

RELEASE IN FULL

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ACTION ARA-16

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05
NSAE-00 HA-06 PM-09 PA-01 ICAE-00 SP-02 SPRS-02
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R 102003Z NOV 81
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6550

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 8600

E. O. 12065: GDS 11/10/87 (HINTON, DEANE R.) OR-M
TAGS: PINS, PINT, SHUM, ES
SUBJ: THE PRESS AND RIVERA Y DAMAS

1. (C-ENTIRE TEXT.)

2. BEFORE LUNCH AT NUNCIATURA NOVEMBER 9 I MENTIONED TO BISHOP RIVERA Y DAMAS MY BELIEF THAT HE WAS BEING EXPLOITED BY INTERNATIONAL PRESS AND THAT IN TURN RADIO HAVANA AND OTHERS WERE FURTHER MAGNIFYING HIS REMARKS TO GAIN PROPAGANDA IMPACT. I COMPLIMENTED HIM ON HIS BALANCED PRESENTATIONS IN HIS PREPARED SUNDAY HOMILIES AND ADDED THAT MOST OF THE DAMAGE SEEMED TO BE COMING FROM HIS OFF-THE-CUFF SUBSEQUENT RESPONSES TO NEWSMEN'S QUESTIONS. I SUGGESTED THAT HE MIGHT WISH IN FUTURE TO DECLINE TO ANSWER SUCH QUESTIONS AND OFFERED TO PROVIDE HIM ILLUSTRATIVE DOCUMENTATION OF WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED IN PRESS EXPLOITATION OF ONE OF HIS IMPROMPTU ANSWERS. (I HAVE NOW SENT HIM RADIO HAVANA'S COMMENTS ON HIS REMARKS ABOUT ALLEGED ARMY ATROCITIES IN USULUTAN.)

3. AS I TOOK MY LEAVE AFTER LUNCH HE SAID TO ME HE HAD BEEN PONDERING MY OBSERVATION AND HE THOUGHT HE MIGHT JUST TRY TO FOLLOW MY ADVICE. WE WILL SEE WHAT
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HAPPENS.
HINTON

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Alan Flanigan,
Senior Reviewer

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