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TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT: ARA NEWS ITEMS OF FEBRUARY 7, 1983

1. SUMMARY OF NEWSPAPERS:

-- WASHINGTON POST --

EL SALVADOR: CHRISTOPHER DICKEY PAGE ONE FROM SAN

SALVADOR ('BOMBING' CHARGED IN EL SALVADOR, SUBHEAD

ARCHBISHOP BLAMES ARMY'S AIRCRAFT FOR CIVILIAN DEATHS)

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CITES ACTING ARCHBISHOP RIVERA Y DAMAS' SUNDAY SERMON IN WHICH "HE ACCUSED THE US-ADVISED SALVADORAN ARMY OF KILLING 'MANY' CIVILIANS WITH 'INDISCRIMINATE BOMBING'" DURING LAST WEEK'S FIGHTING AROUND BERLIN. THE CHARGES "LENT THE CONSIDERABLE POLITICAL WIGHT OF THE CHURCH TO REPORTS FROM RESIDENTS OF BERLIN THAT EL SALVADOR'S US-PROVIDED A37 DRAGONFLY JETS BOMBED OR ROCKETED CIVILIAN-POPULATED AREAS TO DISLODGE GUERRILLAS WHO OCCUPIED THE TOWN LAST WEEKEND." BY THE TIME THE REBELS WITHDREW FROM BERLIN AFTER FIVE DAYS, DICKEY NOTES, "MUCH OF BERLIN'S COMMERCIAL CENTER LAY BURNED AND CRUMBLED." A NUMBER OF RESIDENTS DECLARED THAT GOVERNMENT PLANES HAD BOMBED REBEL POSITIONS IN THE CENTER OF TOWN AND ON THE OUTSKIRTS, HE SAYS. COL. JAIME FLORES, COMMANDER OF THE OPERATION, DENIED THAT ARMY PLANES HAD BOMBED THE AREAS, DICKEY SAYS, AND REPORTERS WHO VISITED BERLIN FOUND NO BOMB CRATERS. "THE DESTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS, HOWEVER, LED TO SPECULATION THAT THE BERLIN RESIDENTS COULD HAVE BEEN REFERRING TO ROCKETS FIRED FROM THE ARMY'S FIGHTER PLANES." DICKEY SAYS US DIPLOMATS ARE CONCERNED WITH THE ISSUE. BECAUSE OF US SUPPORT FOR THE ARMY, AND THE PARTICULARLY THROUGHT MILITARY ADVISORS (SIC), WASHINGTON IS INEVITABLY LINKED TO WHATEVER THE ARMY DOES. IN ADDITION, HE SAYS, THIS IS A DELICATE MOMENT BECAUSE THE US HAS JUST CERTIFIED GOES PROGRESS ON HUMAN RIGHTS. IN HIS SERMON, RIVERA Y DAMAS "SOUGHT TO BALANCE HIS CRITICISM OF GOVERNMENT ACTIONS BY ALSO CONDEMNING THE 'RESORT TO REVOLUTIONARY VIOLENCE' UNDERTAKEN BY THE REBEL MOVEMENT...'I WOULD LIKE TO ASK THE FDR-FMLN,' HE SAID...'WHETHER THE MILITARY AND POLITICAL TARGETS REACHED BY A TEMPORARY OCCUPATION OF A CITY JUSTIFY THE SUFFERING OF THOUSANDS OF PERSONS.'" DESPITE THE EFFORT AT EVENHANDEDNESS, SAYS DICKEY, "THE PRELATE'S CRITICISMS SEEMED TO BE DIRECTED MORE STRONGLY AT THE ARMY AND THE MILITARY'S ALLIES AMONG RIGHTIST SALVADORANS." DICKEY NOTES UPCOMING VISIT BY POPE JOHN PAUL IN MARCH, AND SAYS VISIT WILL "CARRY A PARTICULARLY POLITICAL MESSAGE HERE." BOLIVIA: MICHAEL DUBBS HAS PAGE ONE STORY FROM PARIS ON RETURN OF **KLAUS BARBIE** TO FRANCE FROM BOLIVIA (EX-NAZI'S RETURN REVIVES PAINFUL ISSUE IN FRANCE) IN WHICH HE SAYS THAT "IT NOW SEEMS CLEAR THAT BARBIE'S EXPULSION FROM LA PAZ WAS THE RESULT OF SEVERAL WEEKS' CAREFUL PLANNING BY THE FRENCH AND BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENTS. HIS ORIGINAL ARREST ON JAN. 25 ON A FRAUD CHARGE WAS EVIDENTLY A RUSE AND A WAY OF PREPARING BOLIVIAN PUBLIC OPINION FOR HIS EXPULSION. BARBIE, WHO BECAME A BOLIVIAN CITIZEN IN 1957 UNDER THE ASSUMED NAME OF KLAUS ALTMANN, ENJOYED GOOD RELATIONS WITH SUCCESSIVE MILITARY GOVERNMENTS IN LA PAZ. SEVERAL REQUESTS BY FRANCE FOR HIS EXTRADITION WERE REJECTED -- BUT THE POLITICAL CLIMATE IN BOLIVIA CHANGED DRAMATICALLY WHEN A CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT CAME TO POWER IN OCTOBER.

CBI: LOU CANNON "REAGAN & CO." COLUMN PAGE 3 (SALESMAN LINED UP FOR 'PUBLIC DIPLOMACY' ON CARIBBEAN BASIN) SAYS FORMER SEN. RICHARD STONE, NOW A MIAMI LAWYER, "WILL RESURFACE SOON AS PUBLIC SPOKESMAN FOR THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY IN THE CARIBBEAN AND CENTRAL

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AMERICA. UNDER THE RUBRIC OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S NEW 'PUBLIC DIPLOMACY' OFFENSIVE, STONE WILL DEFEND CONTINUED US BACKING FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF EL SALVADOR AND THE CBI, A CONGRESSIONAL CASUALTY LAST YEAR. HIS DESIGNATION AS POINT MAN FOR THIS POLICY STRENGTHENS THE ADMINISTRATION'S STANCE OF BIPARTISANSHIP BUT REPORTEDLY ALL POSTS PASS PAOS; MADRID PASS ASST.X-E SECY. ENDERS HAS UPSET ASST. SECY. OF STATE THOMAS ENDERS, FREQUENTLY THE SPOKESMAN FOR CENTRAL AMERICAN AFFAIRS."

EL SALVADOR: LEAD EDIT (THE WAR IN EL SALVADOR) NOTES CAPTURE BY GUERRILLAS OF BERLIN, AND SAYS AMERICAN OBSERVERS ARE CORRECT TO REACT CAUTIOUSLY. "STILL, BERLIN WAS A SERIOUS EMBARRASSMENT TO THE GOVERNMENT. THE GUERRILLAS, RELYING ON AMBUSHES, SABOTAGE AND INTIMIDATION, DO NOT SEEM TO BE NEAR A COUNTRY-WIDE MILITARY VICTORY. NOR IS THERE EVIDENCE THAT THEY HAVE DEVELOPED A MASS FOLLOWING. BUT THEIR PRESSURE IS CONSTANCE AND PERHAPS GROWING, AND NEITHER IN SAN SALVADOR NOR IN WASHINGTON ARE THE AUTHORITIES CERTAIN WHAT TO DO." SOME OF THE GOES' PROBLEMS ARE FAMILIAR, NOTES EDIT: CONTINUED AUGMENTATION OF THE GUERRILLA'S LOCALLY OBTAINED ARMS BY NICARAGUA; FACT THAT THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN UNABLE TO GET ALL THE MILITARY AID FROM CONGRESS THAT IT HAS SOUGHT. OTHER PROBLEMS, HOWEVER, ARISE DIRECTLY WITHIN EL SALVADOR, SAYS EDIT. "THE SALVADORAN ARMED FORCES HAD A YEAR, 1982, TO USE THEIR NEW AMERICAN AID AND TRAINING TO TURN THE CORNER, AND DID NOT," SAYS EDIT, WHICH NOTES THAT THE ARMY "HAS BEEN SLOW TO ADOPT THE AGGRESSIVE, SMALL-UNIT PATROLS THEIR AMERICAN ADVISORS FEEL ARE BEST SUITED TO ROUTING GUERRILLAS." THE AMERICANS FAVOR REFORM, BUT NOW SAY THE ARMED FORCES HAVE BEEN "DISTRACTED" BY POLITICS AND POLITICAL IN-FIGHTING, SAYS EDIT. "OTHERS NOTE THAT SALVADORAN COMMANDERS, UNCERTAIN OF THEIR TROOPS, HAVE PREFERRED THE SAFER TACTIC OF LARGE-UNIT SWEEPS, AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN SPREAD THIN BY HAVING TO DEFEND ECONOMIC TARGETS." IN ADDITION, EDIT NOTES, "SOME OFFICERS HAVE POLITICAL ASSOCIATIONS ON THE FEUDAL RIGHT. ONE OF THEM, MUCH ADMIRER BY THE AMERICANS FOR HIS MILITARY RECORD, COL. SIGFREDO OCHOA, LAST MONTH CHALLENGED THE REFORM-MINDED CHIEF OF STAFF IN WHAT GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY'S ROBERT KLEIKEN APTLY CALLS AN EPISODE PITTING 'THE AMERICANS' DARLING AGAINST THEIR RIGHT-HAND MAN.'" NOW, SAYS EDIT, THERE IS A SENSE OF A NEW TURNING POINT. "THE AMERICANS NERVOUSLY ASK FOR 'A MORE DRAMATIC APPROACH' BY THE SALVADORANS AND THE TRANSFER OF AMERICAN ADVISERS FROM TRAINING TO BRIGADE-LEVEL OPERATIONS... NO DOUBT THERE IS ROOM FOR MILITARY IMPROVEMENT. BUT STEPS THAT GIVE GREATER SWAY TO THE MILITARY FOES OF DOMESTIC REFORM, AND THAT THREATEN TO BRING OUTSIDERS MORE DIRECTLY INTO THE STRUGGLE, ARE SELF-DEFEATING. A TIME OF FRUSTRATION IS THE RIGHT MOMENT TO RENEW A SEARCH FOR A POLITICAL SOLUTION ON THE MIDDLE GROUND," EDIT CONCLUDES.

