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

ENVELOPE

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HEADER

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250600Z JUN 82
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TO [Redacted]

(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

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CONTROLS

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

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SECTION 01 OF 02

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DIADIN 175-4B (AS OF: 1858 EDT 24 JUN 82)
/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY

SUBJ: DIA DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE NOTICE (DIN) (U)

)
EL SALVADOR: COUNTERINSURGENCY OPERATIONS. (U)

- 1. ~~(C//NOFORN)~~ THE RECENT SLOW GOVERNMENT FORCE PACE IN RETAKING THE TOWNS OF PERQUIN AND SAN FERNANDO IN NORTHERN MORAZAN HAS BEEN PARTLY DUE TO THE NEED TO REORGANIZE THE CAMPAIGN. THE SALVADORAN MILITARY REPORTEDLY USED 21 AND 22 JUNE TO REORGANIZE AND RESUPPLY ELEMENTS OF OPERATION "RESCATE" IN NORTHERN MORAZAN DEPARTMENT. THE ARMED FORCES GENERAL STAFF (AFGS) HAD BEEN DISPLEASED WITH THE CONDUCT OF THE ENTIRE OPERATION HEADED BY THE 6TH INFANTRY BRIGADE. THE DEATH OF THE BRIGADE*S COMMANDER, COL BELTRAN, IN A HELICOPTER

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ACCIDENT ON THE 17TH WAS FOLLOWED BY APPOINTMENT OF A NEW COMMANDER, LTC RUIZ, AND A NEW STAFF. FORWARD UNITS WERE APPARENTLY TEMPORARILY HELD IN PLACE WHILE THE GROSS DEFICIENCIES IN ORGANIZATION AND SUPPLY WERE ADDRESSED. THE RESUPPLIED UNITS ARE NOW ORGANIZED IN TWO TASK FORCES WITH CLEAR MISSIONS. THE FIRST, CONSISTING OF THE ATLCATL AND BELLOSO BATTALIONS, IS TO ATTACK NORTH TO SEIZE PERQUIN. THE SECOND, CONSISTING OF THE ATONAL BATTALION (-) AND A 3-COMPANY COMPOSITE UNIT (CUSCATLAN), IS

TO ATTACK NORTH FROM TOROLA TO SEIZE SAN FERNANDO THEN, ON ORDER, ATTACK EAST TO SEIZE PERQUIN. THE TWO ORIGINAL COMPOSITE ATTACKING

FORCES, GROUPS ALPHA AND BRAVO, ARE APPARENTLY TO REMAIN IN POSITION TO THE REAR WITHOUT SPECIFIC MISSIONS. THE REORGANIZED OPERATION WAS TO BE REINITIATED ON THE 23D WITH RECAPTURE OF PERQUIN ESTIMATED TO TAKE UP TO 3 DAYS. (b)(1);Sec. 1.4(c)

2. (C//NOFORN)

[REDACTED]

3. (C//NOFORN) THE INSURGENT RADIO VENCEREMOS HAS BROADCAST THAT THE GUERRILLAS HAVE SUCCESSFULLY MET ALL OBJECTIVES IN NORTHERN MORAZAN AND ARE TERMINATING THEIR OPERATION.

[REDACTED]

IT SEEMS MORE LIKELY THAT THE INSURGENTS HAVE EXPENDED MUCH OF THEIR RESOURCES, HAVE SUFFERED SUBSTANTIAL PERSONNEL LOSSES, AND ARE ACTUALLY PREPARING TO

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

ADMIN

#0174

/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 2 *****/

EXFILTRATE PRIOR TO BEING OVERRUN OR TRAPPED.

4. (U) MEANWHILE, SUB-SECRETARY OF DEFENSE COL CASTILLO, ASSUMED KILLED IN THE 17 JUNE HELICOPTER CRASH, APPARENTLY SURVIVED THE CRASH AND WAS CAPTURED BY THE GUERRILLAS. THE INSURGENTS, WHO CLAIMED TO HOLD HIM PRISONER, HAVE RELEASED A TAPE RECORDED INTERVIEW OVER RADIO VENCEREMOS. [REDACTED] THE VOICE HEARD IS INDEED THAT OF CASTILLO.

(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

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(b)(1);Sec. 1.4(c);(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

5. (S)

6. (C//NOFORN) WHILE THE INSURGENTS HAVE ACHIEVED A SIGNIFICANT PSYCHOLOGICAL SUCCESS IN NORTHERN MORAZAN, THIS MAY HAVE COME AT A HEAVY PERSONNEL COST. IN ADDITION, REPEATED CALLS FOR DIVERSIONARY ATTACKS IN OTHER AREAS HAVE THUS FAR FAILED TO PRODUCE SIGNIFICANT EVENTS, MIRRORING SIMILAR PREVIOUS FAILURES. GOVERNMENT SUCCESS IN RETAKING THE PERQUIN AREA REMAINS PROBABLE.

(REVW 24 JUN 12)

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(b)(3):10 USC 424

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