



Central
Intelligence

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

M. S. S. S. S. Election Outlook

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



SNIE 83.1-84

EL SALVADOR:
ELECTION OUTLOOK

Information available as of 2 March 1984 was
used in the preparation of this Estimate.



[REDACTED]

THIS ESTIMATE IS ISSUED BY THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE NATIONAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE BOARD CONCURS.

The following intelligence organizations participated in the preparation of the Estimate:

The Central Intelligence Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency, and the intelligence organization of the Department of State.

Also Participating:

The Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Department of the Army

The Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of the Navy

The Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Air Force

The Director of Intelligence, Headquarters, Marine Corps

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED] D'Aubuisson is exuding confidence at press conferences and political rallies, but it is doubtful that ARENA is significantly stronger than in 1982. Indeed, rather than enhancing its popular mandate on 25 March, ARENA could have problems maintaining its 1982 voting share of 30 percent. Since the Assembly elections, [REDACTED] have suggested that D'Aubuisson has lost favor among some conservative backers because of his inability to control either the provisional government or the armed forces, and because of his ineffectiveness in blocking reform legislation. [REDACTED] has suggested that some followers recruited earlier from more moderate parties may have defected back, perhaps alienated by the political extremism and anti-US sentiment associated with ARENA and, in particular, by D'Aubuisson's notoriety as a sponsor of death squads. The 25 March balloting will see ARENA sharing the conservative vote with at least four other parties, and [REDACTED] its leaders are concerned about their prospects if they face the Christian Democrats in a runoff. No moderate conservative party is committed now to any coalition building with ARENA. [REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

63. Under an ARENA-led coalition government, the human rights situation would be unlikely to improve. While death-squad activity might wane somewhat if the ultraright felt less compulsion to use this form of control so indiscriminately, the persecution and intimidation of political opponents could escalate, driving many of them to side with the insurgents or to leave the country. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]