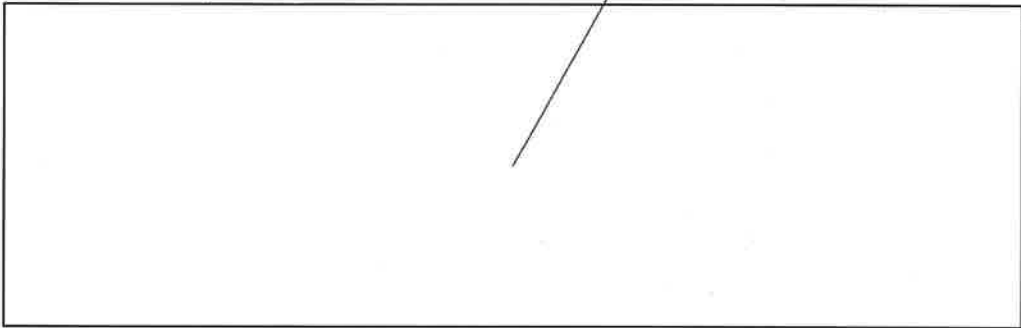


~~SECRET/NF~~

ENVELOPE

(b)(3):10 USC 424;(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)



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HEADER

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(b)(3):10 USC 424;(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

TO DIACURINTEL

(b)(1);Sec. 1.4(c)



(b)(3):10 USC 424

BT

CONTROLS

~~SECRET~~

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SERIAL DIADIN 298-8A

BODY

SUBJ EL SALVADOR CIVIL DEFENSE. (U)
DOI 25 OCT 83 (AS OF 1550 EDT)
TEXT 1. ~~(C/NF)~~ A RECENT SUCCESS BY CIVIL
DEFENSE (CD) FORCES IN
SAN VICENTE DEPARTMENT ILLUSTRATES THE KEY ROLE LOCAL FORCES CAN
PLAY IN THE PACIFICATION PROGRAM.
2. ~~(C/NF)~~ AT 2200 (LOCAL TIME) ON 20 OCTOBER, A GUERRILLA FORCE
OF UNDETERMINED SIZE REPORTEDLY ATTACKED THE TOWN OF SANTO DOMINGO
IN NORTHWEST SAN VICENTE DEPARTMENT. OPERATION MAQUILISHUAT

~~SECRET/NF~~

~~SECRET//NF~~

HEADQUARTERS REPORTEDLY RESPONDED IMMEDIATELY, DEPLOYING TWO CAVALRY SQUADRONS TO REINFORCE THE TOWN'S 30-MAN CD FORCE. AN ARTILLERY BATTERY WAS ALSO MOVED NORTH OF THE TOWN TO PROVIDE INDIRECT FIRE SUPPORT, AND A HELICOPTER GUNSHIP WAS DISPATCHED TO PROVIDE CLOSE AIR SUPPORT. THE GUERRILLA ATTACK LASTED UNTIL 0500, WHEN THE CAVALRY SECURED THE TOWN. GOVERNMENT FORCES REPORTEDLY SUFFERED ONE DEAD AND SIX WOUNDED, WHILE GUERRILLA CASUALTIES WERE UNKNOWN. THE CD FORCE LOST SIX WEAPONS BUT RECOVERED 13 ENEMY WEAPONS. ARTILLERY SUPPORT WAS NOT USED SINCE THE COMBAT REPORTEDLY WAS AT VERY CLOSE QUARTERS.

3. ~~(S//NF)~~ COMMENT ONE OF THE GOALS OF THE NATIONAL CAMPAIGN PLAN HAS BEEN TO RECRUIT, TRAIN, AND EQUIP LOCAL FORCES TO PROVIDE A FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE AGAINST GUERRILLA ATTACKS UNTIL REGULAR ARMY FORCES ARRIVE. IN SAN VICENTE, PLANS CALL FOR 50 EFFECTIVE CD PERSONNEL TO DEFEND EACH OF THE DEPARTMENT'S 13 MUNICIPALITIES, WITH AN ADDITIONAL 400 STATIONED IN SAN VICENTE CITY. THUS FAR, RECRUITING HAS NOT BEEN A PROBLEM, BUT LOGISTIC CONSTRAINTS REPORTEDLY HAVE LIMITED THE TRAINING AND EQUIPPING OF CD UNITS. IN THE PAST, CD FORCES HAVE BEEN PLAGUED BY NUMEROUS PROBLEMS, INCLUDING A POOR REPUTATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES.

[REDACTED]

(b)(1);Sec. 1.4(c);Sec. 1.4(d)

ADMIN

(b)(3);10 USC 424

PREP

(b)(3);10 USC 424

[REDACTED]

DECL ~~OADR~~

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~~SECRET//NF~~