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CDSN = LGX453 MCN = 90225/29886 TOR = 902252229

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DTG:

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FROM

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CONTROLS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 01 OF 02 SAN SALVADOR

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CITE: (U)

SERIAL: (U)

DECLASSIFIED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE
INTERAGENCY SECURITY CLASSIFICATION APPEALS PANEL,
E.O. 13526, SECTION 5.3(b)(3)

ISCAP APPEAL NO. 2012-010, document no. 4

DECLASSIFICATION DATE: July 10, 2018

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY

COUNTRY: (U) EL SALVADOR (ES).

SUBJ: 1340 ATLACATL EMPHASIZES HUMAN
RIGHTS (U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT
FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED

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- DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U)

REQS: (U)

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under statutory authority
of the Department of Defense,
10 USC § 424

SUMMARY: (S/NF) THE
NEW ESAF SOP ON HUMAN RIGHTS WAS
ELABORATED ON EXTENSIVELY BY EXECUTIVE OFFICER

TEXT: 1. (S/NF)

GIVEN TO APPROXIMATELY 20 LEADERS OF FOUR
COMPANIES LESS THAN TWO HOURS BEFORE THEIR DEPARTURE FOR
OPERATIONS IN AND AROUND THE SAN SALVADOR AREA,

ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING THE
RECENTLY SIGNED HUMAN RIGHTS ACCORD BETWEEN THE GOES AND
THE FMLN. THIS WAS REINFORCED BY THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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[REDACTED] THE POLITICAL CLIMATE AND THE NEED TO BE TOTALLY PROFESSIONAL IN ALL ACTIONS. [REDACTED] --THE REPUTATION OF THE ATACATL AS A PROFESSIONAL UNIT WAS DESTROYED AS A RESULT OF THE JESUIT CASE. THE UNIT HAS A STRONG DESIRE TO REASSERT ITS DISTINCTIVE MARK AS TOUGH, FIGHTING OUTFIT.)

2. (C/NF) THE ATMOSPHERE THAT SURROUNDED [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE OPERATIONAL DISCUSSION THAT FOLLOWED WAS IMPRESSIVE. THERE WAS A PROFESSIONAL, ALMOST BUSINESSLIKE DISCUSSION OF THE SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE OPERATIONS. KEY POINTS FOCUSED ON--

--RESUPPLY ROUTES AND THE PRECAUTIONS NEEDED TO FOIL POTENTIAL FMLN ATTACKS.

--MEANS TO AVOID BEING COMPARTMENTALIZED BY THE TERRAIN AND ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN TO MINIMIZE EXPOSURE DURING MOVEMENT.

[REDACTED]

--SPECIAL TROOP IDENTIFICATION METHODS TO INCLUDE UNIT PATCHES AND SPECIAL BANDANAS ISSUED FOR THIS OPERATION.
--THE TREATMENT OF POW'S, ENEMY WOUNDED AND SUSPECTED GUERRILLAS.

--THE FACT THAT THE ASSIGNED AREA OF OPERATIONS INCLUDED A NUMBER OF COFFEE FINCAS. THE SOIL IN THE COFFEE FINCAS IS PARTICULARLY SUITED FOR PLANTING AND CAMOUFLAGING ANTIPERSONNEL MINES. THIS DISCUSSION OF MINES WAS HIGHLIGHTED BY SHARP EXCHANGES BETWEEN MANY OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT. SEVERAL OFFICERS REFERRED TO THEIR PAST EXPERIENCES, ESPECIALLY IN THEIR RECENTLY CONCLUDED OPERATIONS IN GUAZAPA. THIS EXCHANGE, AND THE OPEN AND VERY PROFESSIONAL DISCUSSION OF THE TACTICAL SITUATION, WAS PUNCTUATED BY THE COMMENTS OF [REDACTED] SAFETY, SECURITY, AND STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH OPERATIONAL ORDERS.

COMMENTS: 1. (C/NF) [REDACTED] THE ATACATL IS CERTAINLY ATTEMPTING TO IMPLEMENT THE NEW HUMAN RIGHTS DIRECTIVES. THEY COULD NOT HAVE PUT MORE EMPHASIS ON THE PROPER TREATMENT OF POW'S, WOUNDED, AND SUSPECTED GUERRILLAS. THE LEADERS, THOUGH, CERTAINLY DON'T WANT A TIMID UNIT OPERATING IN THE FIELD. WHEN THERE ARE

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IDENTIFIED FMLN TARGETS, [] NO DOUBT THE ATLACATL
WILL AGGRESSIVELY PURSUE THEM.

2. (C/NF) [] PRESENCE IN THE BRIEFINGS AND
DISCUSSIONS AFTERWARDS INDICATED THAT HE IS CONCERNED
AND KNOWLEDGABLE OF THE CURRENT SITUATION. [] A
VERY POSITIVE RELATIONSHIP PRESENT BETWEEN THE EXECUTIVE
AND THE OFFICERS OF ATLACATL.

3. (C/NF) [] COMMENTS. OUR CONCERNS THAT []

[]
[] APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN UNFOUNDED. WHEN []
[] HE TOOK WITH HIM SOME OF
THE OFFICERS THAT WERE APPREHENSIVE ABOUT []

[] IN THE FEW WEEKS THAT [] HAS BEEN IN THE
UNIT, HE HAS BEEN ABLE TO GAIN THE RESPECT AND SUPPORT
OF MOST OF THE UNIT OFFICERS BECAUSE OF HIS PERSONAL
AND PROFESSIONAL INTERACTION WITH THEM.

//IPSP: (U) PG 1100//.

//COMSOBJ: (U) 111//.

ADMIN

PROJ: (U) []

INSTR: (U) []

PREP: (U) []

ACQ: (U) EL SALVADOR []

DISSEM: (U) [] AMEMBASSY EL SALVADOR.

WARNING: (U) REPORT CLASSIFIED ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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DECL: OADR

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