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TEXT OF TELEGRAM 79SAN SA003843

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ACTION ARA-18

INFO DCT-01 ADS-00 SY-06 SYE-00 NCT-03 CIAE-00 COM-02
EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05
TRSE-00 OMB-01 /098 W

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R 122110Z JUL 79
FM ANEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3407
INFO ANEMBASSY GUATENALA
ANEMBASSY SAN JOSE
ANEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ

SECTION 1 OF 2 SAN SALVADOR 3843

E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: ASEC ELAB PGOV PINS PINT SHUM ES
SUBJ: WAVE OF ASSASSINATIONS CONTINUES

REF: (A) SAN SALVADOR 3232, (B) SAN SALVADOR 3391, (C) SAN
SALVADOR 3624

1. SUMMARY: TEACHERS' ORGANIZATION "ANDES 21 DE JUNIO",
AFFILIATED WITH LEFTIST POPULAR REVOLUTIONARY BLOC (BPR),
REPORTED ASSASSINATION OF THREE MORE TEACHERS DURING LATTER
PART OF JUNE. AS RESULT OF THESE AND OTHER ACTS OF REPRESSION
AS WELL AS FAILURE TO GET ITS DEMANDS MET BY GOES, ANDES
CALLED FOR STRIKE JULY 3-5 AND HAS CALLED FOR ANOTHER STRIKE
DURING WEEK OF JULY 16-20. OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTY PDC
CLAIMED THAT THREE OF ITS MEMBERS HAD BEEN KILLED IN RECENT
WAVE OF VIOLENCE WHILE UDN CLAIMED FIVE. COMMUNIST-DOMINATED
LABOR FEDERATION CUTS REPORTED THREATS AGAINST ITS
MEMBERSHIP BY UGB AND ASSASSINATION OF ONE OF ITS
MEMBERS. END SUMMARY.

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2. ON JUNE 28, BPR TEACHERS' ORGANIZATION "ANDES 21
DE JUNIO" ANNOUNCED THAT IT WOULD HOLD SERIES OF
STRIKES IN SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT EL SALVADOR UNTIL SUCH
TIMES DEMANDS PREVIOUSLY SET FORTH BEFORE MINISTRY
OF EDUCATION WERE COMPLIED WITH AND UNTIL "REPERSSION"
AGAINST AND ASSASSINATIONS OF ITS MEMBERS CEASED.
ANDES AT THAT TIME ANNOUNCED THAT MEMBERS WHO HAD BEEN MOST RECENT
VICTIMS OF ASSASSINATIONS WERE JOSE GALILEO ROSALES (KILLED IN

United States Department of State
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SESUNTEPEQUE ON JUNE 25) AND JOSE BELISARIO SORIANO (KILLED IN SANTA TECLA ON JUNE 26). ON JUNE 28, PROFESSOR OSCAR ARMANDO CELARIE WAS SHOT AND KILLED IN CIUDAD BARRIOS (DEPARTMENT OF SAN MIGUEL) BY ASSAILANTS WHO ENTERED HIS APARTMENT, BRINGING TOTAL OF ANDES MEMBERS KILLED FROM MARCH-JUNE 1979 UP TO TWENTY-FOUR. AT SAME TIME, THREATS WERE REPORTED AGAINST MEMBERS AT EDUCATIONAL TV CHANNEL 8 (LOCATED IN SANTA TECLA) BY "WHITE HAND", RIGHTIST TERRORIST ORGANIZATION.

3. ANDES CARRIED OUT ITS FIRST SERIES OF STRIKES JULY 3-5. FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS (ABOUT FIFTY MEMBER SCHOOLS) ALSO PARTICIPATED IN WORK STOPPAGE AS MEANS OF PROTESTING "SAVAGE" ASSASSINATION OF TEACHERS. ON JULY 5, ANDES REPRINTED IN "LA CRONICA" TEXT OF LETTER SENT ON JULY 4 TO PRESIDENT OF "WORLD CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF EDUCATION" (SUPPOSEDLY LOCATED IN GENEVA, SWITZERLAND) ASKING HIM TO CALL ON PRESIDENT ROMERO TO "CEASE REPRESSION" AGAINST SALVADORAN TEACHERS. IN OTHER AD, IT REPRINTED TEXTS OF LETTERS BEING SENT BY GUATEMALAN AND MEXICAN UNIONS TO UN SECRETARY GENERAL WATDHEIM, PRESIDENT ROMERO, AND MINISTER OF EDUCATION ANGELICA DIAZ CALLING ON GOES TO CEASE REPRESSION AGAINST TEACHERS.

