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MRN: [81 SAN SALVADOR 2458](#)
Date/DTG: Apr 01, 1981 / 010000Z Apr 81
From: AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE *ROUTINE*; GUATEMALA, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*
E.O.: Unknown
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Reference: n/a
Subject: (U) ARMED FORCES ISSUES LIST OF "TRAITORS"

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ACTION ARA-16

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 INR-10 EUR-12 SS-15 CIAE-00 ICA-11
DODE-00 H-01 IO-14 NSC-05 NSAE-00 HA-06 TRSE-00
PM-09 PA-01 DCT-02 SP-02 SPRS-02 /107 W
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P R 012036Z APR 81
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3115
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PAN/INTAFF
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DEPT PLEASE PASS OTHER ARA & EUR EMBASSIES AS REQUIRED

E. O. 12065: GDS 4/1/87 KMILLSPAUGH, ROBERT) OR-P
TAGS: PINT, PINS, ES
SUBJ: (U) ARMED FORCES ISSUES LIST OF "TRAITORS"

1. (U) MARCH 30 PAPERS CARRIED A COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY
THE ARMED FORCES PRESS COMMITTEE WHICH IDENTIFIED ONE
HUNDRED THIRTY-EIGHT INDIVIDUALS AS TRAITORS. EXCERPTS
FROM THE COMMUNIQUE FOLLOW.

2. (U) BEGIN QUOTE.
THE ARMED FORCES OF EL SALVADOR...AWARE THAT THE SALVADORAN

Release in Full
By Marvin Russell, Senior Reviewer
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
03/27/2025

CITIZENRY WANTS TO KNOW WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR TERRORIST ACTIVITIES, BY THIS MEANS WANTS TO PUT ON RECORD FOR THE PRESENT SOCIETY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS THAT THE DELINQUENTS, BANDITS, AND TERRORISTS BELONGING TO THE REVOLUTIONARY

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DEMOCRATIC FRONT (FDR) AND THE FARABUNDO MARTI FRONT FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION (FMLN) HAVE MADE USE OF THE COMMUNISTS' TACTIC OF DECEIT, PRETENDING TO PRESENT THEMSELVES BEFORE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION AS TWO DIFFERENT ORGANIZATIONS, AND HAVE PUT INTO PRACTICE THE MARXIST-LENINIST TACTIC OF ALLIANCE TO MASSACRE THE SALVADORAN PEOPLE...

(THE COMMUNIQUE THEN STATES THAT THE 1932 REVOLT WAS DIRECTED BY MOSCOW, AS WAS ITS SECOND PHASE, THE JANUARY 1981 OFFENSIVE, AND THAT ORDERS TO BEGIN THE STRUGGLE WERE GIVEN IN A MEETING IN HAVANA IN 1967.)

...THIS TRAGIC TASK WAS ENTRUSTED TO TERRORIST GROUPS CALLED POPULAR ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS FAPU, BPR, LP-28, MLP....MNR (COMMENT: THE SOCIALIST PARTY)... AND OTHERS THAT, PRETENDING TO BE A MAJORITY, APPROPRIATED THE STRUGGLE OF THE PEOPLE, BUT THAT REALLY WERE DIRECTED BY AGENTS OF THE RUSSIAN KGB AND THE CUBAN DGI, PSYCHOPATHS WHO ALTHOUGH IN A MINORITY TRIED TO TERRORIZE THE PACIFIC AND HEROIC SALVADORAN PEOPLE...

SALVADORAN PEOPLE, THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR TERRORISM IN EL SALVADOR AND THE DISCREDITING OF OUR COUNTRY BEFORE THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY ARE THE FOLLOWING TRAITORS...

(THE COMMUNIQUE LISTS 138 NAMES).

...THE ARMED FORCES, COMPLYING WITH ITS CONSTITUTIONAL MISSION TO DEFEND THE SALVADORAN PEOPLE, INCESSANTLY PURSUES ALL TRAITORS TO THE COUNTRY IN ORDER THAT THEY PAY FOR THE GREAT DAMAGE DONE TO OUR COUNTRY. END QUOTE.

