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INQUIRE=DOC30D
ITEM NO=00002312
ENVELOPE

CDSN = CFS071 MCN = 95055/08076 TOR = 950550516
RTTCZYUW RUEKJCS4905 0550505-~~0000~~--RUEANSS.
ZNY ~~00000~~

HEADER

R 240505Z FEB 95
FM DIA WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEADWD/OCSA WASHINGTON DC
RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC
RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC
RUEACMC/CMC WASHINGTON DC
RHLBAAK/CDRUSARSO MAXI FT CLAYTON PM//SOIN-IDI//
RUETIAQ/MPC FT GEORGE G MEADE MD
RUCBSAA/CINCUSACOM NORFOLK VA//J2//
RUCQVAB/USCINCSOC INTEL OPS CEN MACDILL AFB FL
RUEOFAA/COMJSOC FT BRAGG NC//J2//
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC
RUDMQAN/MARCORINTACT DET QUANTICO VA
RUEALGX/SAFE
R 232329Z FEB 95

[REDACTED]
TO RUWGTCH/DIRJIATF WEST
RHFJSGG/DIRJIATF EAST
RUEHGT/USDAO GUATEMALA CITY
RUCBSAA/CINCUSACOM NORFOLK VA//J2//
RUEASRB/CDRFORSCOM FT MCPHERSON GA//FCJ2/AFIN-IC//
RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PM//SCJ2//
RUDMGRD/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHDC
RUEHGT/USDAO GUATEMALA CITY
RUEAHQA/OSAF WASHDC//IAL//
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC//ARA-MEX/INM-FOR GELBARD//
RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC
RUEABND/COGARD LO EPIC EL PASO
RUEANTX/CJTF SIX
RHLBAAR/JIATF SOUTH

BT

CONTROLS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 01 OF 06 [REDACTED]

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SERIAL: (U) IIR [REDACTED]

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

BODY

COUNTRY: (U) MEXICO (MX).

SUBJECT: IIR [REDACTED] CHIAPAS UPDATE EIGHT

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(8). SECRETARIAT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE SPONSORED
ATTACHE VISIT TO CHIAPAS (U).

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT
FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT
CLASSIFIED ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~REL UK, CAN, AUS~~

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 950214.
REQS: (U)

SOURCE: (U)

SUMMARY: (U) ON 950214 THE SECRETARIAT OF DEFENSE
SPONSORED AN ATTACHE VISIT TO CHIAPAS WHICH INCLUDED A
BRIEFING BY THE VII REGION COMMANDER, A BRIEFING AND
TOUR OF A HOLDING AREA FOR DISPLACED PERSONS
(REFUGEES), AND A VISIT TO THE ONCE EZLN HEADQUARTERS.

TEXT: 1. (~~C/REL UK, CAN, AILS~~) ON 950214 THE
SECRETARIAT OF MEXICAN NATIONAL DEFENSE SPONSORED A
VISIT TO CHIAPAS FOR ALL ACCREDITED ARMY AND AIR FORCE
ATTACHES ASSIGNED TO MEXICO. THE TOUR BEGAN WITH A
FLIGHT IN A TWIN ENGINE TURBO PROP CONVAIR, PURCHASED
BY THE MEXICAN AIR FORCE APPROXIMATELY TWO YEARS
EARLIER.

2. (~~CAREL UK, CAN, AUS~~)