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4. ON JULY 5, ANDES ALSO LISTED LATEST "REPRESSIVE" ACTIONS THAT HAD BEEN UNDERTAKEN AGAINST ITS MEMBERS, INCLUDING ALLEGED JUNE 28 ARREST BY NATIONAL GUARD AGENTS OF IVAN BURGOS NEAR SAN ESTEBAN CATARINA AND JULY 2 ARREST OF JORGE BRAN BY SOLDIERS NEAR CAUCASQUE (DEPARTMENT OF CHALATENANGO). ANDES ALSO CLAIMED GATHAT ADOLFO RAMIRE Z SALEGIO, A BROTHER OF MEMBER OF ANDES EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, HAD BEEN KILLED BY NATIONAL GUARD AGENTS ON JUNE 24. AS RESULT OF THESE CONTINUING ACTS OF "REPRESSION", AND BECAUSE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION HAD NOT MET ITS DEMANDS, ANDES AT JULY 5 MEETING DECIDED TO CALL NEW SERIES OF STRIKES FOR JULY 16-20.

5. IN JULY 7 AD CARRIED IN "LA CRONICA". CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDC) CLAIMED THAT AMONG TEACHERS AND PEOPLE ASSASSINATED THUS FAR WERE THREE "CO-RELIGIONISTS" OF PDC: ALEX SALGADO, OSCAR CELARIE, AND GALILEO ROSALES. (NAMES OF CELARIE AND ROSALES ARE AMONG TWENTY-FOUR ASSASSINATION VICTIMS LISTED BY ANDES.) PDC CLAIMED THAT ASSASSINATIONS WERE "EVIDENCE OF A SYSTEMATIC PLAN OF ACTION, ONE THAT CAN ONLY BE REALIZED WITH THE APPROVAL, COMPLACENCY AND COMPLICITY OF THOSE WHO CAN ACT FREELY UNDER CONDITIONS OF A STATE OF SIEGE". PDC STATED THAT

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"WE CONSIDER THAT THE GOVERNMENT MUST AND CAN TAKE THE MEASURES NECESSARY TO PREVENT THESE ACTIONS."

6. NOT ALL TEACHERS WHO HAVE BEEN KILLED RECENTLY HAVE BEEN MEMBERS OF ANDES. MANUEL DE JESUS APARICIO FLORES WAS SHOT AND KILLED AT MID-DAY ON JUNE 14 AS HE WAS LEAVING HIS HOUSE. HE HAD ALLEGEDLY RECEIVED THREATS FROM PEOPLE IDENTIFYING THEMSELVES AS "MEMBERS OF FAPU" FOR REFUSING TO GIVE HIS APPROVAL TO A WORK STOPPAGE CALLED FOR BY ANDES. FLORES WAS ALSO KNOWN

[REDACTED]

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AS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF RULING NATIONAL CONCILIATION PARTY (PCN). THERE HAVE ALSO BEEN ARTICLES IN CONSERVATIVE PRESS ALLEGING THAT SOME TEACHERS HAD RECEIVED THREATS TO FORCE THEM TO HONOR ANDES-INSPIRED STRIKE OF JULY 3-5.

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INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 SY-05 SYE-00 MCT-03 CIAE-00 COM-02
EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05
TRSE-00 OMB-01 /098 W
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R 122110Z JUL 79
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3408
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
USICNCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS

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7. COMMUNIST-DOMINATED OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTY NATIONALIST DEMOCRATIC UNION (UDN) ISSUED BULLETIN JULY 7 STATING PROFESSOR AND BIOLOGY STUDENT JOSE MARIA PORTILLO MONTENEGRO, WHOSE BODY WAS FOUND NEAR EL PLAYON ON JULY 7, HAD BEEN WOUNDED AND KIDNAPPED IN APOPA BY UNKNOWN ASSAILANTS RIDING IN CAR WITHOUT LICENSE PLATES. UDN SAID PORTILLO HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN MEMBER OF ITS NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. UDN CLAIMED THAT, IN ADDITION TO PORTILLO, FOUR UDN MEMBERS HAD BEEN KILLED IN RECENT WAVE OF VIOLENCE, INCLUDING TWO PROFESSORS (ORLANDO GUERRERO CHAMUL AND LAZARO DE JESUS ARIAS) AND TWO WORKERS (JORGE ALBERTO MORAN CHAVEZ, WHOSE BODY WAS FOUND JUNE 9 - REF A - AND ROBERTO MANCHAN, WHOSE BODY WAS FOUND JULY 1).