PARAGUAY: JACKSON DIEHL HAS LONG FEATURE FRONT PAGE SECOND SECTION ON PARAGUAYAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS (PRESIDENTIAL CHALLENGER IS SURE OF LANDSLIDE LOSS IN

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PARAGUAY). DIEHL SAYS "OFFICIALLY SANCTIONED" OPPOSITION CANDIDATE ENZO DOLDAN'S FORTHRIGHT STATEMENTS THAT HE WOULD LOSE YESTERDAY'S PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION TO GEN. ALFREDO STROESSNER, "THE MOST ENTRENCHED DICTATOR OF THE WESTERN WORLD" IN DIEHL'S WORDS, COULD BE READ AS OPENLY DEFIANT. "FOR THIS COUNTRY'S ELECTIONS ARE LESS A POLITICAL EVENT THAN A CAREFULLY DIRECTED AND UNIVERSALLY ENFORCED PIECE OF THEATRE, MEANT TO CONVINCE BOTH THE WORLD AND PARAGUAYANS THAT THIS IS A THOROUGHLY DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY. IN FACT, PARAGUAY, SHAPED BY DICTATORS AND DEVASTATING WARS WITH NEIGHBORING BOLIVIA, BRAZIL AND ARGENTINA, HAS HAD ONLY SIX CONTESTED PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS IN ITS 170-YEAR HISTORY. FIVE OF THEM HAVE BEEN HELD BY STROESSNER. EVERY FIVE YEARS, THE GENERAL SUSPENDS A 35-YEAR-OLD STATE OF SEIGE FOR A SINGLE DAY, AND PARAGUAY'S 1 MILLION ELIGIBLE VOTERS ARE REQUIRED TO GO TO THE POLLS. WHEN THE ELECTION STATIONS SHUT DOWN...LOCAL CHIEFS OF STROESSNER'S COLORADO PARTY TAKE THE BALLOT BOXES AWAY AND STUFF THEM WITH OVERWHELMING AND EVER ASCENDING MAJORITIES FOR THE 70-YEAR-OLD LEADER...THE PRIZED INFORMATION IN THE DAYS BEFORE AN ELECTION IS NOT WHETHER OR HOW STROESSNER WILL WIN, BUT WHAT PERCENTAGE HAS BEEN PREDETERMINED." COLORADO PARTY ANNOUNCED SUNDAY NIGHT THAT IT HAD WON THE ELECTIONS WITH 90.82 PERCENT OF THE VOTE, A SLIGHT RISE ALL POSTS PASS PAOS; MADRID PASS ASST. SECY. ENDERS OVER STROESSNER'S LAST WIN. DIEHL SAYS FOR STROESSNER'S SERIOUS POLITICAL OPPOSITION, "THE ANSWER TO AN ELECTION IS A CALL FOR ABSENTIONS OR BLANK VOTES AND A SHOW OF COUNTER-THEATER." PART OF THIS, HE SAYS, IS SHOWN BY "RETURN" OF EIGHT EXILED GOVERNMENT OPPONENTS WHO FLEW IN FROM ARGENTINA IN MOVE ORGANIZED BY MAJOR OPPOSITION PARTIES, WHICH ARE EXCLUDED FROM THE ELECTION. EXILES WERE, AS BEFORE, TURNED BACK AT THE AIRPORT. DIEHL NOTES THAT STROESSNER PAYS "WARM, IF SOMETIMES PECULAR, TRIBUTE TO THE DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM. 'OUR POLITICAL OPENING CAME MANY YEARS AGO WHEN THE ANARCHY ENDED,' STROESSNER SAID AS HE VOTED. 'WE ARE NOT DEFICIENT IN DEMOCRACY AND THE PEOPLE KNOW IT. THERE IS DEMOCRACY, ORDER, FREEDOM, PROGRESS AND WELL-BEING HERE.' IN FACT, IF STROESSNER'S GOVERNMENT APPROACHES ANY INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL MODEL, IT IS THAT OF FRANCO'S SPAIN OR HITLER'S GERMANY. THE STATE, ARMY AND COLORADO PARTY FORM ONE INTEGRATED APPARATUS THAT CONTROLS ALMOST ALL POLITICAL, PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS ACTIVITY IN THE COUNTRY, AND RESPONDS DIRECTLY AND ONLY TO STROESSNER...THOSE WHO RESIST THE SYSTEM ARE EXCLUDED FROM PROFITABLE CAREERS, AND THOSE WHO OPPOSE IT ARE SYSTEMATICALLY REPRESSED. A VAST SYSTEM OF CORRUPTION GREASES THE CHAIN OF COMMAND. PARAGUAY'S BIGGEST INDUSTRY, COMPRISING MORE THAN HALF OF ITS FOREIGN TRADE, IS SMUGGLING." DIEHL NOTES FEARS BY SOME THAT THE "POLITICAL IMPRINT" OF THE STROESSNER SYSTEM IS SO ESTABLISHED THAT THEY DISCOUNT ANY PROSPECT OF REAL DEMOCRACY EVEN AFTER HIS DEATH. OTHERS SAY PARAGUAY HAS CHANGED, AND GROWN FASTER THAN ANY OTHER LATAM COUNTRY IN THE LAST SEVEN YEARS, PARTLY AS A RESULT

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OF ITS PARTNERSHIP WITH BRAZIL IN THE ITAIPU PROJECT. "AS THE NEW WEALTH HAS TRICKLED DOWN, A POOR, INDIAN-BASED POPULATION HAS GRADUALLY GROWN MORE INDEPENDENT." MIGUEL ABDON SANGUIER, SECY. GEN. OF OPPOSITION PRLA PARTY NOTES THAT IT TOOK NICARAGUA 40 YEARS TO RID ITSELF OF ONE-MAN RULE, "BUT IT HAPPENS SOONER OR LATER."

NICARAGUA: JACK ANDERSON COLUMN PAGE C14 (EX-AMBASSADOR FROM NICARAGUA TELLS HIS STORY) INTERVIEWS EX-NICARAGUAN AMBASSADOR FRANCISCO FIALLOS ABOUT HIS RESIGNATION AND ALLEGED THEFT OF MORE THAN \$600,000 OF EMBASSY FUNDS. ANDERSON SAYS FIALLOS EXPLAINS THE EMBEZZLEMENT CHARGES AS AN ATTEMPT BY THE SANDINISTAS TO DISCREDIT HIM IN RETALIATION FOR HIS DRAMATIC DEFECTION, WHICH HE SAID DAMAGED THE REGIME'S CREDIBILITY. "THE CHARGE IS COMPLETELY FALSE, AND UNFORTUNATELY I CANNOT EXPLAIN IT HERE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE...BECAUSE MY LAWYERS HAVE ADVISED ME NOT TO TELL YOU," FIALLOS TOLD ANDERSON. ANDERSON SAYS A STATE DEPT. OFFICIAL WHO INVESTIGATED FIALLOS' BACKGROUND SAID HE WAS "CONVINCED THAT HE DIDN'T TAKE THE MONEY FOR HIS PERSONAL ENRICHMENT." GRN EMBASSY, HOWEVER, TOLD ANDERSON IT IS CONVINCED THAT FIALLOS MISAPPROPRIATED THE MONEY, AND PRODUCED DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT HIS ASSERTION. "THE OFFICIAL ALSO NOTED, WITH SOME ASPERITY, THAT IN NEARLY A YEAR AS THE NICARAGUAN ENVOY IN WASHINGTON, FIALLOS HAD NEVER EXPRESSED ANY CRITICISM OF THE SANDINISTA REGIME'S POLICIES." FIALLOS WARNS OF SOVIET INFLUENCE IN NICARAGUA, BUT PLAYS DOWN THE INFLUENCE OF THE CUBANS IN MANAGUA, SAYS ANDERSON, WHILE STATE DEPT. SOURCES DISAGREE WITH THIS ASSESSMENT. THEY SAY CASTRO AND THE SEVERAL THOUSAND ADVISERS HE HAS SENT TO NICARAGUA ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT FOREIGN INFLUENCE.

-- SUNDAY NEW YORK TIMES --

EL SALVADOR: "NEWS OF THE WEEK IN REVIEW" INCLUDES P. 16E SECOND OF TWO EDITS ("THE UNWAGED WAR IN SALVADOR"). "ALTHOUGH THE NEWS IS OF REAL AR, AND SHREWDLY TIMED GUERRILLA THRUSTS, WHAT SHOULD MAINLY CONCERN AMERICANS IN EL SALVADOR IS THE UNWAGED WAR: A POLITICAL CAMPAIGN TO END THIS INCONCLUSIVE STRUGGLE. GRABBING A PROVINCIAL CITY FOR THREE DAYS WAS A PSYCHOLOGICAL BOOST FOR AN OUTNUMBERED GUERRILLA ARMY; THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION CONCEDES AS MUCH. BUT THIS WAS NO CIVIL WAR GETTYSBURG. THE TOWN OF BERLIN WAS PROMPTLY RETAKEN, CONFIRMING AGAIN THAT THE LEFTIST INSURGENTS ARE STILL CHALLENGERS, NOT ALL POSTS PASS PAOS; MADRID PASS ASST. SECY. ENDERS CONQUERORS. THE OFFENSIVE'S REAL DAMAGE WAS POLITICAL. PRESUMABLY IT IMPRESSED, OR AT LEAST INTIMIDATED, NEW SECTORS OF THE SALVADORAN POPULATION AND PRODUCED A NEW IMPULSE TO FLEE. AND YOU COULD ALMOST SENSE A NEW DOUBT SPREADING IN WASHINGTON, WHICH HAS BEEN BETTING ALL ALONG THAT AN AMERICAN-AIDED ARMY, EVEN IF IT CANNOT WIN, COULD AT LEAST HOLD OUT INDEFINITELY AGAINST THE GUERRILLA CHALLENGE. AFTER BERLIN, THESE CALCULATIONS ARE LESS CERTAIN." THE EDITORIAL STATES THAT THE OFFENSIVE WAS

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"CUNNINGLY TIMED TO COINCIDE WITH THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION'S RITUAL CERTIFICATION TO CONGRESS OF WHAT NOBODY REALLY BELIEVES: THAT SALVADOR'S GOVERNMENT IS 'MAKING PROGRESS' ON POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REFORMS, AND TAKING STEPS TO PUNISH THE KILLERS OF CIVILIANS, INCLUDING SIX AMERICANS. OBVIOUSLY CHASTENED, STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS EVEN CONCEDED THAT AMERICA'S POLICY SIGNALS TO SALVADOR HAVE BEEN, AT BEST, CONFUSED. FEW AMERICANS WANT TO SEE EL SALVADOR TURN INTO A MARXIST TYRANNY; ON THAT, SURELY, THERE IS NO CONFUSION. NOR IS THERE A CLAMOR FOR SAINTLINESS BY A TROUBLED REGIME CAUGHT UP IN A SAVAGE CIVIL WAR THAT IS ITSELF ROOTED IN A HALF-CENTURY OF OPPRESSION. BUT A TROUBLED PARTNER IS ONE THING, A BARBAROUS ONE SOMETHING ELSE. THE MIXED SIGNALS SENT TO EL SALVADOR ARISE FROM THE FAILURE TO DRAW THIS DISTINCTION. AND MORE THAN MORALITY IS AT STAKE; THE BARBARITY HAS BEEN AS DAMAGING TO THE GOVERNMENT'S CAUSE AS ANY GUERRILLA STRIKE. WHAT IS NONETHELESS STRIKING IN EL SALVADOR IS THAT SO MANY REMAIN WILLING TO FIGHT FOR A DECENT ELECTIVE GOVERNMENT. IF THE GUERRILLAS CAN WIN ONLY PSYCHOLOGICAL VICTORIES, IT IS IN PART BECAUSE THEY HAVE NOT EARNED THE MASSIVE POPULAR SUPPORT THEY CLAIM."

