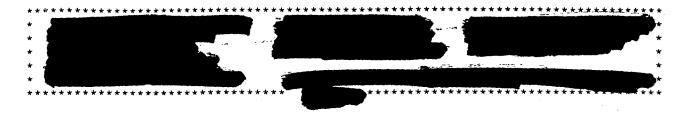
PAGE 001 JUL 83

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DIST: 21 JULY 83 COUNTRY: HONDURAS

SUBJ: PLAN TO ESTABLISH AN INTELLIGENCE BATTALION OF THE

HONDURAN ARMED FORCES

AT THE GENERAL STAFF HEADQUARTERS. A SECURE TELEX COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM WILL BE ESTABLISHED BETWEEN THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE BATTALION AND THE GENERAL STAFF.

TEXT: 1. AS OF MID-JULY 1983, GENERAL GUSTAVO ((ALVAREZ))
MARTINEZ, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE HONDURAN ARMED FORCES, INTENDS
TO ESTABLISH A MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BATTALION. THIS NEW
BATTALION WILL HAVE OVERALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR MILITARY INTELLIGENCE
AND WILL HANDLE ALL ASPECTS OF THE PROGRAM, INCLUDING THE COLLECTION
AS WELL AS THE PROCESSING OF INTELLIGENCE. ITS VARIOUS
COMPONENT WILL GATHER INTELLIGENCE, LEVY REQUIREMENTS, AND
PREPARE ANALYSES AND TACTICAL AND STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE STUDIES.
THE BATTALION WILL HAVE THE FOLLOWING COMPANY-LEVEL COMPONENTS:
INTELLIGENCE, COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE, SPECIAL OPERATIONS,
OPERATIONAL SUPPORT, AND PHYSICAL SECURITY. THE NEW UNIT WILL
HAVE A SMALL CADRE OF PERSONNEL WHO WILL BE ON TWENTY-FOUR DUTY

2. THE INTELLIGENCE BATTALION WILL BE UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF LT. COL. JUAN ((LOPEZ)) GRIJALVA, J-2 OF THE ARMED FORCES GENERAL STAFF. ALTHOUGH THE ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE IS TO HAVE THE BATTALION AT FULL PERSONNEL STRENGTH, CURRENT LIMITED MILITARY RESOURCES AND MANPOWER WILL REQUIRE THE UNIT TO BE STAFFED WITH SIGNIFICANTLY LESS PERSONNEL AT THE OUTSET. THE HONDURAN MILITARY ANTICIPATE BUILDING THE UNIT UP TO FULL BATTALION STRENGTH OVER A THREE-YEAR PERIOD.

