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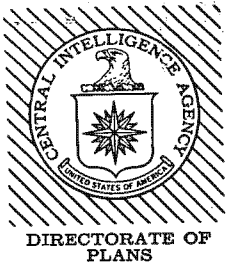
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SECRET

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CITE TDCS - 314/10325-69

COUNTRY: EL SALVADOR/HONDURAS

DOI : 11 JULY 1969

SUBJECT: PLANS OF THE SALVADORAN HIGH COMMAND TO INVADE HONDURAS

ADM. MARKINGS
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6-25-97

ACQ : EL SALVADOR, SAN SALVADOR (11 JULY 1969)

FIELD NO. [] 2273 (S)

SOURCE : A RELIABLE SOURCE FROM []

[] WHO IS CLOSE TO GENERAL JOSE ALBERTO MEDRANO. (S) SALVA dot

1. THERE HAS BEEN NO LESSENING OF PRESSURE FROM THE MAJOR INFLUENCE GROUPS IN EL SALVADOR FOR MILITARY ACTION AGAINST HONDURAS. IN THE FACE OF THIS PRESSURE, SECRET MILITARY PLANS HAVE BEEN DRAWN UP BY THE SALVADORAN ARMED FORCES FOR AN ATTACK. THE FIRST PHASE OF THIS PLAN CALLS FOR AN ATTACK AGAINST NUEVA OCOTEPEQUE (APPROX 7 KMS NORTH OF THE EL POY BORDER POINT) WITH THE LIMITED OBJECTIVE OF SEIZING AND HOLDING THE TOWN. THE SECOND PHASE CALLS FOR MOVING SOME OF THE TROOPS USED IN THE FIRST PHASE PLUS OTHERS, IN AN ATTACK FROM THE EL AMATILLO BORDER ROAD IN THE DIRECTION OF CHOLUTECA, IN ORDER TO OPEN A CORRIDOR TO NICARAGUA. (SOURCE [])

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RE: Antonia Varela
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(See Bufile 752-117290)

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COMMENT: IT IS MOST LIKELY THAT THE FIRST PHASE WILL SUFFICE TO RELEASE ALL THE BUILT-UP TENSIONS AND PRESSURES IN EL SALVADOR. THIS COUPLED WITH IMMEDIATE DIPLOMATIC INTERVENTION BY THE U.S., CENTRAL AMERICAN AND OTHER COUNTRIES WILL PROBABLY SUFFICE TO CANCEL THE PLANNED SECOND PHASE.)

2. THE ATTACK AGAINST NUEVA OCOTEPEQUE HAS BEEN HELD IN ABEYANCE PENDING WORD FROM A SPECIAL GROUP WHICH HAS RAISED MONEY IN PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENT CIRCLES AND GONE TO MIAMI, FLORIDA TO PURCHASE MILITARY EQUIPMENT. MANUEL ARTIME, ^{Cuba} WELL-KNOWN CUBAN EXILE LEADER IS REPORTEDLY ASSISTING THIS GROUP. MEMBERS OF THE MISSION ARE ROBERTO DAGLIO, WEALTHY BUSINESSMAN; ALFONSO CARBONELL, WEALTHY COFFEE GROWER; COL. MARIO GUERRERO, FORMER CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT; MARIO MONTALVO, PRIVATE PILOT; AND VICENTE SANCHEZ, BROTHER OF PRESIDENT FIDEL SANCHEZ HERNANDEZ. THIS GROUP IS ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN PLANES, ANTI-ANTICRAFT WEAPONS AND SMALL ARMS AND MUNITIONS. (SOURCE COMMENT: EVEN IF THIS GROUP FAILS TO BRING BACK ARMS, IT WILL BE ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO STOP A MILITARY ACTION FROM TAKING PLACE. THE BEST HOPE FOR DELAY IS FOR THE GROUP TO RETURN WITH PROMISES OF ARMS WHICH WILL BE DELIVERED LATER. IN THIS WAY PRESIDENT SANCHEZ CAN COUNSEL DELAY UNTIL THE PROMISED ARMS ARRIVE.)

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