"WHAT SHOULD ALSO BE REMEMBERED," THE EDIT CONTINUES, "HOWEVER, IS THAT THE OPPOSITION IS NOT MONOLITHIC OR WHOLLY LENINIST. THERE ARE DEMOCRATS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BARRICADES. SOMEHOW BRINGING THEM TOGETHER OUGHT ALWAYS TO BE THE CENTRAL PURPOSE OF THE UNITED STATES' PATRONAGE. MERELY DENYING VICTORY TO THE INSURGENTS AND COUNTING ON MILITARY STALEMATE IS HALF A POLICY. OFFERING THE OPPOSITION A GENUINE SHARE OF POLITICAL POWER IS THE CARD THAT NO ONE SEEMS TO BE PLAYING. IT SHOULD BE PLAYED PRECISELY BECAUSE NEITHER SIDE CAN BE SURE OF WINNING, BECAUSE THE INSURGENTS MUST FEAR WIDER AMERICAN INTERVENTION, BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD FEAR AMERICAN WEARINESS AND BECAUSE VENEZUELA AND MEXICO, AMONG OTHERS, STAND READY TO HELP NEGOTIATE A WAY OUT. FIGHTING THE MILITARY BATTLE MAKES NO SENSE WITHOUT A PLAUSIBLE POLITICAL STRATEGY.

"EL SALVADOR: LYDIA CHAVEZ, REPORTING FROM SAN SALVADOR ("EL SALVADOR LOSES GROUND, NOT LEAST IN WASHINGTON" P. E7), REVIEWS LAST: "WEARINESS WITH THE WAR AND THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DISRUPTIONS IT HAS BROUGHT WERE REVIVING CONCERN ABOUT A NEW SHIFT TO THE RIGHT IN EL SALVADOR. IN SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE HEARINGS, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE THOMAS O. ENDERS ADMITTED THAT ADMINISTRATION POLICY HAD BEEN CONFUSING. HE PROMISED THAT WASHINGTON WOULD NOT SUPPORT -- "EITHER MILITARILY OR ECONOMICALLY" -- A SALVADORAN GOVERNMENT THAT EMERGED AS A RESULT OF A NEW MILITARY COUP. MODERATE POLITICIANS IN SAN SALVADOR ARE MORE CONCERNED ABOUT RIGHTIST ELECTORAL GAINS, IN THE WAR CONTINUES ITS PRESENT TREND.... SORELY IN NEED OF MILITARY VICTORIES, THE GOVERNMENT (GOES) SEEMED READY FOR A CHANGE IN THE HIGH COMMAND. THE DEFENSE MINISTER, GEN. JOSE GUILLERMO

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GARCIA, WHO LOST CLOUT LAST MONTH IN THE SIX-DAY 'MUTINY' OF A REGIONAL COMMANDER, IS EXPECTED TO RESIGN WITHIN TWO MONTHS. CRITICS ON ALL SIDES ACCUSE HIM OF MISMANAGING THE WAR....MILITARY ADVISERS SAID ONLY FOUR DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS, INCLUDING COLONEL FLORES, ARE EFFECTIVE LEADERS. A NEW DEFENSE MINISTER COULD MAKE PROMOTIONS, BUT IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT HE COULD CHANGE THE LEADERSHIP OVERNIGHT. THE SALVADORAN MILITARY IS IMBUE WITH A STUBBORN TRADITION OF FAVORITISM, EXPERTS SAID."

PARAGUAY: EDWARD SCHUMACHER, REPORTING FROM ASUNCION ("PARAGUAY VOTES TODAY: STROESSNER HOLDS ON BY MORE THAN ALL POSTS PASS PAOS; MADRID PASS ASST. SECY. ENDERS FORCE OF ARMS" P. E5), WRITES THAT "MILITARY REGIMES IN NEARBY ARGENTINA, BOLIVIA, BRAZIL, URUGUAY AND CHILE ARE STEPPING DOWN OR FEELING PRESSURE TO INSTITUTE DEMOCRACY. BUT THE STROESSNER REGIME CLAMLY SOLDIERS ON, BARELY CHALLENGED. THE TOUGH GENERAL HAS RULED FOR MORE THAN 28 YEARS, THE LONGEST TENURE IN THE HEMISPHERE. HE IS THE LONE SURVIVOR OF A GENERATION OF SMALL-NATION DICTATORS THAT INCLUDED NICARAGUA'S ANASTASIO SOMOZA DEBAYLE....HIS FORMULA FOR LONGEVITY RESTS ON THE TWIN PILLARS OF THE PARTY, WITH ITS FAR-REACHING SOCIAL INFLUENCE, AND THE MILITARY, WHICH SUPPLIES BRUTE FORCE." SCHUMACHER STATES THAT UNLIKE MILITARY RULERS IN ARGENTINA AND URUGUAY WHO HAVE SOUGHT TO MAKE MILITARY RULE INSTITUTIONAL, GENERAL STROESSNER "HAS NOT INSISTED ON RESTRUCTURING SOCIETY ACCORDING TO SOME RIGID GRAND PLAN. HIS ONLY IDEOLOGY HAS BEEN FIERCE ANTI-COMMUNISM. HIS PERSONAL STYLE IS FOLKSY AND PATERNALISTIC." SOURCES CLOSE TO STROESSNER INDICATE THAT HE HAS SHOWN NO SIGN OF SELECTING A SUCCESSOR, ALTHOUGH A NUMBER OF NAMES ARE DISCUSSED INCLUDING GEN. ANDRES RODRIGUEZ, COMMANDER OF THE AREA SURROUNDING ASUNCION, JUAN MANUEL FRUTOS, PRESIDENT OF THE GOVERNMENT'S INSTITUTE OF RURAL WELFARE AND THE PRESIDENT'S SON, GUSTAVO STROESSNER, AN AIR FORCE MAJOR. "MANY PARAGUAYANS AND FOREIGN DIPLOMATS PREDICT A POWER STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE MILITARY AND THE PARTY, WITH THE MILITARY EMERGING AS EVENTUAL VICTOR. THE PARTY IS BADLY DIVIDED, THEY SAID, HELD TOGETHER ONLY BY GENERAL STROESSNER. IT IS ALSO GROWING STALE, AS EVIDENCED BY THE SMALL CROWDS THAT TURNED OUT DURING THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN. ONE OF THE LEAST-DISCUSSED OPTIONS, HOWEVER, IS THE SELECTION OF A SUCCESSOR BY DEMOCRATIC METHODS."

HONDURAS: SHORT P. E4 NOTE STATES THAT "THE ADMINISTRATION LAST WEEK DREW FURTHER ATTENTION TO ITS GROWING MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN CENTRAL AMERICA BY DISPATCHING MORE THAN 1,000 TROOPS TO HELP HONDURAN FORCES TRY OUT AMERICAN-SUPPLIED WEAPONS AND COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT WARFARE ALONG THE NICARAGUAN BORDER." NOTE INDICATES THAT THE US ROLE WAS STRICTLY NONCOMBATIVE, BUT 75 MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WARNED, IN A BIPARTISAN PROTEST TO PRESIDENT REAGAN, THAT THE MANEUVERS TOO CLOSELY RESEMBLED A POSSIBLE DRESS REHEARSAL.

-- NEW YORK TIMES 2/7/83 --

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EL SALVADOR: LYDIA CHAVEZ, REPORTING FROM SAN SALVADOR ("SALVADOR CLERIC SAYS BOMBS KILLED MANY" P. 3), WRITES THAT ACTING ARCHBISHOP RIVERA Y DAMAS SAID TODAY THAT "HIS OFFICE HAD CONCLUDED THAT 258 PEOPLE WERE KILLED IN FIGHTING IN THE COUNTRY LAST WEEK, MOST OF THEM IN THE SOUTHERN CITY OF BERLIN, AND THAT 'MANY' OF THE DEATHS WERE THE RESULT OF 'INDISCRIMINATE BOMBING' BY THE SALVADORAN AIR FORCE." "WE ASK THE BARABUNDO NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT IF THEIR MILITARY AND POLITICAL OBJECTIVES TO TEMPORARILY OCCUPY A CITY JUSTIFIES THE SUFFERING OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE," THE ACTING ARCHBISHOP SAID. HE NOTED, ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE, THAT GUERRILLAS HAD KILLED 27 SOLDIERS AND 4 CIVILIANS. HE ADDED THAT PARAMILITARY FORCES WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DISAPPEARANCE OF 25 PEOPLE AND THE DEATHS OF 37 CIVILIANS. HE CALLED FOR A TRUCE EARLY NEXT MONTH IN THE THREE-YEAR-OLD CIVIL WAR IN HONOR OF THE MARCH 6 VISIT OF POPE JOHN PAUL II. IN HIS SUNDAY HOMILY, MONSIGNOR RIVERA Y DAMAS SAID: "BUT ABOVE ALL WE LAMENT THE DEATHS OF 258 PERSONS, AS OF YET UNCLARIFIED, THAT OCCURRED IN MILITARY OPERATIONS. MANY OF THEM WERE CAUSED BY INDISCRIMINATE BOMBINGS IN THE OCCUPIED ZONES." THE AIR FORCE HAS DENIED BOMBING THE CIVILIAN POPULATION, BUT A MILITARY ADVISER SAID IT WAS PROBABLE THAT ROCKETS WERE FIRED ON THE COMMERCIAL ZONE.

EL SALVADOR: SECOND SECTION NEWS SUMMARY CARRIES SIMILAR BRIEF NOTE ON RIVERA Y DAMAS.

