

UNCLAS 6F

*** BEGIN MESSAGE 26 ***

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WARNING: MINIMIZE CONSIDERED

SERIAL: PA1611221889

COUNTRY: EL SALVADOR

SUBJ: BISHOP CALLS FOR PEACE, DIALOGUE, REGRETS KILLINGS

SOURCE: SAN SALVADOR DOMESTIC SERVICE IN SPANISH 2011 GMT 16 NOV 89

TEXT:

//((INTERVIEW WITH SALVADORAN BISHOP ROBERTO JOAQUIN RAMOS BY UNIDENTIFIED REPORTER AT RADIO STATION -- LIVE))

((TEXT)) ((REPORTER)) WELCOME, MR BISHOP.

((RAMOS)) THANK YOU. I WANT TO APPEAL TO THE SALVADORAN PEOPLE FOR PEACE SO THAT WE MAY ALL STRUGGLE TO BUILD A COMMUNITY WHERE ((WORDS INDISTINCT)) VALUES.

IT IS REGRETTABLE THAT THE DIALOGUE PROCESS HAS COME TO A HALT AND THAT AT A MOMENT WHEN THE GERMANS ARE CELEBRATING THEIR UNITY, WE ARE INITIATING AN ARMED STRUGGLE.

I ESPECIALLY WANT TO EXPRESS MY REGRET AT THE ASSASSINATION OF THE JESUIT PRIESTS. THIS WAS A SAVAGE CRIME WITHOUT PRECEDENT IN EL SALVADOR'S HISTORY. ((WORDS INDISTINCT)) TO WORSEN THE COUNTRY'S SITUATION AND TO EXACERBATE PASSIONS TO MAKE PEACE INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT.

I HOPE THAT MY BROTHERS, ALL THE SALVADORANS WHO BELIEVE IN CHRIST, MAY LEARN TO VALUE LIFE AS A PRECIOUS GIFT FROM GOD, MAY LEARN TO RESPECT LIFE, TO RESPECT OTHER PEOPLE'S OPINIONS, AND TO LOVE OTHERS IN SPITE OF DIFFERENCES.

I ALSO HOPE THAT THIS PAINFUL SITUATION WE HAVE BEEN ENDURING FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS WILL MAKE US MORE AWARE OF OUR DUTIES AS CITIZENS AND CHRISTIANS. WE HAVE THE OBLIGATION TO BUILD A JUSTER SOCIETY, MORE DESERVING OF THE NAME THE NATION HAS CARRIED SINCE THE DAYS OF THE COLONY: EL SALVADOR.

I WANT THE SAVIOR TO ((WORDS INDISTINCT)) TO CALM DOWN THIS THIRST OF BLOOD THAT IS ((WORDS INDISTINCT)) AND DESTROYING USEFUL LIVES, THE LIVES OF ((WORDS INDISTINCT)) AND GET OVER THIS STORM ((WORDS INDISTINCT)) AS MEMBERS OF A CIVILIZED SOCIETY, OF A CHRISTIAN SOCIETY.

((REPORTER)) YOUR STATEMENT COMFORTS US AT THIS DIFFICULT MOMENT. DO YOU HAVE ANY RECOMMENDATION FOR THE SALVADORAN PEOPLE AS TO WHAT TO DO AT THIS TIME?

((RAMOS)) I RECOMMEND TO THE SALVADORAN PEOPLE TO REMAIN CALM, AND ESPECIALLY TO PRAY. ((WORDS INDISTINCT)) THE HEARTS OF PEACE THROUGH LOVE FOR GOD AND THE FAITH WE MAY HAVE.

((REPORTER)) DO YOU HAVE ANY RECOMMENDATION FOR THE REBELS, FOR THE FMLN SPECIFICALLY?

((RAMOS)) I WOULD ASK THEM TO REESTABLISH THE DIALOGUE THAT HAS BEEN BROKEN. IT HAS BEEN CONFIRMED, SINCE THE DAYS WHEN CAIN KILLED HIS BROTHER ABEL, THAT VIOLENCE IS NOT THE SOLUTION TO INJUSTICE. VIOLENCE GENERATES MORE VIOLENCE, AND AS CIVILIZED PEOPLE WE SHOULD RESOLVE OUR DIFFERENCES THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS AND DIALOGUE.

((ENDALL)) 162011 RN/ /EB WPES1611.05E 16/2220Z NOV 89

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