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PAGE 01 SAN SA 01152 12227Z
ACTION OCS-06**RELEASE IN FULL**INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 H-02 ARA-16 SSO-00 SY-05 L-03
CA-01 SYE-00 /034 W

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O 121700Z FEB 81
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2390

UNCLAS SAN SALVADOR 1152

E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: CASC PINS ASEC E SO
SUBJECT: W/W JOHN J. SULLIVAN

REF: (A) STATE 34518 (B) SAN SALVADOR 199 (C) SAN SALVADOR 845

IN REPLY TO AND IN ACCORD WITH SEQUENCE OF REFTEL A., THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PROVIDED:

A) SEE REFTEL B PARAGRAPH 3. HOTEL CLERCK REMEMBERS REGISTERING SULLIVAN BUT WILL NOT STATE EMPHATICALLY THAT HE SAW HIM GO OUT THAT NIGHT.

B) PRINTING IS EXPENSIVE IN EL SALVADOR. GOES WILL NOT ASSUME THIS EXPENSE. EMBASSY BUDGET HAS ALREADY BEEN STRECHED TO ACCOMODATE SULLIVAN INVESTIGATION. NO FURTHER FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE AT POST. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE FEABILITY OF POSTING PICTURE IN POST OFFICE AND CHURCHES IS QUESTIONABLE. APPROXIMATELY 3500 SALVADORAN HAVE DISSAPPEARED IN LIKE CIRCUMSTANCES DURING PAST YEAR. NEWSPAPER ARE CROWED DAILY WITH PHOTOS OF MISSING PERSONS. MOST SALVADORANS DO NOT WISH TO BECOME INVOLVED IN INVESTIGATION FOR FEAR REPRISAL.

C) FOR REASON STATED AT END OF PARAGRAPH B, NO WRITTEN STATEMENTS HAVE REQUESTED DURING INTERVIEWS BY CONNOFF. INTERVIEWEES HAVE BEEN ASSURED OF COMPLETE PROTECTION FOR THEIR COOPERATION.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 SAN SA 01152 12227Z

D) CORONEL CARLOS REYNALDO LOPEZ NUILA IS THE NATIONAL POLICE DIRECTOR FOR EL SALVADOR. HE HAS GIVEN POST FULL AND COMPLETE SUPPORT DURING INVESTIGATION. CONNOFF HAS REQUESTED A WRITTEN STATEMENT FROM LOPEZ NUILA SUMMARIZING ALL EFFORTS MADE TO DATE TO LOCATE SULLIVAN.

E) COPIES OF ALL PRESS COVERAGE TO DATE WERE MAILED TO MR. AND MRS. SULLIVAN ON 1/22/81. COPIES WERE ALSO POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT ON 1/28/81 ATTENTION: GIAMPORCARO.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Leonard Kusnitz, Senior Reviewer

F) PERSONAL EFFECTS OF SULLIVAN WERE RELEASED BY HOTEL TO CONNOFF ON 2/10/81. CONNOFF HAD PREVIOUSLY FORWARDED INVENTORY OF EFFECTS TO SULLIVAN FAMILY ON 1/14/81. COPY HAS POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT ON SAME ATTENTION: GIAMPORCARO. N.B. SHAVING CREAM AND RAZOR ARE INCLUDED IN INVENTORY. PASSPORT, FOLDER AND AIRLINE TICKETS WERE FOUND. TACA AIRLINE IS CONDUCTING AN INVESTIGATION TO SEE IF TICKET WAS USED OR RETURNED.

G) POST BELIEVES THAT DEPARTMENT'S LETTER OF 2/2/81 TO CONGRESS-WOMAN MARGE ROUKENMA SUMMARIZED VERY WELL EFFORTS OF POST AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO LOCATE SUBJECT. IN ADITION TO LETTER OF 2/2/81. DEPARTMENT SHOULD REFER TO REFTEL C. CONNOFF HAS ALSO OBTAINED A COPY OF RECORDS OF EVENTS KEPT BY HOTEL SHERATON SECRETARY. THIS IS BEING POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT ON TODAY'S DATE.
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