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RELEASE IN FULL

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ACTION ARA-16

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 AID-07 INR-10 SS-15 OIC-02 CIAE-00  
H-01 IO-15 NSC-05 NSAE-00 SY-05 HA-06 L-03  
PM-09 PA-02 MCT-02 ICAE-00 SP-02 SPRS-02 /103 W  
-----174772 230513Z /17

R 220112Z OCT 81  
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6198  
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA  
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA  
AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE  
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA  
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PAN/INTAFF  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 SAN SALVADOR 7977

E.O. 12065: NA/A  
TAGS: PINS, PINT, ES  
SUBJECT: VIOLENCE WEEK IN REVIEW OCTOBER 10-16

REF: SAN SALVADOR 7731

1. SUMMARY: REPORTED POLITICAL MURDERS FOR THE WEEK ON QUESTION REGISTERED A SLIGHT GAIN (74 UP FROM 66). SOME IMPROVEMENT CAN BE SEEN ON THE FACT THAT FOR EACH OF THE LAST SEVEN WEEKS REPORTED DEATHS WERE BELOW 100. TERRORIST INCIDENTS APPEARED TO FOLLOW THE USUAL AIMLESS COURSE WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE DESTRUCTION OF ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL BRIDGES LINKING EASTERN AND WESTERN EL SALVADOR (REPORTED SEPTEL). END SUMMARY.

2. DEATHS AND DISSAPEARANCES: AN APPROXIMATE TOTAL OF UNCLASSIFIED

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74 PERSONS FELL VICTIM TO POLITICAL MURDER LAST WEEK. THE PRESS ATTRIBUTED SEVEN MURDERS TO LEFTIST TERRORIST AND ONE TO THE SECURITY FORCES. THE REMAINING 66 VICTIMS MET DEATH AT THE HANDS OF UNKNOWN ASSAILANTS. THE FATE AND THE ABDUCTORS OF THE SIX PERSONS WHOSE DISSAPEARANCE WAS RECORDED ARE ALSO UNKNOWN. THE BOSIES OF THE 74 VICTIMS OF POLITICAL MURDERS WERE DISCOVERED IN THE FOLLOWING DEPARTMENTS:

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Alan Flanigan, Senior Reviewer

SAN SALVADOR (CITY) 31

SAN SALVADOR (DEPARTMENT)	7
SANTA ANA	14
SAN MIGUEL	11
LA LIBERTAD	1
AHUCHAPAN	1
USULUTAN	1
SAN VICENTE	7
LA UNION	1
TOTAL	74

A BREAKDOWN OF THE VICTIMS BY AGE GROUPINGS IS AS FOLLOWS:

A. AGE 17 AND UNDER	1
B. AGES 18-25	24
C. AGES 26-35	14
D. AGES 46-50	12
E. AGES 51 AND UP	5
F. UNKNOWN	18
G. TOTAL	74

A BREAKDOWN OF THE DEAD ACCORDING TO OCCUPATION PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING STATISTICS:

3 MERCHANTS	1 CARPENTER
3 STUDENTS	2 MASONS
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3 MECHANICS	1 EMPLOYEE
3 CIVIL GUARDMEN	1 AGRARIAN REFORM WORKER
10 CAMPESINOS	45 UNKNOWN
1 FARMER	
1 LOTTERY MANAGER	74 TOTAL

3. INCIDENTS:

- A.--ON 10/11 IN SAN SALVADOR, GROUPS OF ARMED MEN FIRED ON THE NATIONAL POLICE HEADQUARTERS. NO CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED FROM THE RESULTING EXCAHNGE OF FIRE.
- B. --ON 10/12 IN SAN MIGUEL, A GROUP OF GUERRILLAS AMBUSHED A NATIONAL GUARD PATROL. CASUALTIES WERE UNREPORTED.
- C. --ON 10/12 IN SAN SALVADOR, A SKIRMISH BETWEEN SOLDIERS AND GUERRILLAS LEFT ONE PASSENGER-BY DEAD IN THE CROSS FIRE.
- D. --ON 10/12 IN SANTA ANA, A BOMB WAS DETONATED AT THE MILK COPERATIVE CAUSING HEAVY DAMAGE.
- E.--ON 10/12 NEAR SAN NICOLAS LEMPA, USULUTAN, A LARGE NUMBER

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OF GUERRILLAS ATTACKED SECURITY POSITIONS AROUND THE  
"PUENTE DEORO" BRIDGE WITH THE APPARENT INTENT OF DES-  
TROYING THE STRUCTURE. GOVERNMENT REPULSE OF THE ATTACK  
RESULTED IN AN UNDETERMINED NUMBER OF CASUALTIES.

