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TO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PHUM, ES
SUBJECT: FOLLOU-UP ON ARCATAO ALLEGATIONS

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Oscar Olson, Senior
Reviewer

REF: SAN SALVADOR 6511

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. THE ALLEGATIONS EXPECTED FROM TUTELA LEGAL REGARDING INCIDENTS AT ARCATAO (REFTEL) NEED ADDITIONAL FOLLOW-UP. ALTHOUGH WE ARE SKEPTICAL OF THE CHARGES, ELEMENTS OF THE STORY (FOR EXAMPLE, THE REFERENCES TO CIVIC ACTION AND TO INSURGENT MURDERS IN NEIGHBORING VILLAGES) LEND IT SOME CREDENCE. IN ANY EVENT, THE ALLEGATION OF A MASSACRE, THE FIRST IN A LONG TIME, DESERVES FULL INVESTIGATION. PLEASE APPROACH MEMBERS OF THE UNIT IN QUESTION AS WELL AS ANY OTHERS WHO MIGHT SHED LIGHT ON THESE ALLEGATIONS AND REPORT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

3. THANKS FOR YOUR RAPID TURN-AROUND ON ALL THE CASES RELATING TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY ABRAMS' TESTIMONY. WE IMAGINE THAT THE NETWORK WILL FIND A WAY TO INCLUDE THIS
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ONE IN THE HEARING, WHETHER TL'S REPORT IS COMPLETED OR NOT. SHULTZ

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