PARAGUAY: EDWARD SCHUMACHER, REPORTING FROM ASUNCION ("PARAGUAYS BAR RETURN OF 8 EXILES: POLITICAL LEADERS ALL POSTS PASS PAOS; MADRID PASS ASST. SECY. ENDERS TURNED BACK AT AIRPORT AS NATION VOTES TO RE-ELECT STROESSNER" P. A3), NOTES THAT THE EXILES, FLYING FROM BUENOS AIRES, WERE FORCED TO STAY ABOARD THEIR ARGENTINE PLANE, WHICH LATER RETURNED TO BA. LUIS ALFONSO RESCK, PRESIDENT OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY, AND RICARDO ESPERANZA LEIVA, SECRETARY OF THE PARAGUAYAN WORKERS CONFEDERATION IN EXILE, WERE REPORTED TO BE AMONG THE EXILES. "FRIENDS AND REPORTERS WERE NOT ALLOWED TO SEE THE EXILES, SO IT WAS UNCLEAR WHETHER PHYSICAL FORCE WAS USED TO BLOCK THEIR DISEMBARKATION." OFFICIAL TALLIES OF THE SUNDAY VOTE WERE NOT EXPECTED UNTIL LATE IN THE WEEK. "THERE WAS LITTLE DOUBT, HOWEVER, THAT GENERAL STROESSNER WOULD DEFEAT HIS TWO OPPONENTS AND BE RETURNED TO OFFICE FOR HIS SEVENTH FIVE-YEAR-TERM." "THOUGH OPPOSITION POLITICAL LEADERS SAY PHYSICAL INTIMIDATION IS NOW RARE, THE POWER OF THE PRESIDENT'S RULING COLORADO PARTY IS PERVASIVE....PARTY MEMBERS ALSO CONTROLLED THE VOTING BOOTHS AND VOTE COUNTING TODAY." THE COUNTRY FACES NO TERRORIST THREAT, BUT THE STATE OF SEIGE HAS BEEN RENEWED EVERY THREE MONTHS FOR 29 YEARS.

PAPAL TRAVEL: REPORTS FROM ROME SUMMARIZE POPE JOHN PAUL II'S ANNOUNCED SEVEN-COUNTRY CENTRAL AMERICAN VISIT MARCH 2-9. THE POPE WILL VISIT COSTA RICA, NICARAGUA, PANAMA, EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, HONDURAS AND BELIZE. THE POPE'S FIRST STOP WILL BE SAN JOSE WHERE HE SAID HE WOULD

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MEET WITH THE BISHOPS OF THE EPISCOPAL SYMPOSIUM OF CENTRAL AMERICA. BEFORE RETURNING TO ROME, HE SAID HE WOULD ATTEND THE LATIN AMERICAN COUNCIL OF BISHOPS, WHICH IS MEETING IN PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI. NO SCHEDULE FOR THE INTERVENING TRAVEL WAS MADE PUBLIC.

-- BALTIMORE SUN --

EL SALVADOR: IN WIRESERVICE REPORT ON POPE'S TRAVEL PLANS AND ACTING ARCHBISHOP RIVERA Y DAMAS' SUNDAY HOMILY, THE LATTER IS QUOTED: "WE WANT TO ASK THE FMLN IF THE MILITARY AND POLITICAL OBJECTIVES GAINED IN THE PASSING OCCUPATION OF THE CITY JUSTIFIED THE SUFFERING OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WHO WILL NEED MANY MONTHS AND PERHAPS YEARS TO RECOVER PHYSICALLY AND PSYCHICALLY." ON THE "NOT YET CLARIFIED DEATHS OF 258 PERSONS IN MILITARY OPERATIONS AND BATTLES," HE STATED THAT "MANY OF THESE (DEATHS IN MILITARY OPERATIONS) WERE CAUSED BY INDISCRIMINATE BOMBING THAT IS DONE OVER (REBEL) OCCUPIED ZONES." ON BERLIN, THE ARTICLE NOTES THAT AS MANY AS 15,000 PEOPLE WERE FORCED TO ABANDON THEIR HOMES IN BERLIN WHEN REBELS ATTACKED THE CITY.

-- CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR --

EL SALVADOR: INSIDE "THE NEWS BRIEFLY" INCLUDES NOTE THAT "THREE US ARMY ADVISERS" WERE ORDERED TO LEAVE EL SALVADOR "BECAUSE THEY VIOLATED REGULATIONS PROHIBITING THEM FROM ENTERING COMBAT OPERATIONS."

-- WALL STREET JOURNAL --

VENEZUELA: SECOND SECTION INTERNATIONAL PAGES INCLUDE NEWS ROUNDUP ("VENEZUELA SEEKS TO RESCHEDULE \$9 BILLION IN DEBT: IT WANTS TO PUT OFF PAYMENTS ON SHORT-TERM PRINCIPAL; BRAZIL WARNS US BANKS" P. 26) INDICATING THAT VENEZUELA WILL ASK INTERNATIONAL BANKS TO RESCHEDULE PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS ON ALL OF ITS \$9 BILLION IN SHORT-TERM FOREIGN DEBT, ACORDING TO FINANCE MINISTER ARTURO SOSA IN CARACAS. SOSA SAID VENEZUELA WILL CONTINUE TO PAY INTEREST ON BOTH SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM FOREIGN DEBT (\$1.4 BILLION IN PRINCIPAL ON ITS FOREIGN DEBT THIS YEAR WITH VENEZUELA'S TOTAL FOREIGN DEBT MARKED AT \$24.3 BILLION).

-- WEEKEND WASHINGTON POST --

PARAGUAY: JACKSON DIEHL, REPORTING FROM ASUNCION IN SATURDAY POST ("PARAGUAY CITES US DOCUMENT TO JUSTIFY EXPELLING AUTHOR") ON FRONT PAGE, WRITES THAT THE PARAGUAYAN GOVERNMENT'S RELEASE OF A US-SUPPLIED INTELLIGENCE DOCUMENT TO JUSTIFY THE EXPULSION OF A ALL POSTS PASS PAOS; MADRID PASS ASST. SECY. ENDERS PROMINENT INTELLECTUAL "HAS EMBARRASSED REAGAN ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS SEEKING TO MAINTAIN A DISCREET DIPLOMATIC DISTANCE FROM ONE OF LATIN AMERICA'S HARSHTEST AUTHORITARIAN GOVERNMENTS. THE ON-GOING CONTROVERSY BEGAN LAST APRIL WITH THE EXPULSION OF AUGUSTO ROA BASTOS, PARAGUAY'S FOREMOST NOVELIST AND AN EXPATRIATE CRITIC OF THE 28-YEAR-OLD RULE OF GEN. ALFREDO STROESSNER, DURING A VISIT HERE BY THE WRITER." TO SUPPORT ITS CHARGE THAT ROA BASTOS HAD "BOLSHEVIK, ULTRA-MOSCOW IDEAS", DIEHL WRITES THAT THE PARAGUAYAN

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T IT SAID HAD BEEN SUPPLIED BY THE US EMBASSY. "THE ONE-PAGE PHOTOCOPY GIVEN TO NEWSPAPERS, MARKED 'SECRET' IN ENGLISH, INCLUDES ROA BASTOS AMONG A LIST OF PARAGUAYANS SAID TO HAVE VISITED SOVIET BLOC NATIONS. US OFFICIALS," DIEHL CONTINUES, "HAVE CONSISTENTLY REFUSED COMMENT ON THE DOCUMENT, ALTHOUGH SOURCES HERE IN A POSITION TO KNOW HAVE VOUCHERED FOR ITS AUTHENTICITY AND ESTIMATED THAT IT DATES FROM THE EARLY 1970S. THE OFFICIAL SILENCE HAS LED SOME PARAGUAYAN OPPOSITION LEADERS TO CONCLUDE THAT THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION MAY BE COLLABORATING WITH THE STROESSNER GOVERNMENT IN THE REPRESSION OF POLITICAL OPPONENTS." DIEHL WRITES THAT THE EMBASSY WAS "TAKEN BY SURPRISE" AND THAT US AMBASSADOR ARTHUR DAVIS "LATER STRONGLY PROTESTED THE MOVE IN A MEETING WITH INTERIOR MINISTER SABINO MONTANARO." OTHER REPORTS INDICATED OFFICIALS "WERE NOT EVEN AWARE OF THE EXISTENCE OF THE DOCUMENT UNTIL IT WAS RELEASED...." ABC COLOR, "CONSIDERED POLITICALLY INDEPENDENT OF THE GOVERNMENT", PUBLISHED A LETTER FROM ROA BASTOS TO DAVIS DENYING TWO VISITS TO CUBA CITED IN THE DOCUMENT AND ASKING FOR "THE VERIFICATION AND RECTIFICATION OF THE ERRONEOUS INFORMATION." DAVIS' REPLY, ALSO PRINTED IN THE NEWSPAPER, SAID HE HAD "NOTHING TO ADD" TO PREVIOUS REFUSALS BY US OFFICIALS TO COMMENT ON THE INCIDENT. DIEHL GOES ON TO CONTRAST THE CARTER AND REAGAN ADMINISTRATIONS ("IT IS CLEAR TO US THAT THE CARTER POLICY OF CONFRONTING THE DICTATORSHIP GOT FAR MORE RESULTS THAN THAT OF REAGAN," SAID JUAN BENITIZ FLORINTIN, PRESIDENT OF THE OPPOSITION AUTHENTIC RADICAL LIBERAL PARTY), AND WRITES THAT "US OFFICIALS HERE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT IMPROVEMENT IN HUMAN RIGHTS HAS BEEN STALLED IN THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS AND THAT THEIR STANDING AS DECLINED AMONG OPPONENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT. THEY SAY, HOWEVER, THEY HAVE CONTINUED TO WORK ACTIVELY IN SUPPORT OF POLITICAL PRISONERS."

SURINAME: JACK ANDERSON COLUMN SATURDAY PAGE F23 (RECENT KILLINGS OF SURINAMESE CONCERN US) SAYS EXECUTION OF 15 PROMINENT CITIZENS IN PARAMARIBO IN DECEMBER "HAS CAUSED CONSTERNATION IN WASHINGTON AND PITTSBURG, A T CERTAIN RELIEF IN THE HAGUE -- AND UNDOUBTED SATISFACTION IN HAVANA AND MOSCOW." SHOOTINGS DESTROYED THE LEADERSHIP OF THE OPPOSITION TO MILITARY REGIME OF COL. BOUTERSE, ANDERSON SAYS. EVENTS GAVE THE DUTCH AN EXCUSE FOR SUSPENDING THE REMAINDER OF THE 10-YEAR AID PROGRAM THEY HAD PROMISED THEIR FORMER COLONY. AT THE TIME OF INDEPENDENCE IN 1975, SAYS ANDERSON, A SECRET CIA STUDY GAVE SURINAME A BETTER CHANCE THAN MANY FORMER COLONIES TO SURVIVE, BUT WARNED OF POSSIBLE PROBLEMS: AN INCREASINGLY PRO-CUBAN ATTITUDE, A POPULATION ACCUSTOMED TO "A FAIRLY HIGH LEVEL OF LIVING," AND ENMITY BETWEEN THE TWO MAJOR ETHNIC GROUPS, THE CREOLES AND THE EAST INDIANS. THE DEPARTURE OF THE DUTCH, SAID THE STUDY WOULD "TAKE AWAY AN IMPORTANT SOURCE OF REVENUE AND HEIGHTEN RACIAL ANTAGONISM BY REMOVING A MAJOR SOURCE OF

