

[REDACTED]

NID - 8 NOVEMBER 89

EL SALVADOR: Capital Tense

The Salvadoran military, [REDACTED] says FMLN insurgents plan a series of urban attacks soon, possibly this week. [REDACTED] indicates an unusual concentration of rebels in and around San Salvador, and a [REDACTED] said last week that [REDACTED] platoons had moved from insurgent base areas to the vicinity of the city over the previous two weeks. [REDACTED] says the FMLN has stockpiled homemade bombs at the National University in San Salvador. Government troops are on alert amid threats of more political assassinations by the guerrillas and fears of reprisals by rightists or renegade elements in the military. [REDACTED]

Comment: The government will try to avoid a cycle of violence and persuade the FMLN to reconsider their suspension of participation in peace talks. Nevertheless, the Army will be hard pressed to check sporadic urban terrorism, especially assassination attempts against military officers and rightists. Rebel plans also call for seizing several government buildings, but the insurgents are more likely to launch rocket attacks against government installations and intensify economic sabotage. [REDACTED]

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