8. NATIONAL REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT (MNR) PUBLISHED AD IN JUNE 27 "LA CRONICA" DENOUNCING THREATS MADE AGAINST VARIOUS MNR MEMBERS, SPECIFICALLY DR. LUIS ALONSO ROSADA, MEMBER OF MNR POLITICAL COMMISSION,

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AND DAGOBERTO VEGA CEA, MEMBER OF MNR NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. MNR STATED THAT STATE OF SEIGE HAD BEEN TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF BY MILITARY AND PARAMILITARY GROUPS TO CARRY OUT "CAMPAIGN OF INTIMADATION AND MASSACRE". (REF C)

9. ON JULY 9, LEADERS OF COMMUNIST-DOMINATED UNITED CONFEDERATION OF SALVADORN WORKERS (CUTS) DENOUNCED THREATS BEING MADE AGAINST ITS MEMBER BY RIGHTIST

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TERRORIST ORGANIZATION WHITE WARRIORS' UNION (UGB). CUTS CLAIMED THAT UGB HAD SENT NOTE JUNE 11 TO ITS SANTA ANA OFFICE, THREATENING TO MACHINE-GUN IT. CUTS ALSO CLAIMED THAT A THIRD ATTEMPT HAD BEEN MADE ON JUNE 24 TO CAPTURE FERNADO CORTEZ AVALOS, WHOM IT LISTED AS CUTS SECRETARY OF EDUCATION. FINALLY, CUTS CLAIMED THAT "WHITE HAND", RIGHTWING TERRORIST ORGANIZATION, HAD ON JUNE 27 MADE TELEPHONE DEATH THREATS AGAINST MOLINA LARA AND AMILCAR GALILEO RIVAS (SECRETARY- GENERALS OF TWO CUTS -AFFILIATED UNIONS IN FISHING INDUSTRY) AND THEI FAMILIES.

10. ON JULY 9, CUTS-AFFILIATED GENERAL UNION OF WORKERS IN CONSTRUCTION AND SIMILAR INDUSTRIES (SGTICSCES) CLAIMED IN AD IN OPPOSITION NEWSPAPER "LA CRONICA DEL PUEBLE" THAT DEATH THREATS HAD BEEN RECEIVED BY MEMBERS (REFERRED TO AS "GRANDE" AND "REPRESA") OF CUTS-AFFILIATED ELECTRICAL WORKERS' UNION STECEL HAD RECEIVED WRITTEN THREATS. FINALLY, UNION CLAIMED THAT ROBERTO MANCHAN TORRES AND ALEX SALGADO (WHOSE BODIIES WERE FOUND JULY 1) HAD BEEN ASSASSINATED BY UGB. SALGADO WAS LATER REPORTED TO BE MEMBER OF PDC, WHILE MANCHAN WAS REPROTED TO BE MEMBER OF UDN.

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11. ON JUNE 30 AT 2330 HOURS, THREE HEAVILY ARMED MEN STARTED SHOOTING AGAINST HOUSE OR POET RAFAEL GOCHEZ SOSA (WHO HAD PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED THREATS FROM "WHITE HAND" -- SEE REF (B) IN SANTA TECLA. MEN RETURNED TWICE (AT HALF -HOUR INTERVALS) TO TAKE MORE SHOTS AT HOUSE. ATTEMPTS BY NEIGHBORS AND OTHERS TO CALL POLICE AND NATIONAL GUARD TO SCENE REPORTEDLY PROVED UNAVAILING.

12. COMMENT: CONTINUING WAVE OF ASSASSINATIONS HAS CONTRIBUTED TO CLIMATE OF EXTEREME ANXIETY AMONG CERTAIN OPPOSITION GROUPS. STATE OF SIEGE IS OFTEN CITED BY OPPOSITION GROUPS AS ONE OF IMPORTANT FACTORS IN WAVE OF VIOLENCE AND REFLECTS FACT THAT GREAT MAJORITY OF ASSASSINATIONS HAVE OCCURRED SINCE GOES IMPOSED STATE OF SEIGE LAST MAY 24.
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