3. (~~CAREL UK, CAN, AUS~~) AFTER RECEIVING BREAKFAST,
THE ATTACHES WERE GIVEN A BRIEFING BY THE VII REGION

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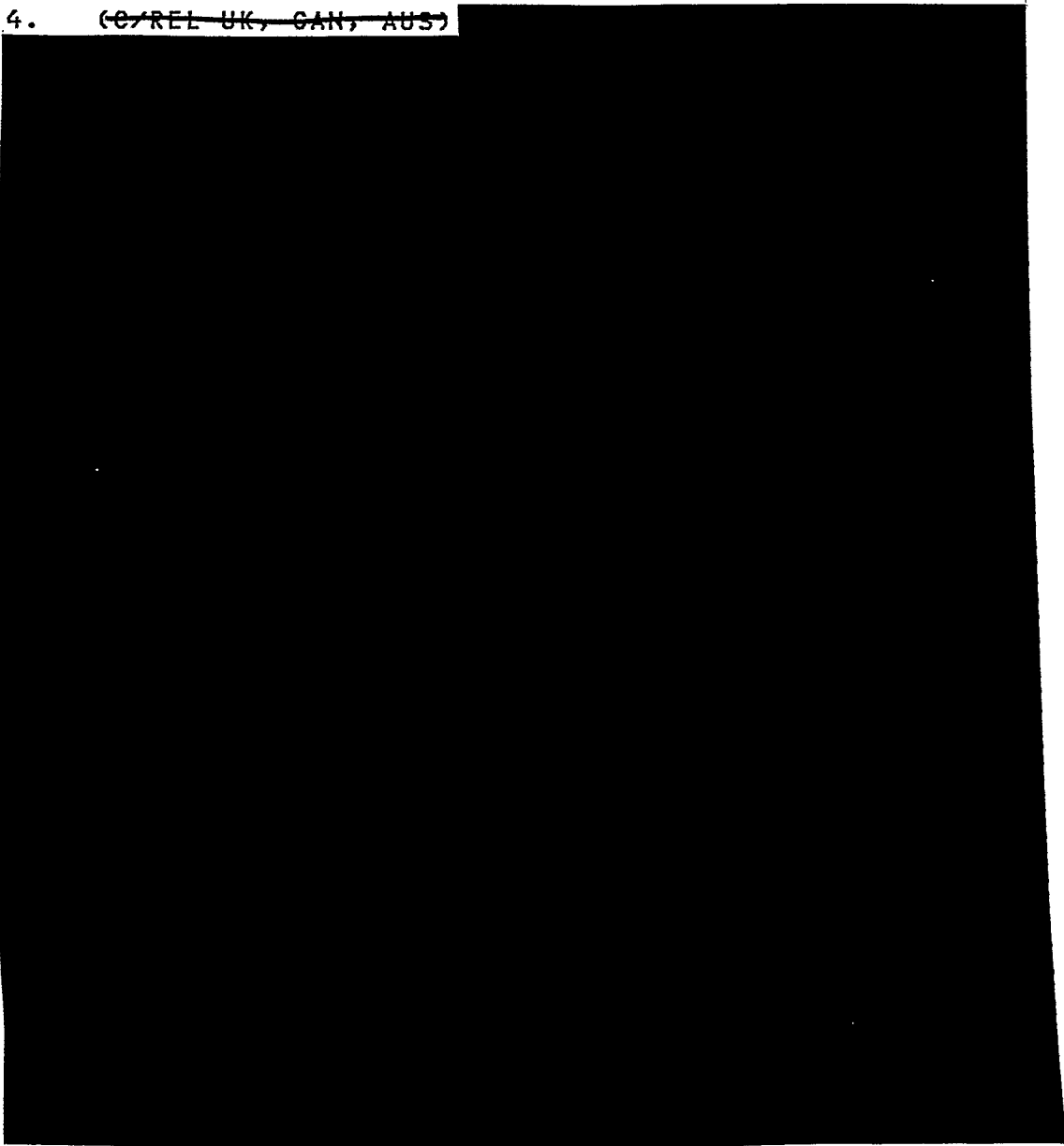
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COMMANDER, LIEUTENANT GENERAL MARIO RENAN ((CASTILLO)) FERNANDEZ. GEN CASTILLO IMPRESSED UPON THE VISITORS THE ACTION IN CHIAPAS IS NOT A WAR, BUT RATHER A CIVIL ACTION WHICH IS NOT FORESEEN TO DEGENERATE INTO WAR. HE FURTHER INDICATED THE ACTIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT FORCES WERE IN RESPONSE TO A THREAT TO PUBLIC ORDER THROUGH ACTS OF TERRORISM. HE ASSURED THE VISITORS THAT THE STATE POLITICAL LEADERS HAD NO AUTHORITY OVER THE ARMED FORCES IN THE AREA. GEN CASTILLO ALSO INDICATED THAT THE MILITARY WILL NOT PURSUE MARCOS INTO THE JUNGLE; HOWEVER, TIME WILL MAKE HIM (MARCOS) DISAPPEAR.

