

[REDACTED]

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

BODY

SUBJECT: LATIN AMERICA BRIEF [REDACTED] FOR 16 DECEMBER 1993.

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- 1. HAITI: MILITARY TAKING POLITICAL INITIATIVE [REDACTED]
- 2. [REDACTED]
- 1. HAITI: MILITARY TAKING POLITICAL INITIATIVE [REDACTED]

THE MILITARY AND ITS ALLIES ON THE RIGHT ARE POISED TO CAPITALIZE ON THE POLITICAL VACUUM THAT IS DEVELOPING AS A RESULT OF PRIME MINISTER MALVAL'S RESIGNATION YESTERDAY. [REDACTED]

ARMED FORCES LEADERS INCREASINGLY ARE TURNING TO RIGHTIST GROUPS TO PUSH FOR AN END TO THE POLITICAL STALEMATE. THE GENERAL STAFF HAS SACKED THE CHIEF OF ITS POLITICAL ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR ALLEGED INCOMPETENCE, [REDACTED] ARMY CHIEF CEDRAS, ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF BIAMBY, AND POLICE CHIEF FRANCOIS HAVE AGREED TO INCREASE THE FUNDING OF THE RISING FAR-RIGHT PARTY FRAPH TO STRENGTHEN IT FOR ANY FUTURE ELECTION, [REDACTED]

CEDRAS, BIAMBY, AND FRANCOIS ARE USING RIGHTIST GROUPS TO PROMOTE THEIR INDIVIDUAL AMBITIONS. [REDACTED] FRANCOIS HAS RESISTED CEDRAS'S EFFORTS TO CONTROL FRAPH'S ACTIVITIES AND HAS FACED DOWN REGIONAL MILITARY COMMANDERS WHO HAVE CHALLENGED FRAPH LEADERS. BIAMBY, IN AN ATTEMPT TO COUNTER FRANCOIS'S INFLUENCE, HAS ALSO SPONSORED A COMPETING RIGHTWING POLITICAL ORGANIZATION, [REDACTED] BIAMBY [REDACTED] VISITED PORT-DE-PAIX THIS MONTH TO LEAD AN ANTI-ARISTIDE POLITICAL RALLY AND TO

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
PARTICIPATE IN A VODOO CEREMONY. [REDACTED]

COMMENT: THE INTENSIFIED MANEUVERING OF MILITARY LEADERS PROBABLY INDICATES THAT THEY ARE INCREASINGLY CONFIDENT THAT THEY HAVE STYMIED ARISTIDE'S RETURN TO HAITI, AT LEAST FOR NOW. THE ALLIANCE OF CONVENIENCE BETWEEN KEY FIGURES IN THE ARMED FORCES AND RIGHTIST POLITICAL LEADERS PROBABLY WILL CRUMBLE AS THE STRUGGLE FOR POWER INTENSIFIES. SOME MILITARY LEADERS MAY STILL HOPE FOR A SOLUTION THAT GAINS US AND UN APPROVAL, BUT RIGHTIST EXTREMISTS PROBABLY WILL PRESS HARDER FOR AN AUTHORITARIAN GOVERNMENT. ATTEMPTS TO FLEE TO THE US ARE LIKELY TO INCREASE AS ECONOMIC HARDSHIP AND VIOLENCE MOUNT. [REDACTED]