

EL SALVADOR IMPACT OF RECENT COMMAND

(b)(3):10 USC
424

CHANGES. (U)

Document classification ~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

From DIA WASHINGTON DC/ [redacted] to TO [redacted]

[redacted]

300201Z NOV 83

1983-11-30-02.01.09.912901

1.

SUBJ EL SALVADOR IMPACT OF RECENT COMMAND CHANGES. (U)

DOI 29 NOV 83 (AS OF 1847 EST)

TEXT 1. (S/NF) [redacted] RESHUFFLE OF THE MILITARY MARKS A WATERSHED IN HIS TERM AS DEFENSE MINISTER AND COULD INFLUENCE POLITICAL AS WELL AS MILITARY EVENTS DURING THE NEXT 6 MONTHS.

2. (S/NF) [redacted] RECENT COMMAND CHANGES [redacted]

[redacted] MAY HAVE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE CONDUCT OF THE WAR, AT LEAST IN THE NEAR TERM. [redacted] APPOINTMENT AS CHIEF OF STAFF SHOULD IMPROVE THE QUALITY AND STATUS OF THE GENERAL STAFF,

[redacted]

3. (S/NF) [redacted] TO HAVE BOLSTERED THE FIELD COMMANDS BY ASSIGNING COMPETENT OFFICERS AS COMMANDERS AND STAFF OFFICERS AT BRIGADE AND BATTALION LEVEL. [redacted]

[redacted] ONE OF THE MILITARY'S TOP COMMANDERS, IS WELL SUITED FOR THE CRITICAL DEMANDS OF THE 3D BRIGADE IN SAN MIGUEL. NEVERTHELESS, SINCE OFFICERS OF EQUAL RANK ALSO COMMAND THE DEPARTMENTS IN HIS ZONAL JURISDICTION, HE APPARENTLY WILL STILL BE FACED WITH THE TRADITIONAL PROBLEM OF VYING WITH THEM FOR CONTROL OVER REGIONAL ASSETS.

4. (S/NF) [redacted]

TRANSFERRING SEVERAL OFFICERS LINKED TO DEATH-SQUAD ACTIVITIES, OTHER PROMINENT RIGHTISTS HAVE RECEIVED IMPORTANT TACTICAL COMMANDS. [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] SIMILARLY, KEY STAFF POSITIONS IN VARIOUS BRIGADES AND BATTALIONS ARE NOW HELD BY RIGHTIST OFFICERS. [redacted]

[redacted]