

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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2003
SECURITY INFORMATION

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FORM NO. 35-85
NOV 195

31 MAR 53

IN S 12199

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FROM: GUATEMALA CITY

ROUTINE

ACTION: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1423Z 2 APR 53

EL, FI/OPS, FI/PLANS, FI/STC, FI/RQM 3, PP/PYD 2, PP/PAD,
INFORMATION WH 2, FI/RI 2

NR: 393

CONTROL: 10889

SINCE SALAMA UPRISING CRUSHED (EMBTel 390*, MARCH 30) NO FURTHER DISTURBANCES REPORTED. GOVERNMENT HAS NOT SUSPENDED CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES. GENERAL STAFF ANNOUNCED CAPTURE THREE RETIRED ARMY OFFICERS WHO COMMAND INSURGENTS AND STATED OTHER LEADERS BEING SOUGHT. LATE REPORTS INDICATE 7 DEAD AND 5 WOUNDED. USE OF NAME "CHRISTIAN ARMY" BY INSURGENTS SHOWED ANTI-COMMUNIST ORIENTATION.

FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES OF INTEREST IN CONNECTION WITH REVOLT:

- (1) SMALL GROUP OF REBELS WITH LIGHT ARMS CAPTURED AND HELD FOR 17 HOURS A PROVINCIAL CAPITAL AND AIRFIELD;
- (2) PEOPLE OF SALAMA GENERALLY INACTIVE NEITHER RESISTING UPRISING NOR RECAPTURE BY GOVERNMENT FORCES;

*GUATEMALA 390 DISTRIBUTED UNDER IN S 11509.

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(3) REBELS PUT DISTINCTIVE MARKS ON AIRFIELD INDICATING THEY EXPECTED RE-ENFORCEMENTS BY AIR AND THEIR ARMAMENT WAS OBVIOUSLY INSUFFICIENT FOR COPING WITH ARMY;

(4) TROOPS AT COBAN ACTED PROMPTLY AND EFFICIENTLY TO PUT DOWN REVOLT AND NO ARMY OFFICERS ON ACTIVE DUTY HAVE YET BEEN IMPLICATED IN IT;

(5) ANTI-GOVERNMENT ELEMENTS WERE NOT UNITED SINCE LEADING ANTI-GOVERNMENT GROUPS IN GUATEMALA CITY APPARENTLY NOT INVOLVED.

KREIG

ACTION: ARA

INFO : SS, G, OLI, CIA, OSD, ARMY, AIR, NAVY, EURX, P, PSB, I,
IPS, IBS

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