4. (~~C/REL UK, CAN, AUS~~)



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6. (U) AFTER TRANSFERRING TO THE BLACK HAWKS, THE ATTACHES WERE FLOWN TO THE ARMY GARRISON FACILITIES FOR THE 24TH ARMORED RECONNAISSANCE BATTALION AND THE 91ST SPECIAL FORCES JUNGLE INFANTRY BATTALION LOCATED ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF COMITAN. GEM MORALEZ PROVIDED A DETAILED BRIEFING ON THE ACTIONS OF THE SECRETARIAT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE IN PROVIDING DIRECT SUPPORT TO THE MORE THAN 4094 CAMPESINOS DISPLACED FROM THEIR LAND BY THE ZAPATISTA NATIONAL LIBERATION ARMY AND ITS SUPPORTERS. THESE INDIVIDUALS WERE GROUPED BY LOCALITY WITH THE MAJORITY (1,419) LOCATED IN COMITAN, 979 IN LAS MARGARITAS, 886 IN OCOSINGO, 349 IN LA TRINITARIA, 313 IN LA INDEPENDENCIA, AND 148 IN ALTAMIRANO.

7. (U) ACCORDING TO THE BRIEFING, BESIDES SECURING TEMPORARY HOUSING FOR THE DISPLACED CAMPESINOS OF CHIAPAS, THE MILITARY WAS ALSO ENSURING OTHER HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES WERE BEING PROVIDED ON A PERIODIC BASIS, TO INCLUDE MEDICAL TREATMENT AND DENTAL CARE, FOOD DELIVERIES, HAIR CARE, AND OTHER SERVICES. THESE SERVICES WERE ALSO BEING PROVIDED TO OTHER COMMUNITIES OF CAMPESINOS AND POOR INDIGENOUS IN THE STATE. [REDACTED]

8. (U) THE ATTACHES WERE TAKEN BY TRUCK TO "LAS INSTALACIONES DE LA FERIA", A TYPICAL MEXICAN MARKET PLACE WHICH HAD BEEN CONVERTED INTO A TEMPORARY DISPLACED PERSONS (REFUGEE) CAMP AND CARE CENTER, TO OBSERVE FIRST HAND THE DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD, AS WELL AS THE PROVISION OF MEDICAL CARE AND OTHER SERVICES FOR THE DISPLACED POPULATION IN THE AREA.


9. ~~(C/REL UK, CAN, AUS)~~ THE ATTACHES WERE THEN FLOWN, VIA BLACK HAWK HELICOPTERS, TO GUADALUPE TEPEYAC--THE RECENTLY ABANDONED HEADQUARTERS OF THE EZLN. THROUGHOUT THIS AND THE PREVIOUS LEG OF THE JOURNEY, THE BLACK HAWKS WERE ACCOMPANIED BY TWO ARMED MD-530'S WHICH PROVIDED ESCORT AND COVER FOR THE BLACK HAWKS.

10. ~~(C/REL UK, CAN, AUS)~~ GUADALUPE TEPEYAC [REDACTED] IS A SMALL VILLAGE LOCATED IN A SMALL VALLEY NEARLY SURROUNDED BY STEEPLY RISING TERRAIN, WHICH ITSELF IS COVERED BY DENSE TREES AND SHRUBS. BRIGADIER GENERAL JOSE ((MARTINEZ)) NOLASIO, WAS THE COMMANDER OF TROOPS OCCUPYING THIS VILLAGE; HE REPLACED MG RAMON ((CARRIETA)) HURTADO, WHOSE AIRBORNE TROOPS HAD TAKEN THE TOWN.

