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DIST: 13 JANUARY 1983
COUNTRY: EL SALVADOR

SUBJECT: COMMENTS OF SENIOR SALVADORAN ARMED FORCES OFFICERS TO
PRESIDENT OF EL SALVADOR CONCERNING RESOLUTION OF
OCHOA AFFAIR.

DOI: [REDACTED]

SOURCE: [REDACTED]

TEXT: 1. ON 12 JANUARY 1983, TWO SENIOR SALVADORAN MILITARY
OFFICERS MET PRIVATELY WITH PRESIDENT ALVARO ((MAGANA))
TO DISCUSS THE RESOLUTION OF THE REBELLION OF LTC. SIGIFREDDO
((OCHOA)) PEREZ, CABANAS DEPARTMENTAL COMMANDER. THE TWO OFFICERS,
COL. ADOLFO O. ((BLANDON)), COMMANDER OF THE 1ST INFANTRY
BRIGADE, AND COL. JUAN RAFAEL ((BUSTILLO)), COMMANDER OF THE
AIR FORCE, ASKED THE PRESIDENT TO PERSONALLY GUARANTEE THAT
MINISTER OF DEFENSE, GENERAL JOSE GUILLERMO ((GARCIA)), WOULD
RESIGN HIS POSITION WITHIN 60 DAYS. THE TWO OFFICERS WARNED
THE PRESIDENT THAT IF GARCIA DID NOT LEAVE OFFICE WITHIN THAT
TIME, THE 1ST INFANTRY BRIGADE AND THE AIR FORCE WOULD STAGE A
REBELLION SIMILAR TO THAT ORCHESTRATED BY OCHOA. THE PRESIDENT
INFORMED THE TWO OFFICERS THAT THEY HAD HIS WORD THAT GARCIA
WOULD LEAVE WITHIN THE REQUIRED TIME.

[REDACTED] COL. RAFAEL FLORES LINA, CHIEF OF STAFF, CONSIDERS
THAT GARCIA MAY ATTEMPT TO REMAIN IN OFFICE DESPITE HIS AGREEMENT
TO RESIGN.)

2. ON 11 JANUARY 1983, DURING A CONFERENCE OF FIELD
COMMANDERS HELD TO DISCUSS THE OCHOA REBELLION, THE FIELD
COMMANDERS UNANIMOUSLY STATED THEIR SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT MAGANA
AND PLEDGED TO GIVE CONTINUED SUPPORT TO THE NATIONAL REFORMS

AND TO THE DEMOCRATIZATION OF THE COUNTRY. ADDITIONALLY, THESE
OFFICERS AGREED THAT THE ARMED FORCES' PROCLAMATION OF
OCTOBER 1979 CONTINUES IN EFFECT.

[REDACTED]

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