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**ENVELOPE**

OTTCZYUW RUEKJCS9829 3371915-CCCC--RUCDGDA.

ZNY CCCCC

**HEADER**

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031915Z DEC 82

FM JCS WASHINGTON DC

INFO RUCIFBA/MACOS INTEL CENTER SCOTT AFB IL//INW/INZ//  
 RUEOAYB/FSTC INTEL OPS CHARLOTTESVILLE VA  
 RUCDGDA/CDRMICOM REDSTONE ARS AL//DRSMI-Y//

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031907Z DEC 82

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3055

RUESJO/AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE 3532

INFO RUEKJCS/DOD WASHDC

RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC

RULPALJ/USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PN

BT

**CONTROLS**

C O N F I D E N T I A L

SAN SALVADOR 09829

SAN JOSE FOR HINTON AND ENDERS

E. O. 12356 DECL OADR

**BODY**

TAGS MILI, MASS, PINS, PINT, ES  
 SUBJECT EL SALVADOR UPDATE--MILITARY SITUATION AS OF  
 - MORNING DECEMBER 3

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT.)

2. SUMMARY A 14-COMPANY OPERATION, INCLUDING ATONAL  
 AND ATACATAL BATTALIONS CONTINUES IN NORTHERN LA UNION  
 AND AS OF MORNING DECEMBER 3, 1982, LISLIQUE, NUEVA  
 ESPARTA, AND POLOROS ARE BACK UNDER GOES CONTROL. FIVE  
 TOWNS REMAIN UNDER SUBVERSIVE CONTROL. THE COMMITTED  
 FORCES WILL NOW ATTEMPT TO RETAKE CORINTO IN NORTH-  
 EASTERN MORAZAN. 4TH BDE IS CONDUCTING A SMALL OPERATION

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NEAR SAN FRANCISCO MORAZAN WITH A REINFORCED COMPANY. ELSEWHERE, MILITARY ACTIVITY IS LIGHT AND GUERRILLA ACTIVITY CHARACTERIZED PRINCIPALLY BY BURNING VEHICLES AND DESTROYING ELECTRICAL TOWERS. ARMED FORCES STRATEGY IN THE EAST HAS BEEN TO LIMIT GUERRILLA HELD AREAS TO NORTHERN MORAZAN, RESPOND WITH A MODERATE-SIZED FORCE TO HALT EXPANSION OF THIS GUERRILLA CONTROLLED AREA, WHILE MAINTAINING THE MAJORITY OF THE FORCES TO PROTECT ECONOMICALLY IMPORTANT AREAS OF THE COUNTRY. THIS MAY CHANGE WITH MOD GARCIA'S ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO EXPAND THE WAR EFFORT. END SUMMARY.

3. ACCORDING TO STATUS REPORTS PROVIDED TO THE AFGS, THE FOUR TOWNS SEIZED LAST WEEK BY GUERRILLAS IN NORTHERN LA UNION (ANAMOROS, LISLIQUE, NUEVA ESPARTA, AND POLOROS) HAVE BEEN RETAKEN AND ARE NOW UNDER GOES CONTROL. THE PRIMARY FOCUS OF THE 14-COMPANY OPERATION UNDERWAY IN THIS AREA WILL SHIFT TO THE RETAKING OF CORINTO FROM WHICH THE RECENT GUERRILLA OFFENSIVE IN THIS AREA WAS LAUNCHED. ESAF PLANS BEYOND THIS OBJECTIVE ARE UNCERTAIN BUT MIGHT POSSIBLY BE DIRECTED TOWARD RETAKING THE FIVE TOWNS IN NORTHERN MORAZAN THAT REMAIN, AT LEAST NOMINALLY, UNDER GUERRILLA CONTROL.

4. THE ONLY OTHER SIGNIFICANT MILITARY ACTIVITY CURRENTLY UNDERWAY IS A REINFORCED COMPANY (9 OFFICERS, 249 SOLDIERS) OPERATION IN THE 4TH BDE AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY NEAR SAN FRANCISCO MORAZAN. THE ACTION IS BELIEVED TO BE A SMALL-SCALE SWEEP AND CLEAR OPERATION.

5. ELSEWHERE THERE HAS BEEN ONLY LIGHT MILITARY/GUERRILLA ACTIVITY. MIL DET 2 SOLDIERS HAD A MEETING ENGAGEMENT WITH GUERRILLAS ON DECEMBER 1, 1982 NEAR CINQUERA SUFFERING ONE WIA WHILE KILLING THREE AND WOUNDING ONE GUERRILLA.

6. GUERRILLA ACTIVITY OVER THE PAST FEW DAYS HAS BEEN CHARACTERIZED BY BRIEF ATTACKS BY FIRE ON SEVERAL SMALL VILLAGES IN CUSCATLAN AND SAN VICENTE DEPARTMENTS. SEVERAL ELECTRICAL TOWERS WERE DESTROYED IN CUSCATLAN AND LA PAZ DEPARTMENTS.

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59003\$ -, \$/OR BURNED IN SANTA ANA, USULUTAN AND SAN SALVADOR DEPARTMENTS.

7. COMMENTS ESAF STRATEGY OVER THE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS HAS FOLLOWED TWO IMPERATIVES PROTECT KEY ECONOMIC AREAS DURING THE IMPORTANT HARVEST PERIOD WHILE RESPONDING, WHEN DEEMED APPROPRIATE, TO GUERRILLA INITIATIVES. THE RECENT MAJOR OPERATION IN CHALATENANGO WAS DESIGNED TO DEMONSTRATE ARMED FORCES RESOLVE TO RESPOND AT THE TIME OF THEIR CHOOSING TO GUERRILLA INITIATIVES. THE SMALLER-SCALE OPERATION IN LA UNION IS IN RESPONSE TO

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ESAF FEARS OF GUERRILLA ATTEMPTS TO CONTROL LARGE AREAS IN THE EAST AND DECLARE A LIBERATED ZONE THERE. MOD GENERAL GARCIA INDICATED THAT CURRENT ESAF MILITARY INITIATIVES MAY CONTINUE OR BE STEPPED-UP WHEN AT A PRESS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY (DECEMBER 2, 1982) HE STATED THAT "FROM THIS POINT FORWARD WE ARE GOING TO DEMONSTRATE THE TRUE CAPABILITIES OF THE ARMED FORCES." IF TRUE, THE COMMITMENT OF LARGE NUMBERS OF TROOPS, PERHAPS IN NORTHERN MORAZAN, WILL SHOW ARMED FORCES RESOLVE, BUT AT THE EXPENSE OF INCREASING THE VULNERABILITY OF THE KEY ECONOMIC AREAS TO GUERRILLA INTERDIC TION.  
BLEAKLEY

**ADMIN**

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