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ACTION ARA-16

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-10 CIAE-00 H-01 NSC-01
NSAE-00 SY-06 HA-08 L-03 TRSE-00 PM-09 PA-01
MCT-02 USIE-00 SP-02 SNP-01 SPRS-01
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RELEASE IN FULL

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FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3992
INFO DIA WASHDC

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ SAN SALVADOR 00651

E.O. 12356: DECL: 01/24/89

TAGS: PINS, ES

SUBJECT: (U) DISCUSSION WITH COL CARLOS REYNALDO LOPEZ-
- NUILA, DIRECTOR GENERAL, NATIONAL POLICE

1. C--ENTIRE TEXT.

2. ON 1/18/83 CONOFFS MET WITH COL CARLOS REYNALDO LOPEZ-
NUILA, CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL POLICE AND HIS ASSISTANT
SR. MARIO CASTRO, FOR A LUNCH HOSTED BY THE COL IN HONOR
OF CONSUL'S DEPARTURE.

3. DURING CONVERSATION WITH THE COL, THE SUBJECT OF
LTCOL OCHOA CAME UP. COL LOPEZ-NUILA SAID THAT FOR SOME
TIME NOW, THE RIGHT WING UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF D'AUBUIS-
SON HAD BEEN PLANNING MILITARY TAKE-OVER. WHEN OCHOA
RECEIVED ORDERS TO GIVE UP HIS COMMAND IN CABANAS AND TAKE
AN ASSIGNMENT IN MONTEVIDEO, D'AUBUISSON, LTCOL OCHOA AND
OTHERS BELIEVED THE TIME WAS APPROPRIATE FOR A MILITARY
INSURRECTION. COL LOPEZ-NUILA SAID OCHOA AND D'AUBUISSON
MISCALCULATED THEIR SUPPORT IN THE MILITARY RANKS AND
CONSEQUENTLY THEY FAILED IN THEIR ATTEMPT. COL LOPEZ-
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NUILA ASSURED CONOFFS THAT OCHOA'S INSUBORDINATION WAS
COORDINATED WITH OTHER HIGH OFFICIALS. HE BELIEVES THE
RIGHT WING WILL TRY AGAIN, MAYBE SOON, TO TAKE OVER THE
GOVERNMENT.

4. HE DISCLAIMED RUMORS AND D'AUBUISSON PRESS STATEMENTS
THAT GENERAL GARCIA WOULD GIVE UP HIS COMMAND. COL
LOPEZ-NUILA SAID THAT GENERAL GARCIA HAD NOT NEGOTIATED
HIS POSITION IN EXCHANGE FOR OCHOA TO ACCEPT GIVING UP HIS
COMMAND IN CABANAS.

5. COL LOPEZ-NUILA INQUIRED ABOUT LOCALLY AVAILABLE
VISAS WHICH WOULD ALLOW HIM AND HIS FAMILY TO STAY IN THE
U.S. FOR AN EXTENDED TIME. CONOFFS TOLD HIM A B-1 VISA

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Leonard Kusnitz, Senior Reviewer

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WOULD DO THE TRICK, ALLOWING UP TO A ONE-YEAR STAY IN THE U.S.

6. ON 1/19/83 MARIO CASTRO BROUGHT IN THE TOURIST PASS-PORTS OF LOPEZ-NUILA AND FAMILY. WE ISSUED 5-YEAR MULTIPLE B-1/B-2 VISAS TO THE COL AND HIS FAMILY. CASTRO INFORMED US THAT IF THE RIGHTIST ELEMENT APPEARS TO BE TAKING OVER, LOPEZ-NUILA WOULD LEAVE EL SALVADOR AND STAY IN THE U.S. AND LOPEZ-NUILA WANTED THEIR VISAS JUST IN CASE. ACCORDING TO CASTRO, LOPEZ-NUILA VIEWS THE PONCE APPOINTMENT AS CHIEF OF TRANSIT AS AN ATTEMPT TO PUT D'AUBUISSON SUPPORTERS IN INFLUENTIAL POSITIONS. CASTRO BELIEVES ALL THE NATIONAL POLICE SUBDIRECTORS ARE NOW D'AUBUISSON SUPPORTERS.

7. CASTRO INDICATED LOPEZ-NUILA HAD AN OUTSIDE SHOT AT THE DEFENSE MINISTER POSITION SHOULD GARCIA RESIGN.
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