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SOCIAL COHESION." THAT, SAYS ANDERSON, IS PRECISELY WHAT HAPPENED. ANDERSON NOTES LEFTWARD MOVES BY BOUTSERSE GOVERNMENT, AND BRUTAL KILLINGS OF CITIZENS ACCUSED OF PLOTTING A COUP IN DECEMBER. ALCOA ALUMINUM, BASED IN PITTSBURG, IS WORRIED ABOUT ITS BAUXITE INVESTMENTS IN SURINAME, SAYS ANDERSON, AND DECISIONS MADE IN PARAMARIBO CONCERN NOT ONLY EXECUTIVES IN PITTSBURG BUT CUBA-WATCHERS IN THE WHITE HOUSE AND STATE DEPT. AS WELL. EL SALVADOR: PATT DERIAN, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS DURING THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION, HAS ALL POSTS PASS PAOS; MADRID PASS ASST. SECY. ENDERS SUNDAY PAGE B7 OP-ED PIECE ("EL SALVADOR: THIS IS PROGRESS?" "NO DESCRIPTION OF HELL TOUCHES THE BEASTIALITY OF WHAT IS HAPPENING TO THE PEOPLE OF EL SALVADOR"). SHE CONCLUDES BY STATING THAT "EVERY SIX MONTHS THE PRESIDENT CERTIFIES A LIE: THAT PROGRESS IS BEING MADE ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN EL SALVADOR. PROGRESS IS NOT BEING MADE." IN HER CHARACTERIZATION OF THE "POWER PLAYERS", DERIAN WRITES THAT "THE LEGISLATIVE BODY DOESN'T APPEAR BECAUSE IT IS NOT A FACTOR IN THE GAME; IT IS SIMPLY OF USE IN THE ARGUMENT. THE ARGUMENT FOR OUR INVOLVEMENT IS COMPOSED OF ITEMS TO BE USED AS ASERTIONS, AS IN: LOOK, THEY HAD A DEMOCRATIC VOTE, THIS LEGISLATIVE BODY WAS ELECTED, THUS, A FLEDGLINGDEMOCRACY WAS PRODUCED. THE ONE TIME THE LEGISLATURE TOOK ANY ACTION NOT DICTATED BY THE MAN IT ELECTED ITS LEADERS, ROBERTO D'AUBUISSON THERE WAS PUBLIC AND PRIVATE DIPLOMATIC HANDWRINGLING THAT HE MIGHT SIMPLY SWEEP IT OUT OF THE PICTURE ALTOGETHER. THE PRESIDENT IS NOT IN THE GAME. HIS ONLY POSSIBLE CONSTITUENCY WOULD BE THE PEOPLE, BUT HE DOESN'T SEE A WAY TO GET TO THEM AND STAY ALIVE." SHE OFFERS NO RECOMMENDATIONS.

EL SALVADOR: FRONT PAGE SUNDAY STORY FROM SAN SALVADOR BY CHRISTOPHER DICKEY ON ANNOUNCEMENT BY EMBASSY ON RELIEF OF THREE US TRAINERS (US RELIEVES THREE OF SALVADORAN DUTIES, SUBHEAD ARMY ADVISERS INVOLVED IN COMBAT). DICKEY NOTES DETAILS OF ANNOUNCEMENT, AND SAYS THAT ALTHOUGH EMBASSY OFFICIALS WERE "CRYPTIC" ABOUT THE EXACT CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE INCIDENTS, "WHAT IS KNOWN... SUGGESTS THAT AT LEAST SEVERAL US ADVISERS HAVE COME A GREAT DEAL CLOSER TO ACTIVE COMBAT THAN US OFFICIALS PREVIOUSLY HAD ACKNOWLEDGED." DICKEY SAYS SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS "ARE PRESSING FOR AN INCREASE IN US MILITARY PLANNERS AND TRAINERS, PARTICULARLY AT THE PROVINCIAL AND BRIGADE LEVELS." ARTICLE MENTIONS THAT ACCORDING TO AUTHORITATIVE SOURCES, THE US MILGROUP COMMANDER IN EL SALVADOR ALSO HAD FLOWN OVER THE SAME AREA AS WHERE SGT. STANLEY WAS SHOT, AT AN ALTITUDE OF AS LOW AS 20 FEET TUESDAY WHEN EVERYTHING WAS RELATIVELY QUIET.

ECONOMY: LEAD TWO SUNDAY EDITS LOOK AT AFFECT OF OIL PRICES AND INCREASED IMF FUNDING ON LATIN AMERICAN AND OTHER ECONOMIES (OIL PRICES WILL HELP...AND SO CAN THE IMF). FIRST EDIT SAYS DROPPING OIL PRICES WILL BE PROFOUNDLY HEALTHY FOR THE US AND THE WORLD, ALTHOUGH IT

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WOULD BE DISRUPTIVE TEMPORARILY. PRICES SET BY PRODUCING COUNTRIES HAVEN'T REALLY MOVED YET, SAYS EDIT. IF THEY DO DROP, "MOST SERIOUS IMPACTS WILL INEVITABLY FALL ON THE EXPORTING COUNTRIES WITH LARGE POPULATIONS AND GREAT NEED FOR DEVELOPMENT FUNDS. THE MOST PROMINENT EXAMPLES ARE NIGERIA, INDONESIA AND MEXICO. THERE HAVE BEEN UNDERSTANDABLE ANXIETIES IN THIS COUNTRY ABOUT THE EFFECT OF LOWER OIL REVENUES ON THIRD WORLD BORROWERS' ABILITY TO PAY THEIR DEBTS. BUT AMONG THE BIG PRODUCERS, ONLY MEXICO IS DANGEROUSLY IN DEBT. THE OTHER BIG DEBTOR IS BRAZIL, WHICH IS AN OIL IMPORTER. COPING WITH THE FINANCIAL STRAINS ON MEXICO, IF PRICES FALL, WILL BE NO MORE DIFFICULT THAT COPING WITH THE STRAINS ON BRAZIL IF PRICES DON'T FALL," SAYS EDIT. SECOND EDIT SAYS CONVINCING CONGRESS TO PASS THE APPROPRIATION FOR THE IMF WILL BE DIFFICULT, WHICH IS UNFORTUNATE, BECAUSE A LOT OF AMERICAN JOBS DEPEND ON THAT MONEY. EDIT USES MEXICO AS EXAMPLE, NOTING THAT BEFORE ITS FINANCIAL TROUBLES, MEXICO WAS BUYING \$18 BILLION WORTH OF AMERICAN GOODS A YEAR, WHICH MADE IT ONE OF THE US THREE STRONGEST MARKETS. A GIANT RESCUE EFFORT KEPT MEXICAN ECONOMY FROM GOING UNDER -- IF MEXICO HAD BEEN FORCED INTO DEFAULT, EDIT NOTES, ALL TRADE ACROSS THE MEXICAN BORDER WOULD HAVE STOPPED EXCEPT FOR A TRICKLE OF BARTER. "WITHOUT THE NORMAL LINES OF COMMERCIAL CREDIT AND EXCHANGE, BILLIONS OF DOLLARS WORTH OF AMERICAN SALES TO MEXICO WOULD HAVE BEEN EVAPORATED. WHEN SALES ARE LOST, JOBS ARE LOST. EVEN WITH THE RESCUE, MEXICO'S IMPORTS FROM THIS COUNTRY DROPPED SHARPLY OVER THE SUMMER. THAT WAS ONE REASON, AND NOT A MINOR ONE, WHY THIS COUNTRY DID NOT COME OUT OF ITS RECESSION IN THE MIDDLE OF LAST YEAR AS MOST FORECASTERS HAD EXPECTED." SOME CONGRESSMEN, ALL POSTS PASS PAOS; MADRID PASS ASST. SECY. ENDERS CONCLUDES EDIT, SAY THEY'D "RATHER PUT THE MONEY INTO A JOBS PROGRAM THAN INTO THE IMF. IF THEY LOOK AGAIN, THEY WILL SEE THAT THE IMF IS -- AMONG OTHER THINGS -- A JOBS PROGRAM, LENDING CRUCIAL SUPPORT TO THE AMERICAN ECONOMY BY HELPING ITS CUSTOMERS ABROAD."

GRENADA: MILTON BASS HAS SUNDAY TRAVEL ARTICLE ON JOYS OF A VACATION IN GRENADA PAGE E2 (GRENADA, LOST IN SPACE AND TIME). BASS NOTES THAT TOURISM IS DOWN IN GRENADA, DESPITE ITS IMPORTANCE TO THE ECONOMY, AND SAYS THE REASONS FOR THIS "ARE COMPLEXLY SIMPLE. IN 1978, 41 CITIZENS WHO COULD NO LONGER TOLERATE THE REPRESSIVE GOVERNMENT OF PM ERIC GAIRY SET FIRE TO THE ARMY BARRACKS IN THE CAPITAL CITY OF ST. GEORGE'S, ROUTED THE 300 SOLDIERS, TOOK OVER THE RADIO STATION AND ESTABLISHED A REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT WHICH IS STILL IN POWER, WITH NO POPULAR ELECTIONS IN THE IMMINENT FUTURE. THE NEW GOVERNMENT QUICKLY BECAME ALLIED WITH CUBA AND NICARAGUA, WHICH OFFERED THEM MATERIAL AID. ACCORDING TO UNISON WHITEMAN, THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (ALSO FOREIGN MINISTER AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION), THE US HAD IGNORED THEIR REQUESTS FOR AID AND REFUSED TO ENTER INTO ANY MEANINGFUL DISCUSSIONS OR NEGOTIATIONS. D WHILE IN BARBADOS EARLIER

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THIS YEAR, PRESIDENT REAGAN NAILED IT HOME WITH THE STATEMENT THAT 'THE VIRUS OF GRENADA MUST NOT SPREAD THROUGH THE CARIBBEAN.' SO THERE YOU HAVE IT. THE PRINCIPAL CROPS OF GRENADA ARE NUTMEG, BANANAS, COCOA AND TOURISTS, AND THE MARKET IS DEPRESSED FOR ALL OF THEM." BASS ALSO NOTES CONSTRUCTION OF LARGE AIRPORT IN GRENADA, AND SAYS THIS WILL MAKE TOURISM EASIER, ALLOWING DIRECT JET FLIGHTS IN AND OUT OF THE ISLAND.

