

~~SECRET//NF~~

ENVELOPE

(b)(3):10 USC 424; (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

HEADER

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290050Z JUN 82
FM SSO DIA

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(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

CONTROLS

~~SECRET~~ (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)
NOFORN

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(b)(3):10 USC 424; (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

DLADIN 179-5B (AS OF: 1948 EDT 28 JUN 82)

BODY

SUBJ: DIA DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE NOTICE (DIN)

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EL SALVADOR: OPERATION RESCATE UPDATE. (U)

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1. (~~C/NOFORN~~) SALVADORAN FORCES RETOOK PERQUIN AND SAN FERNANDO ON 24 JUNE. GUERRILLA RESISTANCE SINCE THE 23D WAS REPORTED AS MINIMAL, REFLECTING AN INTENT TO WITHDRAW AS PREVIOUSLY BROADCAST ON INSURGENT RADIO VENCEREMOS. ALTHOUGH THERE ARE NO OFFICIAL FIGURES FOR INSURGENT CASUALTIES YET, (b)(1); Sec. 1.4(c) ITS CUMULATIVE LOSSES AS 8 KILLED, 136 WOUNDED, AND 59 MISSING. WHILE GOVERNMENT LOSSES ARE PROBABLY SLIGHTLY HIGHER THAN REPORTED, GUERRILLA PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS CLAIMING 550 ARE CLEARLY EXAGGERATED.

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2. ~~(C//NOFORN)~~ THE GOVERNMENT HAS NOT STOPPED ITS DRIVE AT PERQUIN.

THE AREA TO THE NORTH, KNOWN AS A BORDER POCKET OR BOLSON, IS CLAIMED BY BOTH EL SALVADOR AND HONDURAS AS A RESULT OF THEIR 1969 WAR. BY TREATY, MILITARY FORCES OTHER THAN SMALL PATROLS ARE PROHIBITED THERE, RESULTING IN A VIRTUAL GUERRILLA HAVEN. NOW, BY COMMON AGREEMENT BOTH COUNTRIES HAVE DEPLOYED MAJOR FORCES INTO THE

BOLSON, MARKING THEIR FIRST COMBINED OPERATION AGAINST THE INSURGENTS. SALVADORAN FORCES ARE MOVING AGAINST LAS TROJAS, LONG SUSPECTED OF BEING THE MAJOR INSURGENT BASE IN THE AREA, USING THE ATACATL AND BELLOSO BATTALIONS. THE ATONAL AND CUSCATLAN BATTALIONS ARE PROBABLY THE OPERATION'S RESERVE.

3. ~~(C//NOFORN)~~ AS PART OF THE COORDINATED MILITARY OPERATION, HONDURAS HAS DEPLOYED THE 10TH AND 5TH INFANTRY BATTALIONS TO BLOCKING POSITIONS ON THE NORTHERN EDGE OF THE BOLSON NEAR PERQUIN.

THE 10TH, CONSIDERED ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE IN THE HONDURAN ARMY, NORMALLY HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR SECURING THE SAME BORDER SECTOR. THE 5TH HAD RECENTLY BEEN PREPARING FOR DEPLOYMENT TO HONDURAS' EASTERN BORDER AREA WITH NICARAGUA.

4. ~~(C//NOFORN)~~ HONDURAN MILITARY OFFICIALS ARE ANXIOUS TO CONFRONT

THE LEFTISTS ALLEGEDLY ENTRENCHED IN THE VICINITY OF LAS TROJAS. PART OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SALVADORAN AND HONDURAN MILITARY MAY HAVE INCLUDED AUTHORITY FOR THE HONDURANS TO SWEEP CERTAIN SECTORS OF THE BOLSON, WITH THE SALVADORANS IN TURN ACTING AS BLOCKING FORCES. HONDURAS SEEMS FULLY COMMITTED WITH TWO ADDITIONAL BATTALIONS ON ALERT FOR DEPLOYMENT TO THE AREA IF NECESSARY. THE AIR FORCE IS ALSO PREPARED TO ASSIST IN ANY TRANSPORT OR GROUND SUPPORT ROLE.

(b)(1); (b)(3); 50 USC 3024(i); Sec. 1.4(c); Sec. 1.4(d)

PREPARED BY: (b)(3); 40 USC 424; (b)(3); 50 USC 3024(i); (b)(6)

(b)(3); 50 USC 3024(i); (b)(6)

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ADMIN

(REVW 28 JUN 12)

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