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Intelligence Information Cable IN 2041887A

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STATE/INR JCS/MC(DIA) [redacted]
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REPORT CLASS SECRET--~~NOINTEL~~--~~NOFORN~~-- [redacted]

25X1, E.O.13526

DIST 24 FEB 79

COUNTRY: MEXICO

SUBJECT: WEAKENING OF THE POSITION OF FOREIGN MINISTER SANTIAGO ROEL GARCIA AS A RESULT OF MEXICO'S FAILURE TO REACH A NATURAL GAS SALE AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S. DURING THE VISIT OF U.S. PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER TO MEXICO

[redacted]
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1.

THE POLITICAL

POSITION OF SANTIAGO R O E L GARCIA, SECRETARY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS, HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLY WEAKENED DUE TO THE FAILURE OF THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO TO REACH AN ACCORD ON THE SALE OF MEXICAN NATURAL GAS TO THE U.S. DURING THE 14-16 FEBRUARY VISIT OF U.S. PRESIDENT JIMMY C A R T E R TO MEXICO. ROEL HAD ERRONEOUSLY EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE TO PRESIDENT JOSE L O P E Z P O R T I L L O THAT THE U.S. WOULD STATE ITS READINESS TO ACCEPT A PRICE OF US\$2.60 PER THOUSAND CUBIC FEET AND SOME TYPE

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Withheld under statutory authority of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949 (50 U.S.C., section 3507)

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WARNING NOTICE
INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

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OF PRICE ESCALATOR CLAUSE FOR A LONG-TERM GAS SUPPLY ARRANGEMENT.

[REDACTED]

2. ONE RESULT OF THE WEAKENING OF ROEL'S POSITION MAY BE THE
CANCELLATION OF THE PLAN TO SHIFT RESPONSIBILITY FOR FOREIGN
INVESTMENT POLICY MATTERS TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, WHICH FAVORS
SOME FORM OF LIBERALIZATION OF THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS
GOVERNING FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT IN MEXICO.

[REDACTED]

3. [REDACTED] COMMENT: THE 19 FEBRUARY ISSUE OF THE LEFTIST
WEEKLY NEWS MAGAZINE "PROCESO" FEATURED A SCATHING ATTACK ON
ROEL AND HIS FOREIGN POLICY PROCEDURES, CALLING HIM "IGNORANT,
INEPT AND INCOMERENT." SPECIAL EMPHASIS WAS GIVEN TO HIS
REPORTED MISREPRESENTATION AND MISHANDLING OF MEXICO'S INTERESTS
VIS-A-VIS THE CANTER VISIT.)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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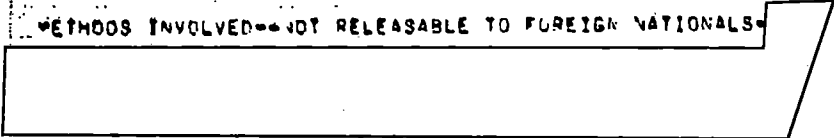
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WARNING NOTICE
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METHODS INVOLVED - NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS



ALL PORTIONS CARRY CLASSIFICATION AND CONTROLS OF OVERALL DOCUMENT.

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