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CONTROLS

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 02

CONFIDENTIAL NOFORN

SERIAL: (U) IIR

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

BODY

COUNTRY: (U) GUATEMALA (GT).

SUBJ: IIR UNEASINESS WITHIN GUATEMALAN ARMY

OFFICERS OVER NEW MOD (U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT

FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL-NOFORN.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 930615.

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REQS: (U)

SOURCE: (U

SUMMARY: (C/NF)

UNEASINESS EXISTS THROUGHOUT THE OFFICERS CORPS BECAUSE OF
THE APPOINTMENT OF GENERAL ((PERUSSINA)) AS MOD. SUCH A
NEGATIVE ATTITUDE BY OFFICERS TOWARDS PERUSSINA DOES NOT
BODE WELL FOR HIS FUTURE AS MOD.

TEXT: 1. (C/NF)

THE COUNTRY HAD SUCCESSFULLY SURVIVED THE AUTOGOLPE CRISIS. HIS SATISFACTION WITH THE OUTCOME OF THE CRISIS, ESPECIALLY THE CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OMBUDSMAN, RAMIRO ((DE LEON)) <u>CARPIO</u> AS PRESIDENT. HE WAS SADDENED BY THE RETIREMENT OF THE FORMER MOD, MAJOR GENERAL JOSE DOMINGO ((GARCIA)) SAMAYOA, WHO DESCRIBED AS A VERY FINE DFFICER. HOWEVER, CRITICIZED GARCIA'S ROLE DURING THE JUTOGOLPE, ESPECIALLY HIS SUPPORT TO EX-VICE PRESIDENT ((ESPINA'S)) CLAIM TO THE PRESIDENCY DURING THE SECOND WEEK OF THE CRISIS. GARCIA HAD BEEN . ADLY COUNSELED CONCERNING THE ADVISABILITY OF SUPPORTING ESPINA, AND THAT IN THE END, GENERAL GARCIA "SACRIFICED" HIS CAREER FOR THE INSTITUTION BY PULLING SUPPORT FROM ESPINA, AS HE DID NOT WANT TO SEE THE OFFICER CORPS DIVIDED ANY FURTHER.

- THE OFFICERS CORPS HAD BECOME A "TIME BOMB" DURING THE CRISIS, AS THEY DID NOT SUPPORT THE HIGH COMMAND'S INITIAL POSITION TOWARD THE AUTOGOLPE, NOR DID THEY SUPPORT THE SOLUTION OF ESPINA FOR PRESIDENT. EVEN TODAY, MOST OFFICERS STATIONED OUTSIDE THE CAPITAL ARE UNAWARE OF THE ROLE DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS PLAYED IN CONVINCING THE TOP GENERALS THAT THE COUNTRY HAD TO RETURN IMMEDIATELY TO CONSTITUTIONAL RULE.
- THE ROLE PLAYED BY GENERAL JORGE ROBERTO ((PERUSSINA)) AS AN INITIAL SUPPORTER OF THE AUTOGOLPE, HE TOO SHOULD HAVE LEFT THE ARMY AND GONE INTO RETIREMENT.

 PERUSSINA'S SELECTION AS MOD HAS CAUSED A GENERAL UNEASINESS THROUGHOUT THE OFFICERS CORPS.

 THERE PROBABLY STILL EXISTS A DIVISION WITHIN THE FAMILY OF INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS AS A RESULT OF THE OPPOSING POSITIONS TAKEN BY GENERAL LUIS FRANCISCO ((ORTEGA)) MENALDO AND COLONEL DITO ((PEREZ))

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MOLINA DURING THE CRISIS.

THERE HAD BEEN CERTAIN INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS CARRYING OUT WHAT WERE ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES IN THE NAME OF INTELLIGENCE WHICH HAVE SINCE COME TO A STOP DUE TO THIS SPLIT AMONG THEM.

COMMENTS: (CYNF)

PERUSSINA'S RISE TO MINISTER OF DEFENSE HAS NOT BEEN WELL RECEIVED BY THE OFFICERS CORPS. FOR THE IMAGE OF PERUSSINA THIS IS QUITE A TURNAROUND, FOR BEFORE THE CRISIS, PERUSSINA WAS SEEN BY MOST AS THE NATURAL SUCCESSOR TO GEN GARCIA. THIS NEW AND NEGATIVE ATTITUDE OF THE OFFICERS TOWARD PERUSSINA DOES NOT BODE WELL FOR HIS FUTURE AS MOD, AS IT WILL MAKE IT ALL THE EASIER FOR THE PRESIDENT TO REMOVE HIM WHEN HE WISHES.

//IPSP: (U) PG 2250//.
//COMSOBJ: (U) 431//.

ADMIN

PROJ: (U).

COLL: (U) AH.

INSTR: (U) US

PREP: (U)

ACQ: (U) GUATEMALA, GUATEMALA CITY (930615).

DISSEM: (U) FIELD: EMBASSY AT GUATEMALA CITY.

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