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~~(S//OC/NF)~~ **SUBJ: PLANS BY SALVADORAN COFFEE GROWERS ASSOCIATION TO DISRUPT A MARCH IN SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT AND AGRARIAN REFORM**

Central Intelligence Agency

06 March 1986

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SOURCE [redacted]
CONTEXT [redacted]

~~(S//OC/NF)~~ 1 [redacted] ON 28 FEBRUARY ASSOCIATION LEADERS MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE POPULAR DEMOCRATIC UNITY (UPD), THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INDIGENOUS SALVADORANS (ANIS), AND THE SALVADORAN INSTITUTE OF AGRARIAN REFORM (ISTA) WORKERS' UNION TO DISCUSS MEANS OF DISRUPTING A MARCH AND RELATED ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF AGRARIAN REFORM AND THE GOVERNMENT SCHEDULED FOR 15 MARCH. THE ASSOCIATION LEADERS BELIEVE THAT THE FAILURE OF THESE ACTIVITIES WILL BE SEEN BOTH WITHIN EL SALVADOR AND INTERNATIONALLY AS AN INDICATION OF A LACK OF PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF PRESIDENT JOSE NAPOLEON ((DUARTE)). THE ASSOCIATION HOPES TO DISRUPT THE ACTIVITIES AND REDUCE THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ATTENDING SO THAT THE ACTIVITIES WILL BE SEEN AS A FAILURE.

COMMENT: THE COMMEMORATIVE ACTIVITIES WERE ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR 6 MARCH, BUT WILL NOW PROBABLY BE HELD ON 15 MARCH.)

~~(S//OC/NF)~~ 2. THE MEETING, HELD IN THE COFFEE GROWERS' ASSOCIATION'S OFFICE IN SANTA TECLA, WAS DOMINATED BY ORLANDO ((DE SOLA)) OF THE ASSOCIATION. HE OFFERED ASSOCIATION FUNDS TO THE UPD, ANIS AND ISTA WORKERS' UNION REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER ANY EXPENSES WHICH THEIR ORGANIZATIONS MIGHT INCUR IN COOPERATING WITH THE

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ASSOCIATION. THE REPRESENTATIVES WERE RECEPTIVE, BUT MADE NO FIRM COMMITMENTS. ALSO PRESENT AT THE MEETING WAS SALVADORAN MILITARY ATTACHE DESIGNATE TO WASHINGTON D.C. COLONEL SIGIFREDO

(S//OC/NF) ((OCHOA)) PEREZ. OCHOA OBSERVED, BUT DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE DISCUSSIONS.

(S//OC/NF) 3. DE SOLA PROPOSED A VARIETY OF TACTICS TO DISRUPT THE COMMEMORATIVE ACTIVITIES. AMONG THE TACTICS HE SUGGESTED WERE USING HECKLERS ALONG THE MARCH ROUTE AND PLANTING INSTIGATORS WITHIN THE MARCHING GROUPS. THE INSTIGATORS WOULD CONSIST OF UPD, ANIS AND ISTA MEMBERS WHO WOULD CREATE DISTURBANCES AND CONFUSION WITHIN THE RANKS OF THE MARCHERS. DE SOLA ALSO SUGGESTED REDUCING THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS THROUGH MEANS SUCH AS DISABLING VEHICLES TO BE USED TO BRING PARTICIPANTS FROM OUTLYING AREAS INTO SAN SALVADOR, BRIBING VEHICLE DRIVERS TO DELAY AND FAIL TO ARRIVE ON TIME, AND DELAYING AND DIVERTING VEHICLES CARRYING PARTICIPANTS AT ROADBLOCKS AND CHECKPOINTS. IN MENTIONING THE ROADBLOCKS, DE SOLA ALLUDED TO COOPERATION WITHIN THE MILITARY IN THE SCHEME, BUT DID NOT STATE THAT THE MILITARY WOULD ASSIST.

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