CUBA/VENEZUELA: EDWARD CODY HAS STORY PAGE 9 SUNDAY FROM MIAMI (BLACK-EDGED LEGEND IS ENDED IN A VULGAR MIAMI BAR BRAWL) OF DEATH IN A DEC. 20 BAR BRAWL OF RICARDO MORALES, CUBAN EXILE WHO HAD TIES TO THE CIA, NARCOTICS SMUGGLERS, THE DEA, ETC. "MICKEY" MORALES, ACCORDING TO CODY, "HAD CLAIMED THAT HE HELPED PLAN AND CARRY OUT THE 1976 BOMBING OF A CUBAN AIRLINER IN WHICH 72 PERSONS DIED NEAR BARBADOS. MORALES CLAIMED TO FRIENDS THAT THE C4 PLASTIQUE EXPLOSIVE USED TO BLOW UP THE PLANE CAME FROM A STOREROOM OF DISIP, THE VENEZUELAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICE IN WHICH MORALES WAS THEN A HIGH OFFICER, AND A THEN-DISIP DIRECTOR, ORLANDO GARCIA, KNEW ABOUT THE PLOT. MORALES EXPLAINED THAT MOST OF THOSE ABOARD, SOME LISTED AS THE CUBAN FENCING TEAM, WERE ACTUALLY IMPORTANT REGIONAL OPERATIVES OF THE DGI, THE CUBAN VERSION OF THE CIA."

EL SALVADOR: JOHN DINGES REVIEWS FOUR BOOKS ON EL SALVADOR, ALL CRITICAL OF US POLICY, ON PAGE 5 OF THE BOOK REVIEW SECTION SUNDAY (THE TRAGEDY OF CENTRAL AMERICA). DINGES SAYS THAT "A REMARKABLE, ALTHOUGH PERHAPS LESS THAN SURPRISING GENERALIZATION THAT CAN BE MADE ABOUT THIS FIRST CROP OF BOOKS ABOUT EL SALVADOR IN REVOLUTION IS THAT NONE PRESENTS A PICTURE EVEN REMOTELY RESEMBLING THE OFFICIAL VIEW OF THAT COUNTRY'S RECENT HISTORY URGED UPON US BY THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION. THE FIVE AUTHORS, ALL PROFESSIONAL LATIN AMERICAN WATCHERS, SEE THE CAUSES OF EL SALVADOR'S CURRENT PAROXYSM OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE AND CIVIL WAR IN THE COUNTRY'S SOCIO-ECONOMIC HISTORY AND IDIOSYNCRASY, AND REJECT OR RLEGATE TO MINOR IMPORTANCE THE KEY ELEMENTS CITED IN US POLICY AND PROPAGANDA, NAMELY THE GEOPOLITICS OF EAST-WEST STRUGGLE, 'COMMUNIST SUBVERSION' MANIPULATED FROM ABROAD, ALLEGATIONS OF NICARAGUAN AND/OR CUBAN ARMS SUPPLIES AND MARXIST IDEOLOGY. IT MUST SAY SOMETHING -- NOT LEAST ABOUT THE GROWING DISENCHANTMENT BETWEEN AMERICAN ACADEMICS SPECIALIZING IN LATIN AMERICA AND THEIR STATE DEPT. COUNTERPARTS -- THAT THE OFFICIAL RATIONALE FOR PUTTING US TROOPS IN COMBAT AREAS FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE VIETNAM AND COMMITTING NEARLY A BILLION DOLLARS IN AID MONIES SHOULD EVOKE SO LITTLE INTELLECTUAL RESONANCE." DINGES SAYS THE FOUR BOOKS REVIEWED ("EL SALVADOR: A REVOLUTION CONFRONTS THE US"; "EL SALVADOR: THE FACE OF REVOLUTION"; "EL SALVADOR IN TRANSITION"; AND "REVOLUTION IN EL SALVADOR: ORIGINS AND EVOLUTION.") OFFER THE RAW MATERIAL FOR UNDERSTANDING A COUNTRY AND ALL POSTS PASS PAOS; MADRID PASS ASST. SECY. ENDERS ITS INTERNAL STRUGGLE. THEY ARE MILESTONES, NOT DEFINITE

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STATEMENTS, IN THE OVERALL DEBATE OVER US POLICY IN LATIN AMERICA. THEIR CRITICISM OF THAT POLICY SHOULD, IN EFFECT, PLACE THE BALL IN THE ADMINISTRATION COURT, WITH A SCHOLARLY CHALLENGE TO BACK ITS CASE AS THOROUGHLY."

-- WASHINGTON TIMES 2/7/83 --

COSTA RICA: NEWS BRIEF PAGE 6 FROM SAN JOSE (KIRKPATRICK, COSTA RICANS MEET) SAYS AMB. KIRKPATRICK MET BEHIND CLOSED DOORS WITH COSTA RICAN FONMIN VOLIO OVER THE WEEKEND. MRS. KIRKPATRICK TOLD REPORTERS THE TALKS FORMED PART OF AN EFFORT TO SOLIDIFY CONTACTS MADE DURING PRESIDENT REAGAN'S VISIT IN DECEMBER.

EL SALVADOR: UPI FROM SAN SALVADOR PAGE 6 (GUERRILLAS DODGE ARMY, HIT ANOTHER SALVADORAN CITY) SAYS GUERRILLAS BATTLED THEIR WAY INTO THE DOWNTOWN AREA OF ANOTHER EASTERN CITY, JIQUILISCO, YESTERDAY, DODGING A 2000-MAN ARMY OFFENSIVE. ARTICLE ALSO NOTES EMBASSY SATURDAY STATEMENT ABOUT US TRAINERS.

JAMAICA: UPI FROM KINGSTON PAGE 7 (JAMAICA'S ECONOMIC REVIVAL TIED TO RELATIONS WITH US) SAYS THAT PM SEAGA "IS TRYING TO SHOW THAT FRIENDSHIP WITH WASHINGTON AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISE IS THE BEST WAY TO PULL AN ISLAND TOURIST HAVEN OUT OF ECONOMIC QUICKSAND. HE STILL HAS A LONG WAY TO GO AND A WORLD RECESSION TO OVERCOME." UPI SAYS SEAGA HAS "CHALKED UP NOTABLE SUCCESSES, REVAMPING THE ONCE AILING TOURIST INDUSTRY AND ATTRACTING FOREIGN LOANS TO SHORE UP THE ISLAND'S STILL DIFFICULT FOREIGN EXCHANGE SHORTAGE," ALTHOUGH JAMAICA'S ECONOMY DEPENDS MUCH MORE ON BAUXITE AND INDUSTRY THAN IT DOES ON TOURISM. WITH BAUXITE PRODUCTION DOWN, UNEMPLOYMENT IS UP.

CENTRAL AMERICA: UPI FROM VATICAN CITY PAGE 7 (POPE WILL VISIT LATIN NATINS MARCH 2-9) NOTES ANNOUNCEMENT OF POPE JOHN PAUL'S CENTRAL AMERICAN TRIP, IN WHICH POPE WILL VISIT EIGHT COUNTRIES DURING HIS FOURTH VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA SINCE HE BECAME POPE. POPE WILL VISIT COSTA RICA, NICARAGUA, PANAMA, EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, HONDURAS, BELIZE AND HAITI.

CENTRAL AMERICA: AP FROM SAN SALVADOR PAGE 7 (CHURCH SEARCHING FOR ITS NICHE IN CENTRAL AMERICA) SAYS THAT WHEN THE POPE VISITS CENTRAL AMERICA, "HE WILL FIND A ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH STILL SEARCHING FOR ITS ROLE IN THE MIDST OF VIOLENCE AND POLITICAL CONFLICT."

2. HIGHLIGHTS OF T.V. NEWSCASTS AND PROGRAMS FEBRUARY 4, 5 AND 6:

-- NBC NIGHTLY NEWS FEBRUARY 6 --

(CHRIS WALLACE) EL SALVADOR - THE U.S. EMBASSY IN EL SALVADOR IS REFUSING FURTHER COMMENT ON THOSE THREE U.S. ADVISORS WHO YESTERDAY WERE RELIEVED OF THEIR DUTIES THERE. THE THREE VIOLATED REGULATIONS BY BEING INVOLVED IN A COMBAT SITUATION. IN RECENT WEEKS REBEL FORCES HAVE ONCE AGAIN STEPPED UP THEIR ATTACKS.

-- CBS EVENING NEWS FEBRUARY 5 --

(LESLEY STAHL) ADVISORS ORDERED HOME FROM EL SALVADOR- (LEAD STORY) THREE AMERICAN GREEN BERET ADVISORS IN EL SALVADOR WERE ORDERED HOME TODAY. THEY HAVE BEEN HELD

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RESPONSIBLE FOR AN INCIDENT THREE DAYS AGO WHEN A GREEN BERET WAS WOUNDED BY REBEL GUNFIRE WHILE RIDING IN A SALVADORAN HELICOPTER. AT FIRST THE STATE DEPARTMENT SAID IT WAS A TRAINING FLIGHT AND NOT A COMBAT SITUATION. BUT THEN THE OFFICIAL LINE BEGAN TO CHANGE.

(BILL LYNCH) THE FIRST HINT CAME YESTERDAY WHEN AMBASSADOR HINTON CABLED WASHINGTON THAT THURSDAY'S CLAIMS WERE WRONG. IT TOOK HIM NEARLY 24 HOURS TO ISSUE A PUBLIC STATEMENT SAYING SGT. STANLEY WAS ON A HELICOPTER WHOSE PRIMARY PURPOSE WAS TO ESTABLISH DIRECT CONTACT WITH A SALVADORAN ARMY UNIT ON A TACTICAL ALL POSTS PASS PAOS; MADRID PASS ASST. SECY. ENDERS OPERATION. AMERICAN TRAINERS SHOULD NOT HAVE PARTICIPATED IN SUCH AN OPERATION. THE STATEMENT ALSO DISCLOSED THAT A SECOND HELICOPTER WITH A LEAST ONE AMERICAN BOARD WAS IN THE SAME AREA WEDNESDAY, ALSO AGAINST THE RULES. IT TOO CAME UNDER GROUND FIRE, BUT WITH NO CASUALTIES. TWO WARRANT OFFICERS AND A MASTER SGT. HAVE BEEN RELIEVED OF DUTY IN EL SALVADOR, AND ARE EXPECTED TO BE FLOWN MONDAY TO PANAMA WHERE A MILITARY INVESTIGATION IS UNDERWAY. STANLEY WAS NOT RELIEVED OF DUTY, BUT WILL LEAVE THE COUNTRY FOR MEDICAL CONVALESCENCE. TODAY'S REVISED EXPLANATION DID NOT SATISFY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON LATIN AMERICAN. (FOOTAGE OF MICHAEL BARNES STATEMENT: "ONCE AGAIN WE HAVE A SITUATION WHERE THE ADMINISTRATION PUTS OUT ONE LINE WHICH JUST WASN'T CREDIBLE FROM THE BEGINNING. AND YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO BE A MILITARY EXPERT TO KNOW YOU DON'T TRAIN PEOPLE 15 KILOMETERS FROM WHERE THE WAR IS GOING ON. SO, A LOT OF US RAISE QUESTIONS FROM THE OUTSET ABOUT IT. IT'S JUST UNFOTUNATE THAT YET AGAIN THE ADMINISTRATION HAS PLACED ITSELF IN A POSITION WHERE IT PUTS OUT ONE STORY AND THEN 2 DAYS LATER HAS TO SAY, 'WELL, SORRY ABOUT THAT, THAT WASN'T TRUE, HERE'S THE FACTS.' IT MAKES YOU WONDER ABOUT THIS STORY.") ANOTHER CONGRESSIONAL CRITIC OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY IN EL SALVADOR, JIM LEACH, SAYS HE WANT TO KNOW IF THE THREE SOLDIERS RELIEVED OF DUTY ARE MERELY SCAPEGOATS FOR HIGHER OFFICIALS.

