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ENVELOPE
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ZNY ~~88555~~
HEADER
R 240759Z NOV 94



~~SECRET~~ SECTION 01 OF 02 010563

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SERIAL: (U) [REDACTED]

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

ODY
COUNTRY: (U) GUATEMALA (GT).

UBJ: [REDACTED] THE RISING IMPACT OF THE BAMACA CASE ON
THE GUATEMALAN MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT (U)

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

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

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14

REQS: (U) P-AN3-2500-0194; T-3CX-2250-0290.

SUMMARY: ~~(S/NF/WN)~~ AN ORDER HAS BEEN REISSUED DIRECTING THAT ALL INCRIMINATING FILES BE DESTROYED. THE ORDER APPEARED TO BE GENERATED BY THE IMPACT OF THE ((BAMACA)) CASE. OFFICERS ARE CONFUSED AS TO WHY BAMACA IS IMPACTING ON U.S./GUATEMALA RELATIONS.

TEXT: 1. ~~(S/NF/WN)~~ ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] HELD A OFFICERS MEETING [REDACTED] PRINCIPAL TOPICS OF DISCUSSION WERE SOME ISSUES DISCUSSED AT THE PRESIDENTS MEETING [REDACTED] THE EFRAIN ((BAMACA)) CASE AND ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN DURING FUTURE VISITS FROM THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION TO GUATEMALAN MILITARY BASES.

2. ~~(S/NF/WN)~~ DURING THE MEETING, [REDACTED] REPORTED, [REDACTED] WAS ORDERED TO RECHECK HIS FILES FOR ANY INCRIMINATING EVIDENCE, WHETHER IT BE A WRITTEN ORDER OR OTHER INFORMATION WHICH COULD BE USED TO IDENTIFY OR HELP TRACE INDIVIDUALS WHO MIGHT BE VIEWED AS RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ACTIVITY THAT COULD BE DEEMED ILLEGAL IN ANY WAY. IF HE DISCOVERED ANY FILES OF THIS NATURE, [REDACTED] WAS ORDERED TO REMOVE THE MATERIAL FROM HIS FILES AND DESTROY THEM. [REDACTED] CONTINUED THAT THIS ORDER WAS ORIGINALLY GENERATED A YEAR AGO AT THE SENIOR OFFICER LEVEL BY THE NATIONAL DEFENSE STAFF. THE ORDER GIVEN AT THAT TIME DIRECTED THAT ALL COMMANDS DESTROY ANY INFORMATION HELD ON MAGNETIC MEDIUM OR IN PAPER FILES, ANY INFORMATION WHICH COULD COMPROMISE THE SECURITY OR STATUS OF ANY MEMBERS OF THE GUATEMALAN MILITARY.

3. ~~(S/NF/WN)~~ [REDACTED] CONTINUED THAT AT THE SOUTHERN AIR BASE IN RETALHULEU [REDACTED] THIS ACTION HAD ALREADY BEEN CAREFULLY OVERSEEN AND ACCOMPLISHED. IN ADDITION TO REMOVING ALL THE INCRIMINATING FILES, THE FACILITIES THAT WERE USED IN THE EARLY TO MIDDLE 1980'S AS "INTERROGATION" AREAS HAVE BEEN TOTALLY DEMOLISHED AND PITS WHICH EXISTED TO BURY GUERRILLAS IN HAVE BEEN FILLED AND COVERED OVER WITH CEMENT. (CITE [REDACTED] REPORTEDLY, THESE FACILITIES ARE THE DESTROYED BUILDINGS LOCATED DIRECTLY BEHIND THE SMALL STRUCTURE LOCATED DIRECTLY BEHIND THE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWER AT THE SOUTHERN AIR BASE.

