

ENVELOPE

(b)(3):10 USC 424

HEADER

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FM DIA WASHINGTON DC (b)(3):10 USC 424
TO ZEN/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

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CONTROLS

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

~~NOFORN~~

BODY

SUBJECT IR (b)(3):10 USC 424 /EL SALVADOR/POLITICS AND THE ARMED FORCES (U)

THIS IS AN INFO REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.

1. (U) CTRY EL SALVADOR.
2. (U) IR NO (b)(3):10 USC 424
3. (U) TITLE POLITICS AND THE ARMED FORCES
4. (U) DATE OF INFORMATION 83 04
5. (U) ORIG DIA (b)(3):10 USC 424
6. (U) REQ REFS (b)(3):10 USC 424

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

8. (U) SUMMARY NONE

9.A. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ DETAILS

(1) IN THE END OF APRIL 1983, COLONEL RAFAEL ((FLORES)) LIMA, SUBSECRETARY OF DEFENSE, COMMENTED THAT THERE IS A NECESSITY FOR THE ARMED FORCES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE APPROACHING DECEMBER 1983 ELECTIONS IN EL SALVADOR. COL ((FLORES)) LIMA REMARKED THAT HE NOW VIEWS HIS 1981-1982 POSITION THAT THE MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT

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STAY ABOVE THE ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN TO HAVE BEEN A MISTAKE. THE RESULT OF THE EARLIER REFUSAL OF THE ARMED FORCES TO SUPPORT ACTIVELY A CANDIDATE RESULTED, ACCORDING TO COL ((FLORES)) LIMA, IN AN INDECISIVE ELECTION.

(2) COL ((FLORES)) LIMA, STATED THAT UNDER PRESENT CONSIDERATION IS THE FOLLOWING THE ARMED FORCES WILL SUPPORT BEHIND THE SCENES A COALITION OF SMALL PARTIES IDEOLOGICALLY LOCATED BETWEEN THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDC) AND THE NATIONALIST REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE (ARENA). COL FLORES LIMA WILL OPPOSE THE PDC BECAUSE HE BELIEVES PDC CANDIDATE JOSE NAPOLEON ((DURATE)) COULD NOT GOVERN EFFECTIVELY DUE TO DURATE'S ALLEGED REFUSAL TO INCLUDE THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND THE PROFESSIONAL CLASS IN HIS GOVERNMENT. SUPPORT FOR ARENA'S EX-MAJOR ROBERTO D'AUBUISSON WILL ALSO BE DENIED BECAUSE THE U.S. WILL NOT BE ABLE TO DEAL COMFORTABLY WITH THE EXTREME RIGHTIST FORMER OFFICER. CONSEQUENTLY, THE ARMED FORCES, ACCORDING TO FLORES LIMA, WILL THROW ITS WEIGHT BEHIND A COALITION OF THE FOLLOWING PARTIES

- NNATIONAL CONCILIATION PARTY (PCN) AND ITS SPLINTER ELEMENT, PAISA
- DDEMOCRATIC ACTION PARTY (AD)
- SSALVADORAN POPULAR PARTY (PPS)

THEIR PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE WILL BE A CIVILIAN WITH A REPUTATION ACCEPTABLE TO THE ARMED FORCES, THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AND THE U.S. NOT ONLY WILL MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT HELP WITH THE CANDIDATE'S CAMPAIGN, BUT THEY (AND THEIR FAMILIES) ALSO WILL OVERTLY VOTE FOR HIM AT THE POLLS.

(3) DURING THE SAME MEETING, COL ((FLORES)) LIMA REMARKED THAT AFTER THE RESIGNATION OF GEN JOSE GUILLERMO ((GARCIA)) THE POLITICAL SITUATION WITHIN THE ARMED FORCES HAS REMAINED STRAINED. PERSONNEL CHANGES WILL HAVE TO BE MADE BUT THEY WILL BE DONE SLOWLY OVER A SIX MONTH PERIOD. OFFICERS FROM THE 1960 ENTRY CLASS OF THE MILITARY SCHOOL (ACADEMY) HAVE BEEN PRESSURED BY FRIENDS OF D'AUBUISSON TO INSIST ON THE REMOVAL OF OLDER OFFICERS FROM KEY POSITIONS. THIS DEVELOPMENT HAS CAUSED UNEASINESS IN THE SENIOR RANKS OF THE OFFICER CORPS. THE SITUATION HAS BEEN FURTHER COMPLICATED BY CLAIMS ON THE PART OF THE YOUNG SALVADORAN LIEUTENANT COLONELS THAT THE U.S. ARMED FORCES HAS LOST FAITH IN THE LEADERSHIP OF THE MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT AND THAT U.S. OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT THE DEMANDS OF THE INSURGENCY WAR REQUIRE LARGE SCALE PERSONNEL TRANSFERS.

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

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THE NEXT PAGE IS DENIED IN FULL AND NOT PROVIDED UNDER EXEMPTION (B)(1); SEC 1.4(C), (B)(3); 10 USC 424 AND (B)(6).