(BILL MCLAUGHLIN) CUBA TOURISM - WHEN THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION ENDED THE BAN OF TRAVEL TO CUBA THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS FLOCKED TO THE ISLAND. THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION BROUGHT THAT TO A HALT LAST SPRING. IT DID IT BY BANNING THE USE IN CUBA OF ANY MONEY EARNED IN THE U.S. THE STATE DEPARTMENT DREW UP THE NEW POLICY, BUT NO ONE AT STATE WOULD TALK ABOUT IT. THE ADMINISTRATION FACES A LEGAL CHALLENGE BY AMERICANS ASSERTING THE RIGHT TO TRAVEL FREELY. THEIR CASE IS NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION AT THE FEDERAL APPEALS COURT IN BOSTON. UNDER THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION'S RESTRICTIONS CASTRO'S CUBA IS LOSING HARD CURRENCY. UNDER THOS SAME RESTRICTIONS AMERICANS MAY BE LOSING SOMETHING OF VALUE -- THE FREEDOM TO TRAVEL WHEN, WHERE AND HOW THEY WANT. WHICH COUNTRY IS LOSING MORE?

-- NBC NIGHTLY NEWS FEBRUARY 5 --

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(DAN MOLINA) ADVISORS ORDERED HOME FROM EL SALVADOR: THE AMERICAN ADVISORS WERE INVOLVED IN TWO SEPARATE HELICOPTER MISSIONS LAST WEDNESDAY MORNING. ONE OF THE TWO MISSIONS HAS ONLY BEEN DESCRIBED AS A COMBAT OPERATION. MUCH MORE IS KNOWN ABOUT THE OTHER MISSION, THE ONE DURING WHICH SGT. STANLEY WAS WOUNDED. THE HELICOPTER WITH STANLEY ABOARD WAS SENT TO THE SITE OF A BROKEN RELAY COMMUNICATIONS POINT. THE POINT OF INITIAL CONFUSION WAS WHETHER THE MISSION WAS TO FIX THE RELAY OR WHETHER THE HELICOPTER ITSELF, HOVERING OVERHEAD WITH ITS ANTENNA, ACTUALLY BECAME THE RELAY. THE ANSWER NOW FROM THE U.S. EMBASSY WAS THAT THE HELICOPTER WAS ITSELF RELAYING FIELD INSTRUCTIONS, AND SO WAS INVOLVED IN AN OPERATIONS MISSION. STANLEY'S TEAM LEADER AND TWO OTHERS WERE RELIEVED. THE REMAINING QUESTION IS WHETHER THE AMERICANS WERE CAUGHT IN A SITUATION WHERE SALVADORAN PILOTS WERE GIVING THE ORDERS DURING THE MISSION AND THEY HAD TO COOPERATE. AN OFFICIAL SOURCE SAYS IF THAT HAD BEEN THE CASE, THEY PROBABLY WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN RELIEVED. (BERNIE KALB) ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS SAY THEY WILL HAVE NO COMMENT WHILE AN INVESTIGATION UNDERWAY. BUT THE INCIDENT IS EXPECTED TO ESCALATE THE CONTROVERSY ON CAPITOL HILL OVER ADMINISTRATION POLICY TOWARD EL SALVADOR. SOME DEMOCRATS HAVE BEEN SHARPLY CRITICAL OF THAT POLICY, BUT ONE REACTION TODAY INDICATED THAT THE INCIDENT WOULD NOT UNDERCUT THE SUPPORT OF SENATOR LUGAR. (FOOTAGE OF LUGAR STATEMENT: "FOR TWO YEARS THE AMERICAN ADVISORS HAVE BEEN THERE. NEVER HAVE THEY BEEN SAFE, BUT AS A MATTER OF FACT THEY HAVE NOT BEEN WOUNDED, THEY HAVE NOT BEEN KILLED AND THEY HAVE DONE THE THINGS THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO DO. THAT IS, TRAINING MISSIONS. ALL POSTS PASS PAOS; MADRID PASS ASST. SECY. ENDERS CLEARLY OUR CREDIBILITY COMES FROM THE FACT THAT THIS CANNOT BE TOLERATED, AND THE PEOPLE INVOLVED IN ORDERING THOSE PEOPLE TO GO ON THOSE MISSIONS HAVE BEEN DISCIPLINED, AND THEY OUGHT TO BE." TODAY'S REPORT FROM THE U.S. EMBASSY IN EL SALVADOR CONTRAST SHARPLY WITH THE OFFICIALS REPORT AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT THURSDAY. THE EMBASSY SAYS THE FLIGHT ON WHICH SGT. STANLEY WAS WOUNDED WAS OPERATIONAL, BUT THE STATE DEPARTMENT, ON THE BASIS OF INITIAL REPORTS, PUT IT DIFFERENTLY THURSDAY -- THE SPOKESMAN SAYING THAT THE PILOT OF THE HELICOPTER NOTICED TRAFFIC BACKED UP ON THE PAN AMERICAN HIGHWAY AND DECIDED TO CHECK OUT THE SITUATION, AND THE HELICOPTER CAME UNDER FIRE. AND ANSWERING QUESTIONS ABOUT SGT. STANLEY, THESE COMMENTS" (FOOTAGE OF ALAN ROMBERG STATEMENT: "HE WAS NOT PARTICIPATING IN ANY COMBAT SITUATION." THE INCIDENT COMES AT AN EXTREMELY AWKWARD TIME FROM THE ADMINISTRATION, JUST AS IT IS TRYING TO WIN CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL FOR THE FISCAL 84 REQUEST FOR MILITARY AID AND ECONOMIC SUPPORT FOR EL SALVADOR, A TOTAL OF 205 MILLION DOLLARS.

3. GUIDANCES PREPARED FOR NOON BRIEFING FEBRUARY 7:

-- EL SALVADOR: THREE TRAINERS RELIEVED --

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER CLARIFICATION OF THE INCIDENT

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IN EL SALVADOR IN WHICH A U.S. TRAINER WAS SHOT, RESULTING IN THE RETURN TO THEIR PARENT UNITS OF THREE OTHER TRAINERS BECAUSE THEY HAD VIOLATED STANDING INSTRUCTIONS?

A: NO, I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING FOR YOU ON THAT TODAY. THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT MADE BY OUR EMBASSY IN SAN SALVADOR ON THE INCIDENT IS AVAILABLE IN THE PRESS OFFICE. AS IT NOTES, THE U.S. SOUTHERN COMMAND (SOUTHCOM) IN PANAMA WILL BE CONDUCTING AN INVESTIGATION, AND IN LIGHT OF THAT ONGOING INVESTIGATION, IT WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE FOR ME TO COMMENT FURTHER.

Q: HAS THAT INVESTIGATION ACTUALLY BEGUN?

A: IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THE OFFICER OR OFFICERS CHARGED WITH THE INVESTIGATION HAVE RECEIVED THEIR ORDERS TO THAT EFFECT. I'M NOT SURE WHETHER THEY HAVE ACTUALLY LEFT PANAMA FOR EL SALVADOR AS YET, BUT THE INVESTIGATION IS OFFICIALLY UNDERWAY.

Q: CAN YOU EXPLAIN TO US WHY ON THURSDAY YOU SAID THAT SGT. STANLEY WAS INVOLVED IN A TRAINING MISSION, AND THAT HE WAS NOT PARTICIPATING IN A COMBAT SITUATION, WHILE IT NOW APPEARS THAT THE FLIGHT HE WAS ON WAS AN "OPERATIONAL FLIGHT," WHICH IS AGAINST THE GUIDELINES?

A: OBVIOUSLY THERE ARE ASPECTS OF THE SITUATION WHICH HAVE BECOME MORE CLEAR SINCE THURSDAY. I BELIEVE I SAID THEN THAT WE WERE AWAITING FURTHER DETAILS OF THE INCIDENT.

Q: HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THE DISCREPANCY IN THE REPORTS OF THIS INCIDENT?

A: WITHIN 72 HOURS OF THE INCIDENTS HAVING BECOME KNOWN TO THE EMBASSY, PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE GUIDELINES VIOLATION AND THE RELIEF OF THREE INDIVIDUALS WAS MADE. THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF STAFF SERGEANT STANLEY'S INJURIES WAS MADE APPROXIMATELY 24 HOURS AFTER THE INCIDENT (AT ABOUT 9 AM, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3).

WHEN THE EMBASSY'S INVESTIGATION MADE IT QUITE CLEAR THAT THERE HAD INDEED BEEN A VIOLATION OF THE GUIDELINES, THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE AND DEFENSE WERE SO NOTIFIED BY NIACT IMMEDIATE CABLE (5:12 PM, THURSDAY, SALVADORAN TIME). THE EMBASSY, BEING CONSCIOUS THAT PUBLIC REVERSAL OF THE EARLIER ANNOUNCEMENT WOULD BE REQUIRED, PREPARED A RELEASE WHICH WAS SENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND DEFENSE ON FRIDAY (PM), IN ORDER TO INSURE THAT WASHINGTON WAS FULLY INFORMED OF THE PROPOSED ACTION. THE STATEMENT WAS RELEASED IN SAN SALVADOR AT 10 AM ON ALL POSTS PASS PAOS; MADRID PASS ASST. SECY. ENDERS SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5.

-- EL SALVADOR: ACTING ARCHBISHOP'S SUNDAY HOMILY --

Q: DOES THE DEPARTMENT HAVE ANY COMMENT ON ACTING ARCHBISHOP RIVERA Y DAMAS' SUNDAY HOMILY FROM SAN SALVADOR IN WHICH HE STATES THAT THE SALVADORAN ARMY WAS GUILTY OF "INDISCRIMINATE BOMBING" IN THE FIGHTING OVER BERLIN? (WASHPOST/NYTIMES/BALTSUN)

A: WE DON'T HAVE THE COMPLETE TEXT OF THE ACTING ARCHBISHOP'S SUNDAY HOMILY, BUT WOULD SHARE HIS DISMAY ABOUT ANY NONCOMBATANT CIVILIAN DEATHS WHICH MAY HAVE

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BEEN THE RESULT OF THE FIGHTING AROUND BERLIN. OUR OWN UNDERSTANDING, ALONG WITH PRESS REPORTS, INDICATES THAT A LARGE PROPORTION OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION HAD BEEN FORCED TO ABANDON THEIR HOMES IN BERLIN DURING THE INITIAL GUERRILLA ATTACKS ON BERLIN BEFORE THE SALVADORAN ARMY HAD LAUNCHED ITS OWN OFFENSIVE. THE FACTS SURROUNDING ANY REPORTED BOMBING OF BERLIN ARE STILL UNCLEAR, AND WE'RE SIMPLY IN NO POSITION TO MAKE ANY DEFINITIVE COMMENT ON THE SUBJECT.

