

~~SECRET/SENSITIVE~~1730 Hours
April 18, 1983TO: William P. Clark, Assistant to the President
For National SecurityCENTRAL AMERICAN WORKING GROUP REPORT NO: 38I. SITUATION HIGHLIGHTS

General Garcia announced his resignation as Minister of Defense at a news conference today. Magana is expected to appoint General Vides Casanova currently head of the Salvadoran National Guard as his replacement.

The Salvadoran Christian Democrat Party selected Napoleon Duarte as its presidential candidate for the for this year's election. Foreign Minister Chavez Mena declined to be Duarte's running mate.

A "Five plus Four" meeting has been scheduled for Panama on April 20 and 21. The formula--bilaterals, bilaterals preceeding a multilateral, or simply a multilateral--is unclear.

- During William French Smith's visit to San Salvador, President Magana identified 48 additional political prisoners for release.

- GRN patrol boats have reportedly attacked two Honduran fishing vessels in Honduran waters. One vessel was seriously damaged and apparently left at sea while the other was taken to a unnamed Nicaraguan port...

- The Libyan aircraft suspected of carrying military supplies for Nicaragua were allowed to refuel in Brazil. Whereabouts of the aircraft which have departed Recife is unknown.

- GOES Human Rights Commission DirGen, Benjamin Cestoni has confirmed press reports that the Attorney General has named two special prosecutors to deal with charges against Captain Figueroa Morales who is accused of responsibility for the Las Hojas massacre.

- In a communique released April 16 in San Jose, ARDE announced that Eden Pastora is in Nicaragua to oust his former comrades in the Sandinista Junta.

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II. ACTIONS COMPLETED

- Following Garcia's announcement of his resignation, Ambassador Hinton invited Garcia to visit Washington and meet with appropriate level USG officials at his earliest opportunity.
- Working Group tasked the US Military Group in Tegucigalpa this afternoon to provide specific construction costs for the proposed Regional Military Training Center which could then be presented to the Salvadorans in order to gain their consent to the use of the necessary funds.

III. LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

- The Senate did not have a quorum to meet in closed session today to consider US support for covert operations in Nicaragua. It may meet in closed session tomorrow.
- No final decision has yet been reached on a visit by Doc Long to El Salvador.

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE CRISIS PRE-PLANNING GROUP (CPPG)

SUBJECT: SECURE CONFERENCE CALL AGENDA (19 April 83)
 RE: EL SALVADOR STATUS REPORT (S)

- I. INTELLIGENCE UPDATE.....BOB GATES
- II. POLITICAL UPDATE.....LARRY EAGLEBURGER
TOM ENDERS
- III. US MILITARY ACTIVITY.....FRED IKLE
PAUL GORMAN
- IV. LEGISLATIVE ISSUES.....LARRY EAGLEBURGER
TOM ENDERS
CRAIG JOHNSTONE
SENATOR STONE
- V. PUBLIC AFFAIRS GUIDANCE
BUD MCFARLANE
SENATOR STONE

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