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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 NEA-10 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-12 RSR-01 /115 W

023512

R 150053 Z APR 73  
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5554

NOFORN MEXICO 2774

PLEASE PASS TO DIA WASHDC FOR AA-7

E. O. 11652: XGDS  
TAGS: PINT / MX  
SUBJECT: ANOTHER SEARCH FOR LUCIO CABANAS

REF: MEXICO 2 696

1. APRIL 23 " NOVEDADES" CARRIED REPORT THAT ELEMENTS OF GUERRERO PUBLIC SECURITY FORCES, STATE JUDICIAL POLICE, AND MEXICAN MILITARY WILL BEGIN CONCERTED DRIVE APRIL 24 AIMED AT ROUNDING UP LUCIO CABANAS AND MEMBERS OF HIS GANG, SAID TO NUMBER NOT MORE THAN 30. ACCORDING TO GUERRERO ATTORNEY GENERAL FRANCISCO ROMAN ROMAN, CABANAS AND HIS GROUP HAVE BEEN ISOLATED. THEY POSSESS HIGH- POWER FIRE ARMS, " SOME OF WHICH WERE TAKEN FROM THE ARMY IN TWO ATTACKS". HOWEVER, ROMAN ROMAN BELIEVES THAT CAMPESEINOS FEEL THREATENED BY CABANAS AND THEREFORE WILL COOPERATE IN SEARCH.

2. NEW CAMPAIGN PUBLICLY IS TIED TO ASSASSINATION OF FRANCISCO SANCHEZ LOPEZ ( REFTEL), HOWEVER, EMBASSY HAS LEARNED THAT TWO OF FIVE PERSONS ARRESTED IN CONNECTION WITH APRIL 13 MEXICO CITY BANK ROBBERY CONFESSED TO TIES WITH CABANAS ORGANIZATION. ONE OF THESE ARRESTEES, A FORMER MILITARY MAN, FURTHER CONFESSED TO PARTICIPATION

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IN AUGUST 23 AMBUSH OF MILITARY UNIT IN GUERRERO AND TO HAVING IDENTIFIED SANCHEZ LOPEZ AS A POTENTIAL KIDNAPPING UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

REVIEW AUTHORITY: SAM A. MOSKOWITZ  
DATE/CASE ID: 25 JAN 1999 199800894

GIVEN APPARENT SECURITY AND POLITICAL OVER-  
 OF RECENT RASH OF BANK ROBBERIES ( REPORTED SEPARATELY),  
 IS LIKELY THAT THIS MAY BE MORE BASIC REASON WHY GOM  
 BELLS UNDER RENEWED PRESSURE VIGOROUSLY TO CONSIDERATION AND USE  
 THE VARIOUS PROVISIONS ONLY AS  
 BARGAINING MEASURES AGAINST OTHER NATIONS, PARTICULARLY  
 JAPAN AND FRANCE, AND NOT AS GENERAL APPLICATIONS,  
 PARTICULARLY ON THOSE BACKWARD COUNTRIES THAT HAVE CLOSE  
 POLITICAL TIES WITH THE UNITED STATES. . THIS WILL HELP  
 TO LESSEN THE DAMAGING IMPACT OF THE NEW TRADE ACT.  
 WE DEERLY BELIEVE THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT  
 DOES HAVE A BIG HEART. "

3. INFLUENTIAL PRIVATELY- OWNED CHINA TIMES APRIL 19:  
 "... THE MAIN TARGETS OF THIS COMPREHENSIVE NEW TRADE  
 ACT ARE JAPAN AND WESTERN EUROPE... WE HAVE REPEATEDLY  
 STRESSED THAT THE OVERALL INTEREST OF THE FREE WORLD  
 IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES. WE NOT  
 ONLY ARE GLAD TO SEE AN IMPROVEMENT IN U. S.- WESTERN  
 EUROPEAN TIES, BUT ALSO HOPE THAT JAPAN WOULD DISCONTINUE  
 ITS CUT- THROAT COMPETITION WITH THE UNITED STATES IN TRADE  
 OVER SHORT- TERM INTEREST..."

