

[REDACTED]

EL SALVADOR: Terrorist Campaign

The largest and most radical of the five Salvadoran antigovernment factions may be stepping up its terrorist tactics.

[REDACTED]

The Popular Liberation Front has claimed responsibility for the assassination of Commander Schaufelberger in San Salvador last week. [REDACTED] the leaders of the operation received special congratulations. [REDACTED]

Meanwhile, a [REDACTED] says guerrillas executed a number of government soldiers who surrendered during an insurgent attack on a bridge in San Vicente Department last week. More than 40 of the 82 defenders reportedly died as a result of the attack. [REDACTED] the Popular Liberation Front also was responsible for that operation. [REDACTED]

Comment: The Front may be seeking revenge for the deaths of its two top leaders in Managua last month. The insurgents publicly blamed the US for the killings, although [REDACTED] indicate an internal feud led to the murders. After the deaths, the Front apparently murdered several captured soldiers after taking Cinquera in central El Salvador. [REDACTED]

By killing the US adviser, the insurgents probably hope to bring new attention to the US military presence in El Salvador and stimulate opposition in the US to any increase. They may attempt similar killings in Honduras, where the US plans to send more advisers in conjunction with the opening of a new center that will train Salvadoran units in counterinsurgency tactics. [REDACTED]

Approved for Release

NOV 1993

[REDACTED]