4. ~~(S/NF/WN)~~ [REDACTED] STATED THAT THIS REISSUANCE OF THE ORDER

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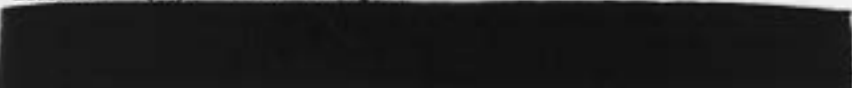
APPEARED TO BE GENERATED BY [REDACTED] THE RISING FEAR OF THE IMPACT OF THE EFRAIN- ((BAMACA)) VEIZSOQUET CASE. IN THAT REGARD, THE MAJORITY OF [REDACTED] OFFICERS ARE CONFUSED OVER WHY THE BAMACA CASE IS HAVING SUCH AN IMPACT ON U.S./GUATEMALA RELATIONS. IN THE MINDS OF THE AVERAGE OFFICER, BAMACA WAS A GUERRILLA AND IF HE DIED AT THE HANDS OF THE ARMY, IT WAS A RESULT OF THE WAR. THERE IS A GREAT FEAR, [REDACTED] CONTINUED, THAT NOT ONLY WILL THE GUATEMALAN MILITARY BEGIN TO FEEL INCREASING PRESSURE BECAUSE OF THE CASE, BUT THERE IS A FEAR AS WELL THAT ECONOMIC SANCTIONS MAY BE USED AGAINST GUATEMALA. IN THAT REGARD, OFFICERS ARE BEGINNING TO QUESTION EXACTLY WHAT IS THE POSITION OF THE UNITED STATES IN THIS CASE.

5. (S/NF/WN) [REDACTED] CONTINUED THAT ORDERS HAVE GONE OUT TO ALL COMMANDS THAT BEFORE ANYONE, TO INCLUDE THE UNITED NATIONS INVESTIGATING COMMISSIONS, COME ONTO A BASE, THEY WILL BE ASKED TO WAIT UNTIL A PREVIOUSLY DESIGNATED SENIOR OFFICER COMES, TO THE ENTRANCE OF THE BASE TO ESCORT THEM INSIDE. THEY WILL THEN BE BROUGHT TO THE COMMANDS VISITOR WAITING AREA AND THE OFFICER WILL DETERMINE EXACTLY WHAT THEIR VISIT WILL ENTAIL. ONCE HE DETERMINES THIS, AND PROVIDES THIS INFORMATION TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER AND THE NATIONAL DEFENSE STAFF, THEY WILL BE INFORMED THAT A JUDGE AND A JUDICIAL ORDER WILL BE REQUIRED BEFORE THEY WILL BE ALLOWED TO SEARCH THE INSTALLATION OR ITS ARCHIVES. EVEN THEN, [REDACTED] CONTINUED, AN UNIDENTIFIED CLAUSE IN THE CONSTITUTION WILL BE USED TO PREVENT THEIR GAINING ACCESS TO CLASSIFIED ARCHIVES.

COMMENTS: (S/NF) [REDACTED] COMMENTS) THE GUATEMALAN MILITARY APPEARS TO HAVE DRAWN A LINE IN THE SAND WITH THEIR STATEMENT THAT THEY NEVER HAD EFRAIN BAMACA. TO ENSURE THAT NO WRITTEN EVIDENCE IS DISCOVERED TO THE CONTRARY, ALL WRITTEN RECORDS CONCERNING THIS CASE AND PROBABLY A THOUSAND OTHERS LIKE IT HAVE, BY NOW, BEEN DESTROYED. THIS ACTION IS A PART OF THE GUATEMALAN MILITARY'S MIND-SET - RIGHT OR WRONG, TAKE A STAND AND NEVER DEVIATE FROM IT. AT STAKE, THEY BELIEVE, IS THE INSTITUTION ITSELF. GIVEN THAT, IT APPEARS THAT THEY WILL RISK ALL TO PROTECT THEIR INSTITUTION AND THOSE WHO SERVE WITHIN IT, OR BETTER OR FOR WORSE.

/IPSP: (U) PG 2500; PG 2250//.
/COMSOBJ: (U) 151; 431//.

ADMIN
PROJ: (U).
INSTR: (U) U.S. NO. [REDACTED]



WARNING: (U) REPORT CLASSIFIED ~~SECRET~~ NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS ~~WARNING NOTICE~~

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~~INTELLIGENCE SOURCES OR METHODS INVOLVED.~~

~~DECL. GADR~~

BT

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