

UNCLASSIFIED

Department of State

INCOMING TELEGRAM

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ACTION INR-10

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SAN SALVADOR, 29 JULY 1986
(SIGNED) JOSE NAPOLEON DUARTE
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC AND COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE
ARMED FORCES.

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EL SALVADOR: DUARTE ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON KIDNAPPED COLONEL

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SAN SALVADOR DOMESTIC SERVICE IN SPANISH 1300 GMT 30 JUL 86

(COMMUNIQUE SIGNED BY SALVADORAN PRESIDENT JOSE NAPOLEON
DUARTE AS COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES -- DATED 29
JULY)

(TEXT) THE GENERAL COMMAND OF THE ARMED FORCES
OF EL SALVADOR HEREBY RESPONDS TO RECENT REPORTS ON THE KIDNAPPING
OF COLONEL OMAR NAPOLEON AVALOS MADE KNOWN HERE AND ABROAD.

1. THE ARMED INSTITUTION HAS BEEN CONCERNED WITH MAKING
POSSIBLE THE RETURN OF COL AVALOS TO HIS FAMILY AND TO HIS
PROFESSIONAL TASKS FROM THE VERY MOMENT THAT HE WAS
KIDNAPPED BY A SUBVERSIVE FMLN-FDR GROUP.
2. UNFORTUNATELY, THE SUBVERSIVE ORGANIZATIONS REFUSED TO ALLOW
PERSONAL CONTACT BETWEEN COL AVALOS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
SALVADORAN CHURCH AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN
ORGANIZATIONS, AND FOR THIS REASON THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF THE
VICTIM COULD NOT BE ESTABLISHED. THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH HE
IS BEING ILLEGALLY HELD COULD NOT BE ESTABLISHED EITHER. THIS
MADE EFFORTS FOR HIS RELEASE MORE DIFFICULT.
3. DURING HIS ILLEGAL AND UNJUST CAPTIVITY, COL AVALOS HAS BEEN
DEPRIVED OF THE GUARANTEES TO WHICH HE, AS HUMAN BEING, IS ENTITLED.
4. SINCE THE ARMED FORCES HAVE BEEN INFLECTING MANY CASUALTIES
ON THE EXTREMIST GROUPS, THEY HAVE APPEALED TO A HUMANISTIC
CONSIDERATION ON THE PART OF THE ARMED FORCES TO ALLOW THE
EVACUATION FROM THE COUNTRY OF AN UNDETERMINED NUMBER OF REEELS
CRIPPLED BY THE VIOLENCE THAT THEY HAVE CHOSEN TO IMPOSE IN THE
SALVADORAN PEOPLE.

AS A RESULT OF THIS, THE ARMED FORCES HIGH COMMAND HAS
CONDITIONED THIS HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATION TO THE IMMEDIATE
RELEASE OF COL OMAR NAPOLEON AVALOS, BUT THE IRRESPONSIBLE
LEADERS OF THE FMLN-FDR HAVE REFUSED TO FULFILL MINIMUM
HUMANITARIAN OBLIGATIONS TOWARD THEIR OWN CRIPPLED ELEMENTS
AND HAVE REFUSED TO RELEASE COL AVALOS.

3. NEVERTHELESS, IN THE 9 MONTHS OF THE INHUMAN CAPTIVITY
TO WHICH COL AVALOS HAS BEEN SUBJECTED, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME
THAT THE POSSIBILITY OF HIS RELEASE HAS APPEARED. ALTHOUGH
SO FAR THERE HAS BEEN NO FORMAL AND SPECIFIC PROPOSAL FROM THE
EXTREMIST FMLN-FDR GROUPS.

6. ONCE THE DEMANDS OF THE MARXIST ORGANIZATIONS ARE KNOWN,
THIS GENERAL COMMAND IS PREPARED TO CONSIDER ADEQUATE POSSIBILITIES
TO FIND A SOLUTION TO THIS CASE IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE LAW AND
HUMANITARIAN PRINCIPLES THAT MUST BE OBSERVED AND RESPECTED BY
ALL THOSE WHO ARE DEEPLY COMMITTED TO THE SEARCH FOR PEACE IN OUR
COUNTRY.

Approved for Release
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