11. ~~(C/REL UK, CAN, AUS)~~ [REDACTED]

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12. ~~(C/REL UK, CAN, AUS)~~ [REDACTED] WERE THEN TAKEN BY TRUCK TO AGUASCALIENTES, THE SITE OF THE AUGUST EZLN SPONSORED NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION. THIS SITE LOCATED ONLY ABOUT ONE (1) TO TWO (2) KILOMETERS FROM GUADALUPE TEPEYAC, WAS ALSO THE SITE OF A LEFT WING REBEL LIBRARY. THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE LITERATURE IN THE LIBRARY WAS ORIENTED TO MARXIST WRITINGS, POLITICAL RADICALISM, AND LEFT LEANING IDEOLOGY. [REDACTED] ALSO NOTED WRITTEN MATERIALS ON THE PSYCHOLOGY OF WAR AS WELL AS PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE. THERE WAS ALSO A COMPUTER LOCATED IN THE LIBRARY AND A SECTION WITH CHILDREN'S LITERATURE.

13. ~~(C/REL, UK, CAN, AUS)~~ [REDACTED]



14. ~~(C/REL, UK, CAN, AUS)~~ THE PARTY WAS THEN FLOWN BY HELICOPTER TO VILLAHERMOSA, TABASCO [REDACTED] WHERE MAJOR GEM ANTONIO ((FERNANDEZ)) PERIDRE, COMMANDER OF THE 30TH MILITARY ZONE, HOSTED A LUNCHEON AND OFFERED A SHORT PRESENTATION ON THE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS WITHIN THE AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY OF THE 30TH MILITARY ZONE.

~~COMMENTS: 1. (C/REL UK, CAN, AUS)~~

~~THE~~
MILITARY WAS INTENT ON PORTRAYING RECENT ACTIONS AS CONTROLLED, AND PROFESSIONAL, AND AIMED AT PRESERVING THE HUMAN RIGHTS AND DIGNITY OF THE INDIGENOUS POPULATION IN CHIAPAS.

2. ~~(C/REL UK, CAN, AUS)~~ DURING THE INITIAL HOSTILITIES IN EARLY 1994, THE MILITARY WENT INTO CHIAPAS WITHOUT REGARD FOR THE POWER OF THE PRESS. AT THE SAME TIME, SUBCOMANDANTE MARCOS USED THE MEDIA TO PORTRAY THE MEXICAN MILITARY AS BRUTAL, GIVING LITTLE OR NO REGARD TO HUMAN RIGHTS. AS A RESULT, INTERNATIONAL OPINION HAS TURNED AGAINST THE ACTIONS OF THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT IN CHIAPAS. TO AVOID A REPEAT, THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN THE OFFENSIVE IN PUBLIC RELATIONS. THEIR ACTIONS TO PROVIDE FOOD, SHELTER AND SERVICES TO THE DISPLACED INDIGENOUS PERSONS OF THE REGION GIVES THE APPEARANCE OF WORKING FOR THE BENEFIT OF OTHERS, AND NOT SIMPLY AS SOLDIERS BUT AS GUARDIANS OF THE PEOPLE.

3. ~~(C/REL UK, CAN, AILS)~~ THE MILITARY HAS ALSO WORKED TO LEGITIMIZE THE ACTIONS IN THE REGION BY PORTRAYING THEM AS IDENTIFIED DURING THE BRIEFINGS AS MILITARY