3. (U) THE LIST OF TRAITORS INCLUDES MOST OR ALL OF THE BEST KNOWN LEADERS OF THE FDR AND FMLN, JESUIT PRIESTS, ARMY DESERTERS, AND A LARGE NUMBER OF NAMES WE DO NOT RECOGNIZE. ACCORDING TO OUR CONTACTS, MANY OF THE INDIVIDUALS NAMED WERE MEMBERS OF THE "OLD LEFT," WHO OPPOSED PREVIOUS

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GOVERNMENTS BUT HAVE NEVER BEEN CONNECTED WITH THE FDR OR FMLN. NO ACTIVE PDC MEMBERS ARE INCLUDED, BUT SOME FORMER ADHERENTS, INCLUDING TWO WHO FLED THE COUNTRY AFTER THE DEATH OF ARCHBISHOP ROMERO BUT DID NOT GO OVER TO THE OPPOSITION, MADE THE LIST. SO DID LEONEL GOMEZ VIDES, FORMER ASSISTANT MANAGER OF THE SALVADORAN INSTITUTE FOR AGRARIAN REFORM AND BROTHER OF THE SUB-SECRETARY OF FOREIGN

RELATIONS. GOMEZ FLED TO THE U.S. IN JANUARY AND DENOUNCED BOTH THE MILITARY AND THE LEFT. THE PRESENT PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR OF ISTA, MS. RENEE QUEZADA WAS ALSO LISTED; WE WERE TOLD BY AN AMERICAN REPORTED 3/31 WHO HAD TALKED WITH HER EARLIER IN THE DAY THAT THE WOMAN WAS TERRIFIED OF HAVING HER NAME APPEAR, BUT HAD DECIDED TO REMAIN HERE AND TRY TO HAVE HER NAME EXPUNGED.

4. (U) MARCH 31 PAPAERS GIVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO INDIGNANT LETTERS FROM THREE "TRAITORS" WHO DENY ANY CONNECTION WITH THE FDR OR FMLN. (APRIL 1 PRESS CARRIES THREE MORE DENIALS.) ONE, A FORMER REPRESENTATIVE TO THE OAS, NOTES THAT ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL NAMED ON THE LIST DIED FOURTEEN YEARS AGO, "AND OTHERS DIED MANY YEARS AGO OR RETIRED OR CHANGED THEIR POLITICAL VIEWS A LONG TIME AGO." A SECOND "TRAITOR", THE DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTE FOR REHABILITATING INVALIDS, COMPLAINED THAT LAST YEAR HIS NAME APPEARED ON A DEATH LIST ISSUED BY THE LEFT, WHICH IDENTIFIED HIM AS "A SERVANT OF THE OLIGARCHY."

5. ~~(S)~~ COMMENT. THE LUMPING TOGETHER OF THE FDR AND THE FMLN, AND THE DECLARATION THAT THE LEADERS OF BOTH ARE TRAITORS, IS PROBABLY A RESPONSE TO THE IDEA OF SOME CIVILIANS IN GOVERNMENT THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOME MEMBERS OF THE FDR ARE ACCEPTABLE. IN EFFECT, THE COMMUNIQUE DECLARES THAT ANYONE WHO IS OR MIGHT BE CONNECTED WITH THE LEFT IS OFF-LIMITES AS FAR AS A POLITICAL PROCESS-NEGOTIATIONS OR ELECTIINS- IS CONCERNED.

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6. ~~(S)~~ THE TONE AND CONTNE OF THE COMMUNIQUE ARE A FORCEFUL REMINDER THAT SOME IMPORTANT FORCES IN THE COUNTRY ARE TEMPTED BY A "1932 SOLUTION"- THE DIFFERENCE BEING THAT IN 1932 ANYONE WHO LOOKED LIKE AN INDIAN WAS KILLED, AND THIS TIME IT WILL BE ANYONE WHO LOOKS LIKE A LEFTIST.

7. (U) LIST WILL BE FORWARDED BY AIRGRAM.
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