F.--ON 10/13 IN SANTA ANA, A BOMB DESTROYED AN ELECTRICAL  
GOODS STORE.

G.--ON 10/Q3 IN HE CAPITAL SUBURB OF MEJICANOS, TWO  
BOMBS WERE TROWN AT AN UNSPECIFIED SMALL BUSINESS, WOUNDING  
TWO WOMEN.

H.--ON 10/14 NEAR SAN SEBASTIAN, SAN VICENTE AN ELECTRICAL  
TOWER WAS DESTROYED BY DINAMYTE, CUTTING SERVICE TO MOST  
OF SAN VICENTE DEPARTMENT.

I.--ON 10/14 IN SAN SEBASTIAN SAN VICENTE SUBVERSIVES  
PLANTED BOMBS IN TWO FOOTWEAR STORES. IN THE RESULTING  
CONFUSION, THE TERRORIST INVADED THE PROPERTIES AND STOLE  
A LARGE QUANTITY OF SHOES.

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J. --ON 10/14 IN SANTA ANA, A FIREFIGHT BETWEEN TROOPS AND GUERRILLAS WAS REPORTED. NO CASUALTIES FIGURES WERE RELEASED.

K. --ON 10/14 NEAR THE PUENTE DE ORO BRIDGE, USULUTAN, TERRORIST MACHINES-GUNNED A BUS, WOUNDING TWO PASSENGERS.

L.--ON 10/14 THE TOWN OF VILLA DOLORES, CABANAS WAS ATTACKED BY STRONGLY ARMED TERRORIST. 9)834 -,D CIVIL GUARDSMEN REPULSED THE ATTACK. THERE WERE NO REPORTS OF CASUALTIES.

M. ON 10/14 NEAR CANTON SAN ANTONIO, SAN VICENTE GUERRILLAS EXPLODED A BOMB UNDER A TRUCK TRANSPORTING PATRULLEROS. ONE PATRULLERO WAS KILLED AND SIX WERE WOUNDED.

N.--ON 10/15 IN USULUTAN DEPARTMENT, THE PUENTE DE ORO BRIDGE WAS DESTROYED BY TERRORIST. (REPORTED SEPTEL).

O.--ON 10/15 THE TOWN OF ANAMOROS, LA UNION SUFFERED A TWO-HOUR ATTACK AT THE HANDS OF GUERRILLAS. AN UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN BYSTANDER WAS REPORTED KILLED.

P.--ON 10/15 NEAR EL DIVISADERO, SAN MIGUEL TERRORIST ATTEMPTED TO STOP A BUS ON WHICH SOLDIERS WERE TRAVELLING AS PASSENGERS. IN THE RESULTING FIREFIGHT ONE PASSENGER DIED AND THREE WERE WOUNDED.

Q.--ON 10/16 NEAR ZACATECOLUCA, LA PAZ GUERRILLAS BOMBED AND MACHINE-GUNNED A MINI-BUS LEAVING ONE PASSENGER DEAD AND TWO WOUNDED.

4. CREDIT AND BLAME: THE CLANDESTINE RADIO VENCEREMOS CLAIMED CREDIT FOR ONE ACTIVITY REPORTED LAST WEEK (ITEM H, REFTEL). ADDITIONAL ACTIONS CLAIMED FOR THIS WEEK WERE:

--A 10/7 ATTACK OF THE TOWN OF JOATECA, MORAZAN IN WHICH TWO SOLDIERS RESULTED KILLED.

--A 10/7 ENGAGEMENT WITH GOVERNMENT TROOPS NEAR JUCUARAN, USULUTAN WHICH RESULTED IN EIGHT SOLDIERS AND ONE GUERRILLA BEING KILLED.

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--THE 10/6 BURNING OF VEHICLE ON THE ROAD TO SAN MIGUEL.

--THE 10/8 PLACEMENTS OF BARRICADES AT TWO PLACES ON THE COAST HIGHWAY IN SAN MIGUEL. BOOBY TRAPS WERE DETONATED AT BOTH SITES WHEN GOVERNMENT FORCES ARRIVED TO DISMANTLED THE OBSTRUCTIONS. CASUALTIES WERE UNSPECIFIED.  
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