORE THE PRESIDING JUDGE, AS DID ANOTHER FENASTRAS DETAINEE.

4. THE SECOND BRIGADE DENIES ANY KNOWLEDGE OF THE ARRESTS.

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5. COMMENT: POLOFF WILL TRY TO VISIT SANTA ANA TO TALK TO ONE OF THE ALLEGED DETAINEES. AT THIS POINT WE ARE DUBIOUS THAT FENASTRAS HAS CORRECTLY REPRESENTED THE FACTS, BUT WILL FOLLOW UP.

WALKER