

~~NOFORN~~

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PAGE:1154

INQUIRE=DJC17D
ITEM NO=00090740
ENVELOPE

CDSN = LGX363 MCN = 92045/10062 TOR = 920450616
RTTSZYUW RUEKJCS1954 0450613-SSSS--RUEALGX.
ZNY SSSSS

HEADER

R 140613Z FEB 92
FM JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC
RUEKCCG/USDP-CCC WASHINGTON DC
RUCQVAB/USCINCSOC INTEL OPS CEN MACDILL AFB FL
RUEALGX/SAFE

R 140547Z FEB 92

FM CIA
TO RUCLAPA/12AIS BERGSTROM AFB TX
RHFIAAA/15AF MARCH AFB CA
RUWMEGA/24 COMPW HOWARD AFB
RUCIPGA/32SFW TYNDALL AFB FL/IN
RUHVAAA/3AD/IN HICKHAM AFB HI
RUEBEJA/436 MAW/DOI DOVER AFB
RUCIBBA/9TH AF SHAW AFB
RHCDAAA/AFSOC HURLBURT FLD FL
RUCBSAA/AIC NORFOLK VA
RHCPMXA/AIR UNIVERSITY
RULNNRA/ARMY WAR COLLEGE
RHFJKXT/CARIBROC KEY WEST FL
RUEOFAA/CDR JSOC FT BRAGG NC
RUEOHNA/CDR USASOC FT BRAGG NC
RUEOGWA/CDR1930INFBDE FT CLAYTON PM
RUEOACC/CDR4THPSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC
RUEATAC/CDRUSAITAC WASHDC
RULYOWA/CG FOURTH MEB
RUCBLFJ/CG II MEF
RUCKMOA/CG SECOND FSSG
RUCKDDA/CG SECOND MARDIV
RUCKFCA/CG SECOND MAW
RUCBLFA/CGFMFLANT
RUSNNOA/CINCEUR
RUCOSYA/CINCLANTFLT DET SO FT AMADOR PM
RUCBSAA/CINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA
RHDLCNE/CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK
RULSJGA/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC
RULSJGA/COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC
RHDLSDP/COMFAIR KEFLAVIK
RUWDTAA/COMNAVSPECWARCOM CORONADO CA
RULYVBA/COMSECONDFLT
RUETIAS/COMUSARMY FT MEADE
RUEBBJB/DEA EL PASO INTEL CENTER/CIA REP EPIC
RUEAUSA/DEPT OF LABOR
RUEHC/DEPT OF STATE

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RUEKJCS/DIA WASHINGTON DC
 RULKNIS/DIRNAVINSERV WASHDC
 RUETIAA/DIRNSA
 RUKGNLA/DLA CAMERON STATION VA
 RUKGNHA/FAA
 RUCFAAA/FEMA SF WASH DC
 RUEBGHA/FEMA WASHDC
 RUCEAAB/HQ AFSPACECOM INTEL PETERSON AFB CO
 RUEBNBA/HQ AFTAC-IN PATRICK AFB FL
 RUEADWD/HQ DA
 RHDIAAA/HQ TAC
 RUVESLA/HQ USSPACECOM/CIA REP PETERSON AFB COLO
 RUEBWJA/INS
 RUWSMXI/MAC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL
 RHCFMDD/MARDET UNITAS
 RUWMHJA/NAVSTKWARCEN
 RUEDASA/NAVY WAR COLLEGE
 RHCCAAA/NE AD SECTOR GRIFFIS AFB NY/IN
 RUEAIJU/NPIC
 RUWMFLA/NWADS/IN MCCHORD AFB
 RULWAAE/SAC CIA REP
 RHEPAAB/TAC IDHS FACILITY LANGLEY AFB VA
 RUEATRS/TREASURY DEPT
 RULYHOV/TWO TWO MEU
 RUWMEGA/USAFSO/LA
 RUCJACC/USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB
 RUCBSAA/USCINCLANT NORFOLK VA
 RUHQHQA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI
 RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM
 RUCQVAB/USCINCSOC INTEL OPS CEN MACDILL AFB
 RULYVGA/USCOMSOLANT
 RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC
 RUWSMXI/USTRANSCOM INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL
 RUCNDT/USUN NEW YORK
 RHEHAAA/WHITE HOUSE
 RHEHAAA/WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM
 BT

~~CONTROLS~~

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SECTION 1 OF 2
CITE CIA 229450