(FYI TO BRIEFER: THE ACTING ARCHBISHOP, AS REPORTED IN SEVERAL OF THE PRESS ACCOUNTS, NOTED THAT THE DEATHS IN MILITARY OPERATIONS AND BATTLES OVER THE PAST WEEK (258) WERE "NOT YET CLARIFIED", AND WENT ON "TO ASK THE FMLN IF THE MILITARY AND POLITICAL OBJECTIVES GAINED IN THE PASSING OCCUPATION OF THE CITY JUSTIFIED THE SUFFERING OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WHO WILL NEED MANY MONTHS AND PERHAPS YEARS TO RECOVER PHYSICALLY AND PSYCHICALLY.")

Q: CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT A-37S WERE USED AROUND BERLIN?

A: YES.

-- PARAGUAY: ELECTIONS AND EXILES PREVENTED FROM VOTING --

Q: DOES THE DEPARTMENT HAVE ANY COMMENT ON SUNDAY'S PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS IN ASUNCION?

A: WE'RE READ THE PRESS REPORTS FROM PARAGUAY, BUT HAVE NO PARTICULAR COMMENT FOR YOU.

IF ASKED ONLY

Q: DOES THE DEPARTMENT HAVE ANYTHING TO ADD ON PRES S ACCOUNTS THAT SOME OPPOSITION POLITICAL EXILES WERE PREVENTED FROM DISEMBARKING AT THE AIRPORT?

(DIEHL/WASHPOST, SCHUMACKER/NYTIMES)

A: IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT SOME EIGHT EXILED POLITICAL OPPOSITION FIGURES, REPRESENTING THE COLORADO POPULAR MOVEMENT, THE AUTHENTIC RADICAL LIBERAL PARTY, AND THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY, WERE PREVENTED FROM DISEMBARKING FROM THEIR FLIGHT FROM BUENOS AIRES TO ASUNCION.

Q: IF, IN FACT, THE PARAGUAYAN STATE-OF-SEIGE WAS LIFTED FROM 24 HOURS DURING SUNDAY'S VOTING, WHAT WAS THE LEGAL BASIS FOR PREVENTING THESE OPPOSITION FIGURES FROM VOTING?

A: WE'RE UNAWARE OF THE LEGAL BASIS FOR PREVENTING THEIR DISEMBARKATION. -

Q: DOES THE DEPARTMENT HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THE INCIDENT?

A: WE DO NOT KNOW THE COMPLETE DETAILS IN THIS CASE, BUT, AS IN ANY COUNTRY, WE WOULD BE CONCERNED ABOUT OBSTACLES TO THE EXERCISE OF CIVIL RIGHTS.

4. SUMMARY OF NOON PRESS BRIEFING FEB. 7 (ROMBERG):
RELATIVELY SHORT BRIEFING FOCUSED PRIMARILY ON LATIN AMERICAN ISSUES, ESPECIALLY EL SALVADOR, AND THE QUESTION OF THE RELIEF OF THREE US TRAINERS. DID AMB. HINTON APPROVE OF THE OPERATION LAST WEEK IN WHICH SGT. STANLEY WAS INJURED? SPOKESMAN SAID IT WAS QUITE OBVIOUS HE HAD ALL POSTS PASS PAOS; MADRID PASS ASST. SECY. ENDERS NOT. SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT AMB. HINTON ADDRESSED THE ISSUE IN AN INTERVIEW ON THE TODAY PROGRAM THIS MORNING, AND SUGGESTED REPORTERS MIGHT WANT TO CHECK THE TRANSCRIPT OF THAT PROGRAM. WAS THIS APPEARANCE BY THE AMBASSADOR A

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CLARIFICATION OF EARLIER STATEMENTS? SPOKESMAN SAID NO, THAT A STATEMENT WAS ISSUED BY THE EMBASSY AND MADE AVAILABLE IN WASHINGTON WHICH IS AS MUCH DETAIL AS WE CAN GIVE NOW. SINCE SOUTHCOM IS CARRYING OUT AN INVESTIGATION, WE WOULD HAVE NO FURTHER COMMENT.

DOES THIS MEAN THE ORIGINAL GUIDANCE ON THE QUESTION WAS NOT CORRECT? SPOKESMAN SAID THAT AMB. HINTON IN HIS INTERVIEW HAD INDICATED THAT SOME OF THE INFORMATION IN THE ORIGINAL STORY WAS CORRECT, THAT IT WAS NOT AN INVENTED STORY. WE HAVE MADE THE FACTS KNOWN AS THEY BECAME AVAILABLE, AND THERE HAS BEEN NO ATTEMPT TO HIDE ANYTHING. REPORTERS PRESSED FOR A TRANSCRIPT OF AMB. HINTON'S TODAY INTERVIEW, BUT SPOKESMAN SAID HE DID NOT HAVE ONE. WHILE TRANSCRIPTS OF US OFFICIALS' TV INTERVIEWS DONE IN WASHINGTON ARE OFTEN AVAILABLE, WE DO NOT HAVE THEM FOR INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED WITH OFFICIALS OUTSIDE THE US.

BERNIE KALB OF NBC ASKED HOW THE DEPT. COULD EXPLAIN THE DISCREPANCY BETWEEN WHAT THE EMBASSY SAID AND WHAT THE DEPARTMENT SAID. SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT "YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT THE FACTS ARE, AND SO DO WE." OUR INITIAL GUIDANCE WAS BASED ON THE FIRST REPORTS OF THE INCIDENT, WHICH HAVE BEEN CLARIFIED SINCE THEN. IT WOULD NOT BE PROFITABLE TO PREJUDGE WHAT THE UPCOMING INVESTIGATION IS GOING TO SHOW. LOEB OF INTER-PRESS ASKED WHERE THE ORIGINAL REPORT THAT SGT. STANLEY HAD BEEN ON A TRAINING MISSION CAME FROM. SPOKESMAN SAID HE COULD NOT PINPOINT WHO EXACTLY HAD REPORTED THAT, BUT THAT THIS INFORMATION WAS INCLUDED IN THE INITIAL REPORTS.

THE PENTAGON SAYS AMB. HINTON WOULD NORMALLY BE AWARE OF THE TRAINERS' ACTIVITIES. IS THAT TRUE? SPOKESMAN SAID HE DOUBTED THAT THE AMBASSADOR REVIEWED THE DAILY ACTIVITIES OF EACH TRAINER, BUT THAT HE HAD OVERALL AUTHORITY FOR US ACTIVITIES IN EL SALVADOR, AND HAD BASIC GROUND RULES. LOEB ASKED WHETHER THE GROUND RULES FOR THE TRAINERS WOULD APPLY TO THE MILGROUP COMMANDER AS WELL, SINCE PRESS REPORTS INDICATE THAT HE WAS IN THE AREA OF BERLIN CLOSE TO THE FIGHTING EARLIER IN THE WEEK. SPOKESMAN SAID HE DID NOT KNOW. ARE THE TRAINERS ONLY SUPPOSED TO BE WORKING IN GARRISONS, OR HAVE THE RULES BEEN CHANGED? SPOKESMAN SAID HE DID NOT KNOW, AND AGREED TO LOOK INTO THAT QUESTION AND THE RELATIONSHIP OF AMB. HINTON TO THE TRAINERS' ACTIVITIES.

DANA ADAMS SCHMIDT OF THE WASHINGTON TIMES ASKED ABOUT AN ALLEGED MEMO BY ASST. SECY. THOMAS ENDERS TO THE NSC SAYING THAT THE GOES SHOULD EITHER FORM A COALITION WITH THE GUERRILLAS OR "CALL IN THE MARINES." SPOKESMAN SAID WE DO NOT DISCUSS ALLEGED LEAKED DOCUMENTS, BUT ONE WOULD HAVE TO USE HIS IMAGINATION TO COME UP WITH THAT KIND OF A POLICY STATEMENT ON THE PART OF AMB. ENDERS.

LOEB ASKED FOR COMMENT ON THE ACTING ARCHBISHOP'S SUNDAY HOMILY. SPOKESMAN USED THE GUIDANCE. LOEB SAID THAT ON JAN. 16 THE ARCHBISHOP HAD CALLED FOR NEGOTIATIONS? ANY THAT? SPOKESMAN SAID OUR POSITION ON

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NEGOTIATIONS IS QUITE CLEAR.

COMMENT ON REPORTS THAT FORMER SEN. STONE WILL BE THE ADMINISTRATION'S PUBLIC SPOKESMAN FOR CARIBBEAN AND CENTRAL AMERICAN POLICY? SPOKESMAN SAID HE HAD NOTHING ON THAT.

WHY IS ASST. SECY. ENDERS IN MADRID (LOEB)? SPOKESMAN SAID HE WAS THERE ON CONSULTATIONS, AND THAT WE CONSULT WITH A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT COUNTRIES ON A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT SUBJECTS. LOEB ASKED WHETHER THE TOPIC OF DISCUSSION WAS FELIPE GONZALEZ' PEACE PLAN. SPOKESMAN SAID HE COULD NOT GO INTO THE DETAILS OF WHAT IS BEING DISCUSSED, BUT IT COULD BE ASSUMED THAT LATIN AMERICAN ALL POSTS PASS PAOS; MADRID PASS ASST. SECY. ENDERS POLICY WAS THE MAIN TOPIC.

LOEB, RETURNING TO THE SUBJECT OF NEGOTIATIONS, NOTED THE SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT THAT OUR POLICY ON NEGOTIATIONS IS QUITE CLEAR, AND SAID THAT ASST. SECY. ENDERS HAD SAID IN CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY THAT US POLICY IS "CONFUSED." COMMENT? SPOKESMAN SAID THAT ASST. SECY. ENDERS HAD CLEARLY NOT SAID THAT US POLICY WAS CONFUSED, THAT WHAT ENDERS WAS REFERRING TO WAS THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE GOES IS GETTING "MIXED SIGNALS" BECAUSE OF ALL THE DIFFERENT VOICES COMING OUT OF THE US, BECAUSE OF CERTIFICATION, ETC. ADMINISTRATION POLICY IS QUITE CLEAR AND NOT CONFUSED.

LOEB ASKED FOR COMMENT ON "THE UPSET VICTORY BY GEN. STROESSNER IN PARAGUAY YESTERDAY." SPOKESMAN SAID HE HAD NONE. DAM

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