4. GOVERNMENT CHINA DAILY NEWS APRIL 19: "... WE SHOULD  
 ALSO REALIZE THAT THE NEW TRADE ACT WOULD EMPOWER THE  
 PRESIDENT TO GIVE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TARIFF PREFERENCE,  
 BUT WHICH WILL BE CANCELLED WHEN THOSE NATIONS REACH  
 A CERTAIN STANDARD. WE MUST MAKE EARLY PREPARATIONS TO  
 SECURE SUCH PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT AND FORESTALL  
 POSSIBLE EXCLUSION... THE NEW TRADE ACT WOULD ALSO  
 GIVE THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES MOST PREFERENTIAL TREATMENTS,  
 AND JUDGING FROM PRESENT SITUATION, THIS WILL INCLUDE  
 THE CHINESE COMMUNIST. THUS, WE SHALL NOT ONLY FIGHT  
 AGAINST THE CHINESE COMMUNIST FACE- TO- FACE ON THE DIPLOMATIC  
 FRONT, BUT SHALL ALSO ENGAGE IN FACE- TO- FACE STRUGGLE AGAINST  
 THEM IN TRADE..."

5. PRIVATELY- OWNED ENGLISH- LANGUAGE CHINA NEWS APRIL JEC  
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UNCLASSIFIED

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"... TAIWAN WOULD BE AFFECTED, HOWEVER -- AND PERHAPS  
 SERIOUSLY IN THE ABSENCE OF BILATERAL AGREEMENT TO  
 THE CONTRARY. WE HAVE ALREADY HAD THE EXPERIENCE OF  
 HAVING OUR COTTON TEXTILES BROUGHT UNDER U. S. QUOTAS...  
 OTHER U. S. INDUSTRIES WOULD LIKE TO SEE ADDITIONAL TAIWAN  
 PRODUCTS SHUT OUT OF THE AMERICAN MARKET. SUCH  
 PRODUCTS AS SHOES, PLYWOOD AND CANNED MUSHROOMS ARE  
 INVOLVED. AMERICAN TEXTILE MILLS AND GARMENT MAKERS  
 ARE BIDDING FOR INCREASED PROTECTION... AN EXCEPTION

ACCORDING MEXICO CITY PRESS REPORTS, FOREIGN MINISTERS  
O. RABASA OF MEXICO AND CHI PENG FEI OF PRC SIGNED  
COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT IN PEKING ON APRIL 22. AGREEMENT REPORTEDLY  
WILL ENABLE MEXICO TO SELL 370 MILLION PESOS (\$29.6 MILLION)  
ANNUALLY TO PRC, WHILE PRC WILL SELL 125 MILLION PESOS (\$10  
MILLION) TO MEXICO.

3. PRIMARY MEXICAN EXPORTS TO CONSIST OF COTTON, SULFUR, AND  
SUGAR. EL UNIVERSAL REPORTS THAT MEXICO WILL SELL 40,000 TONS  
(APPROXIMATELY 180,000 BALES) COTTON FOR 360 ] ACT AGAINST  
CABANAS. ADDITIONALLY, THERE IS GROWING CONCERN ABOUT  
POSSIBLE ADVERSE EFFECTS ON TOURISM SHOULD CABANAS'  
ORGANIZATION MOVE AGAINST TEMPTING ACAPULCO TARGETS.

3. COMMENT: CONTRARY TO ROMAN ROMAN' S BELIEF OF  
CAMPESINO SUPPORT FOR GOM EFFORT, IT IS APPARENT THAT  
CABANAS AND HIS GROUP OPERATE FREELY IN GUERRERO.  
IMPLICATIONS ARE THAT LOCAL POPULACE, FOR WHATEVER REASONS,  
CONTINUES TO AFFORD CABANAS COVER. IT THEREFORE IS  
PROBLEMATICAL WHETHER ANNOUNCED NEW CAMPAIGN WILL BE  
ANY MORE SUCCESSFUL THAN WERE PREVIOUS EFFORTS TO  
CAPTURE CABANAS.

DEAN

~~SECRET~~  
NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a  
\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* ~~RESTRICTED OFFICIAL USE~~

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