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PLANS BY THE NATIONALIST REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE TO AMEND
PRESIDENT DUARTE'S GENERAL AMNESTY PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE
PRISONERS CONVICTED IN THE AMERICAN NUNS CASE AND
THOSE IMPLICATED IN THE SHERATON HOTEL CASE

[REDACTED]

Approved for Release
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[REDACTED] PROMINENT MEMBER OF THE NATIONALIST REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE (ARENA) TOLD A FELLOW ARENA MEMBER THAT IF PRESIDENT JOSE NAPOLEON ((DUARTE)) FOLLOWS THROUGH WITH HIS PROPOSAL FOR A GENERAL AMNESTY FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS, THAT ARENA WOULD AMEND THE PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE AMNESTY FOR THE NATIONAL GUARDSMEN CONVICTED OF MURDERING FOUR AMERICAN NUNS AND THE NATIONAL GUARDSMEN IMPLICATED IN THE MURDERS OF A SALVADORAN LABOR LEADER AND TWO AMERICAN LABOR ADVISORS AT THE SHERATON HOTEL. [REDACTED] SAID THAT BOTH OF THESE CRIMES WERE POLITICAL IN NATURE AND MOTIVE, AND DESERVED THE SAME CONSIDERATION FOR AMNESTY AS DO CRIMES OF SUBVERSION, TERRORISM, KIDNAPPING AND MURDER PERPETRATED BY LEFTIST INSURGENTS.

2. [REDACTED] ARENA'S NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEPUTIES WERE IN AGREEMENT THAT A GENERAL AMNESTY SHOULD INCLUDE NOT ONLY LEFTIST INSURGENTS, WHO THEY SAY HAVE CAUSED CONSIDERABLE DESTRUCTION AND MISERY IN THE COUNTRY, BUT ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS AND SUSPECTS, INCLUDING SALVADORAN MILITARY PERSONNEL. [REDACTED] IF THIS PROVISION WAS NOT INCLUDED IN DUARTE'S PROPOSAL, THE ARENA FACTION WOULD VOTE AS A BLOC TO DISAPPROVE THE AMNESTY AND WOULD ATTEMPT TO PERSUADE OTHER CONSERVATIVE DEPUTIES TO DO THE SAME.