AFTAC PATRICK AFB/IN; DEPT OF STATE FOR SECSTATE AID; USUN NEW YORK
 FOR POLAD; DIA FOR LA; CINCEUR FOR POLAD; USCINCSO QHTS PANAMA FOR
 POLAD; AIR UNIVERSITY FOR STATE REP AND CIA REP; NAVY WAR COLLEGE
 FOR STATE DEPT REP; TREASURY DEPT ATTN MRS BECK DADS; COMUSARMY FT
 MEADE FOR SPECIAL RESEARCH DET; COMDT COASTGUARD FOR POLAD; HQ TAC
 FOR TACOPS/INOI; HQS DLA FOR CIS; BERGSTROM AFB TEX FOR 67 TRW/IN;
 NPIC FOR PB CABLES; CINCUSAFE FOR INOCN XPNN; MAC INTEL CENTER SCOTT
 AFB; CDRUSAITAC WASHDC FOR GIPD; HQ AFSOC HURLBURT FLD FL//IN//; CDR
 USASOC FT BRAGG NC//AQIN//; COMNAVSPECWARCOM CORONADO CA//N2//;

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CDR4THPSYOP GP FT BRAGG NC//ASOF POG//; 24 COMP WING HOWARD AFB DOI;
26AD LUKE AFB ARIZ//INEZ; 92BMW FAIRCHILD AFB WA/IN, 12 TIS
BERGSTROM AFB FOR INI, INS ATTN COINT, 9TH AFB SHAW SC//IN//,
CENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//J2//, FAA//ATTN ACS-400; NE AD SECTOR
GRIFFISS AFB PASS TO IN; CG II MEF//G2//FOR SECOND SRI GROUP; HQ
AFSPACECOM/IN; USTRANS INTELCEM SCOTT AFB//CIA REP; COMFAIR KEFLAVIK
IC//N2//; HQ AFSPACECOM PETERSON AFB CO/INTEL/INO/INA/INU.

FROM: DDI/O/CPAS

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY
SUBJECT: LATIN AMERICA BRIEF [REDACTED] FOR 14 FEBRUARY
1992.

CONTENTS

- 1. IN BRIEF [REDACTED]
- 2. GUATEMALA: SHOWING PROGRESS ON KEY ISSUES [REDACTED]
- 1. IN BRIEF [REDACTED]

AMERICAS

2. GUATEMALA: SHOWING PROGRESS ON KEY ISSUES [REDACTED]

SINCE ASSUMING OFFICE A YEAR AGO, PRESIDENT SERRANO HAS DIRECTED A STRONG ECONOMIC RECOVERY, MADE PROGRESS IN IMPROVING RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, WORKED TO MAKE THE MILITARY MORE RESPONSIVE TO CIVILIAN AUTHORITY, AND DEMONSTRATED HIS COMMITMENT TO ATTACKING NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING. HIS COMBATIVE PERSONALITY AND INABILITY TO BUILD CONSENSUS, HOWEVER, COULD JEOPARDIZE FURTHER ADVANCES. [REDACTED]

ONE OF SERRANO'S CHIEF ACCOMPLISHMENTS HAS BEEN THE EARLY SUCCESS OF HIS ECONOMIC POLICIES. HIS REFORM PROGRAM HAS RESULTED IN REAL GNP CONTINUING TO GROW AT ABOUT 3 PERCENT, INFLATION FALLING FROM 60 TO 10 PERCENT, AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES INCREASING FROM \$50 MILLION TO \$600 MILLION. A POLL CONDUCTED THIS MONTH, HOWEVER, SHOWS SERRANO'S POPULAR APPROVAL RATING HAS SLIPPED FROM 42 TO 25 PERCENT SINCE JULY, IN PART BECAUSE OF HIS BELT-TIGHTENING POLICIES. [REDACTED]

HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD IMPROVING

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[REDACTED], SERRANO HAS SOUGHT TO IMPROVE GUATEMALA'S HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD. IN AUGUST, FOR EXAMPLE, HE CREATED A CABINET-LEVEL COMMISSION TO PROBE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS. IN ADDITION, AN ARMY OFFICER AND AN ENLISTED MAN HAVE BEEN CONVICTED AND IMPRISONED FOR THE MASSACRE OF 14 INDIANS IN DECEMBER 1990-- UNPRECEDENTED PUNISHMENT FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL. THE EMBASSY ALSO REPORTS THAT POLITICALLY MOTIVATED MURDERS ARE BECOMING LESS FREQUENT, LARGELY BECAUSE OF THE PRESIDENT'S INITIATIVES. THE MURDER OF US CITIZEN MICHAEL DEVINE IN 1990 BY ARMY TROOPS IS STILL UNSOLVED AND REMAINS THE KEY STUMBLINGBLOCK TO A RESUMPTION OF US MILITARY AID. [REDACTED]