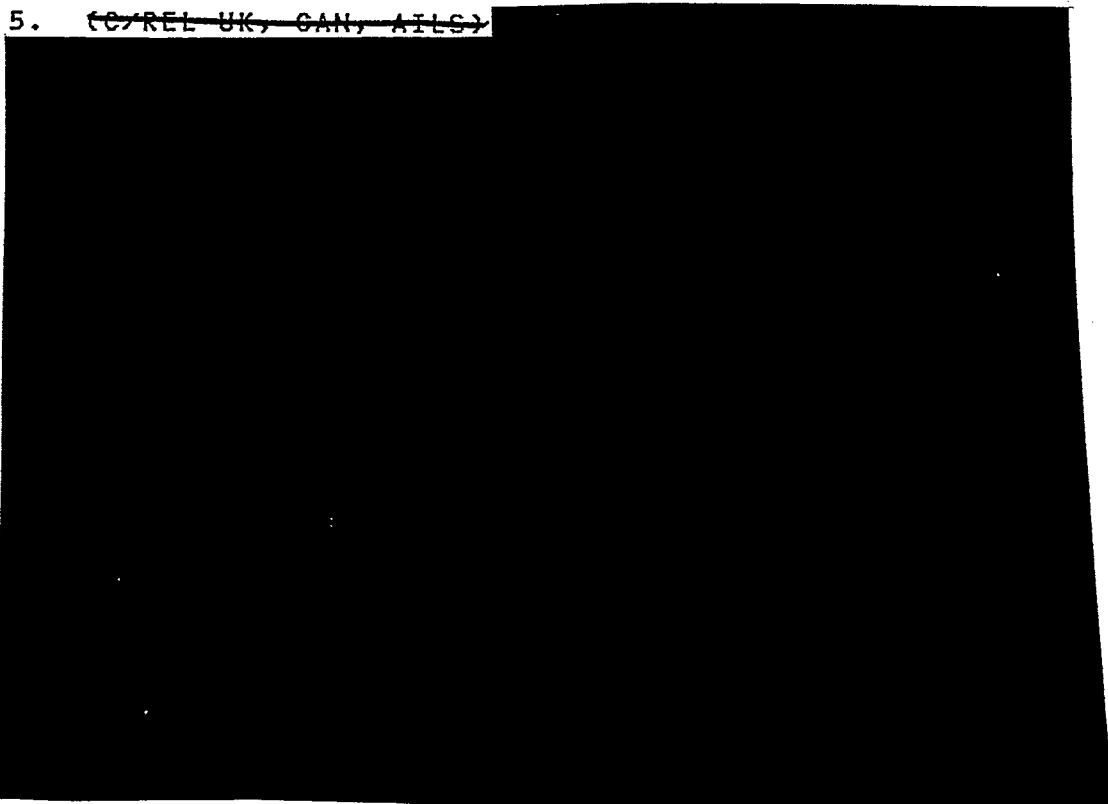
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SUPPORT OPERATIONS AND CIVIC ACTION COINCIDENT WITH A
FEDERAL POLICE ACT
ION AGAINST CRIMINALS AND
TERRORISTS.

4. ~~(C/REL UK, CAN, AUS)~~ [REDACTED] THE
MILITARY TROOPS GAVE THE APPEARANCE OF BEING VERY
PROFESSIONAL AND COURTEOUS. THE FACT THAT NONE OF
THEM ENTERED THE HUTS IN GUADALUPE TEPEYAC OR
DISRUPTED THEIR CONTENTS, IS A CLEAR INDICATION OF
THEIR ATTENTION TO DETAIL IN ESTABLISHING AN IMAGE AS
PROTECTORS OF THE PEOPLE RATHER THAN VIOLATORS OF
BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS.

5. ~~(C/REL UK, CAN, AILS)~~ [REDACTED]



ADMIN

PROJ: (U) .

COLL: (U) AH

INSTR: (U) U.S. [REDACTED]

PREP: (U) [REDACTED]

ENCL: (U) TO FOLLOW: 2 ENCLOSURES.

1. PHOTOGRAPHY, CHIAPAS, MEXICO (U), PARTIAL ROLL,
COLOR NEGATIVES, 28 FRAMES (U).

2. PHOTOGRAPHY, CHIAPAS, MEXICO (U), 10 35MM COLOR
PRINTS, NEGATIVES NOT AVAILABLE (U).

ACQ: (U) [REDACTED]


DISSEM: (U) [REDACTED]

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 SENT TO: DIA/SV-5C (W/ENCLS).

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~~DECL: OADR~~

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