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ACTION ARA-15INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 CIAE-00 H-01 ICAE-00 INR-10 INRE-00
L-03 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 PA-01 PM-05 SP-02 SS-15
SY-05 SYE-00 DCT-02 HA-05 EUR-12 TRSE-00 SSO-00
/077 W

-----004365 142217Z /70-60

O R 141930Z JUL 80
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9502
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY SANJOSE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PN
DIA WASHDC**RELEASE IN FULL**

CONFIDENTIAL SAN SALVADOR 4878

E.O. 12065: GDS 7/14/86 (BARTLETT, SAMUEL B) OR-P
TAGS: PINS PINT ES CS
SUBJ: (U) COSTA RICAN EMBASSY TAKEOVER: STATUS MORNING JULY 14

1. (C) ACCORDING TO NATIONAL POLICE CHIEF, COL. CARLOS REYNALDO LOPEZ NUILA, ALL COSTA RICANS HAVE LEFT THE EMBASSY. HE CONFIRMED MEDIA REPORTS THAT COSTA RICAN AMBASSADOR ALVARADO PIZA HAD RETURNED TO COSTA RICA DURING THE WEEKEND FOR CONSULTATIONS. HE SAID THAT LP-28 LEADERS AMONG THE OCCUPIERS ARE CONDUCTING ON-GOING DISCUSSIONS WITH SEVERAL FOREIGN EMBASSIES HERE. COMMENT: THESE EMBASSIES INCLUDE THOSE OF SPAIN, VENEZUELA, MEXICO, ITALY, AND PANAMA, AS WELL AS THE APOSTOLIC NUNCIO. END COMMENT. LOPEZ NUILA TOLD MILGP COMMANDER THAT HIS POLICE HAVE PULLED BACK ENTIRELY FROM THE EMBASSY AND THAT ANYONE WISHING TO LEAVE MAY DO SO AT ANY TIME.

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2. (U) ACCORDING TO MEDIA REPORTS DURING THE WEEKEND, CONDITIONS AT THE EMBASSY ARE APPALLING DESPITE THE EFFORTS OF THE RED CROSS TO PROVIDE FOOD AND OTHER ASSISTANCE. THE LARGE MAJORITY OF OCCUPIERS APPARENTLY ARE CAMPESINOS (MANY OF THEM CHILDREN), SOME OF WHOM APPEAR TO BE BEWILDERED BY THE ENTIRE SITUATION.

3. (C) COMMENT: TO DATE AT LEAST, IT APPEARS THAT THE GOES IS HANDLING THE INCIDENT IN A RESTRAINED AND INTELLIGENT MANNER. DESPITE THE KILLING OF A POLICE

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Leonard Kusnitz, Senior Reviewer~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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GUARD DURING THE TAKEOVER JULY 11, SECURITY FORCES
HAVE NOT ATTEMPTED TO FORCE THE ISSUE AND,
ACCORDING
TO LOPEZ NUILA, HAVE PULLED AWAY FROM THE EMBASSY
PREMISES ENTIRELY. MOREOVER, GOES PROFESSED WILLINGNESS
TO LET ANYONE LEAVE AT ANY TIME PRESENTS AN IMAGE OF
REASONABLENESS WHICH TENDS TO DISCREDIT OCCUPIERS'
CLAIMS OF IMMEDIATE THREAT. MOREOVER, GOVERNMENT'S REASONABLE
STANCE CONTRASTS SHARPLY WITH FACT THAT MANY OCCUPIERS ARE SIMPLY
CAMPESINOS BEING USED BY LP-28 ACTIVISTS.
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