

[REDACTED]

TOT: 020031Z MAY 90

[REDACTED]

SUBJECT: MARIO DENIS MORAN ECHEVERRIA

THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY ON MARIO DENIS MORAN ECHEVERRIA (DOB: 12 AUGUST 1939 IN SALVADOR)

[REDACTED]

REPORTED THAT HE HAD BEEN EMPLOYED IN CERTAIN MATTERS WHICH WERE OUTSIDE THE COMPETENCE OF HIS JOB. TRANSFERRED TO [REDACTED] IN EXTREME RIGHTIST ACTIVITIES.

D. ON 1 MAY 1981 [REDACTED] REPORTED THE INADVERTENT DISCOVERY BY THE SALVADORAN NATIONAL POLICE OF A [REDACTED]

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SUSPECTED RIGHT WING TERRORIST GROUP WITH APPARENT LINKS TO RIGHTIST MILITARY OFFICERS. THE MILITARY OFFICERS IDENTIFIED INCLUDED MAJOR MORAN, WHO SUPPORTED THE ARMED FORCES CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE LEFT.

E. MORAN, FORMER HEAD OF THE NATIONAL GUARD'S INTELLIGENCE UNIT, DIRECTED A "DEATH SQUAD" FUNDED BY SALVADORAN BUSINESSMAN RICARDO ((SOL)) MESA, A LONGTIME LOYALIST OF ROBERTO ((D'AUBUISSON)), FOUNDER AND HONORARY PRESIDENT FOR LIFE OF NATIONALIST REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE (ARENA). REPORTED SOL MESA AND MORAN USED THIS DEATH SQUAD TO KILL RODOLFO ((VIERA)), FORMER HEAD OF THE SALVADORAN AGRARIAN REFORM INSTITUTE (ISTA) AT THE SHERATON HOTEL IN SAN SALVADOR ON 4 JANUARY 1981. U.S. CITIZENS MIKE ((HAMMER)) AND MARK ((PEARLMAN)) OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR FREE LABOR DEVELOPMENT (AIRFLD) WERE KILLED BECAUSE THEY HAPPENED TO BE WITH VIERA AT THE TIME AND BECAUSE THEY SUPPORTED VIERA'S AGRARIAN REFORM ACTIVITIES. HAMMER AND PEARLMAN APPARENTLY WERE NOT TARGETS IN THEIR OWN RIGHT. THIS EVENT IS KNOWN AS THE SHERATON MURDERS.

F. REPORTED IN MARCH 1983 THAT MORAN, FORMER HEAD OF A DEATH SQUAD IN SAN SALVADOR, WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATH OF DOMINIC MILLER ((MOLINA)) PANAMA. MOLINA'S DEATH SQUAD PLANNED AND CARRIED OUT THE ASSASSINATION OF ARCHBISHOP OSCAR ARNULFO ((ROMERO)) IN MARCH 1981.

G. REPORTED D'AUBUISSON WAS USING HIS INFLUENCE IN THE ARMED FORCES TO ADVANCE THE CAREERS OF RIGHTIST OFFICERS WHO HAD BEEN PERSONAL ENEMIES OF THESE OFFICERS WERE COLONEL ROBERTO MORALES AND COLONEL PANAMA.

H. MORAN, FORMER SALVADORAN MILITARY OFFICER IN PANAMA AND COMMANDER OF THE ARMED FORCES TRAINING CENTER (CIIFA), WAS ATTEMPTING TO RECRUIT OFFICERS FROM THE GUERRILLA PATHIES TO WORK FOR HIM AT CIIFA. MORAN PERSUADED COLONEL ANAYA ((ANAYA)), ROSA, A DEATH SQUAD MEMBER AND IMPLICATED IN THE SHERATON MURDER CASE, TO RESIGN FROM HIS POSITION AS CHIEF OF SECURITY FOR THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND TO ACCEPT A POSITION AT CIIFA.

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J. [REDACTED] REPORTED IN MARCH 1984, LT. COLONEL MORAN, COMMANDER OF CIIFA IN THE DEPARTMENT OF LA PAZ HAD BEEN PRESSURING THE GENERAL POPULACE TO VOTE FOR ARENA. MORAN HAD BEEN GIVING POLITICAL SPEECHES IN TOWNS AND VILLAGES OF HIS COMMAND, URGING THE CITIZENS TO VOTE "ANTI-COMMUNIST." THE ACTIVITIES OF MORAN VIOLATED THE "APOLITICAL POSITION" OF THE ARMED FORCES. [REDACTED]

K. [REDACTED] REPORTED IN MAY 1984 THE INTENTIONS OF THE SALVADORAN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE JOSE NAPOLEON ((DUARTE)) TO REMOVE CERTAIN MILITARY OFFICERS WHICH INCLUDED LT. COLONEL MORAN. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] REPORTED ARENA SECURITY CHIEF REGALADO HAD COMMISSIONED ONE OF HIS SUBORDINATES TO PLAN AND CARRY OUT ASSASSINATIONS OF KEY LEADERS OF THE SALVADORAN LABOR ORGANIZATION, THE POPULAR DEMOCRATIC UNION (UPD). REGALADO COUNTED UPON AMMUNITION RESUPPLY FROM THE TREASURY POLICE, AND ARMY. LT. COLONEL MORAN REGULARLY PROVIDED MILITARY CREDENTIALS FOR USE BY REGALADO PERSONNEL. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] IN NOVEMBER 1983 MORAN WAS REPORTED OUTSIDE SALVADOR POSSIBLY IN SANAGUA. [REDACTED]