THE FIGHT AGAINST NARCOTICS

SERRANO HAS MADE STRIDES IN COUNTERING THE TRANSSHIPMENT OF COCAINE THROUGH GUATEMALA TO THE US, BUT HE HAS ACHIEVED LITTLE IN OTHER COUNTERNARCOTICS AREAS. AN EVANGELICAL CHRISTIAN WHO VIEWS DRUG TRAFFICKING AS IMMORAL AND AS A THREAT TO SOCIETY, HE IS STRONGLY COMMITTED TO UPGRADING GUATEMALA'S ANTIDRUG CAPABILITIES. SERRANO HAS ACCEPTED DIRECT US ASSISTANCE--DESPITE HIS GENERAL WARINESS OF INVOLVING WASHINGTON IN GUATEMALAN AFFAIRS--INCLUDING SUPPORT FOR OPERATION CADENCE, A BILATERAL QUICK-REACTION FORCE. AS A RESULT, A RECORD 17.5 METRIC TONS OF COCAINE WERE SEIZED LAST YEAR. [REDACTED]

NEVERTHELESS US-BACKED ANTIDRUG LEGISLATION HAS LANGUISHED IN CONGRESS FOR A YEAR, AND THE EXTRADITION OF TRAFFICKERS TO THE US REMAINS A SLOW AND UNCERTAIN PROCESS. GUATEMALA ALSO CONTINUES TO BE A SIGNIFICANT REGIONAL PRODUCER OF RAW OPIUM GUM, EVEN THOUGH A BILATERAL OPIUM POPPY ERADICATION PROGRAM HAS HELPED PREVENT AN INCREASE IN TOTAL CULTIVATION. [REDACTED]

OUTLOOK

SERRANO IS LIKELY TO CONTINUE TO FOCUS ON THE PEACE PROCESS AND ON NORMALIZING RELATIONS WITH BELIZE--ISSUES IN WHICH HE HAS BEEN PERSONALLY INVOLVED. PROSPECTS ARE GOOD FOR RESOLVING BOTH OF THESE LONGSTANDING PROBLEMS THIS YEAR, WHICH WOULD BOOST GUATEMALA'S INTERNATIONAL IMAGE BUT PROBABLY WOULD DO LITTLE TO EXPAND THE PRESIDENT'S POWER BASE AT HOME. HIS FIRM OPPOSITION TO DRUG TRAFFICKING AND HIS DESIRE TO BE SEEN AS A REGIONAL LEADER MAY PROMPT HIM TO SPONSOR INCREASED MULTILATERAL COUNTERNARCOTICS INITIATIVES. [REDACTED]

/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 002 *****/

POLITICAL MISCALCULATIONS COULD COMPLICATE SERRANO'S PROGRESS ON THE DOMESTIC FRONT. HIS RECENT FAILURE TO MARSHAL SUPPORT BEFORE MAKING A BID TO GAIN CONTROL OF THE LEGISLATURE AND THE SUPREME COURT HAS LEFT HIM IN A WEAK POSITION TO PUSH CRITICAL BILLS--SUCH AS A FISCAL REFORM PROPOSAL--THROUGH THE CONGRESS. SIMILAR MISSTEPS

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COULD JEOPARDIZE THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY, JUDICIAL REFORM, AND OTHER
PRESSING ISSUES. [REDACTED]

BOX

PRESSING THE GUATEMALAN MILITARY ON HUMAN RIGHTS

PRESIDENT SERRANO HAS PUT CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE ON THE ARMED
FORCES TO HALT HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES AND HAS DEMANDED THAT MEN
INVOLVED IN TWO HIGH-PROFILE CASES BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE:

--IN NOVEMBER, SERRANO VOLUNTEERED TO TESTIFY AGAINST A NAVY CAPTAIN
AND SIX ENLISTED MEN CHARGED WITH THE MURDERS OF 11 CIVILIANS LAST
YEAR. THE PRESIDENT CLAIMS THE CAPTAIN CONFESSED TO HIM. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], THE CAPTAIN RECENTLY WAS DISCHARGED FROM
THE NAVY AND WILL BE TRIED AS A CIVILIAN WITH NO MILITARY IMMUNITY
OR PROTECTION.

- [REDACTED] SERRANO IS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED
WITH RESOLVING THE MURDER OF MICHAEL DEVINE. IN JANUARY, A COURT
DECLARED THAT THERE WAS ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO REARREST AN ARMY CAPTAIN
IN CONNECTION WITH THE KILLING. DEFENSE MINISTER GARCIA AND THE HIGH
COMMAND HAVE ASSURED US OFFICIALS THEY INTEND TO HAVE THE CASE
SOLVED EXPEDITIOUSLY. [REDACTED]

DRVW 14 FEBRUARY 2012.

ADMIN
BT

#1955

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