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Case Number: 199502915

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ACTION ARA-00

INFO	OCT-00	COPY-01	ADS-00	AID-00	INR-10	EUR-00	SS-00
	CIAE-00	EB-08	DODE-00	H-01	IO-15	NSCE-00	NSAE-00
	COME-00	SSO-00	HA-08	L-03	LAB-04	PM-10	PA-01
	OMB-01	STR-14	SIL-01	INRE-00	USIE-00	SP-02	SNP-01
	PRS-01	SLPD-01	/082 W				

-----004653 191921Z /42

O 191912Z MAR 84  
 FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0505  
 INFO AMEMBASSY BELIZE  
 AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
 USMISSION GENEVA  
 AMEMBASSY MANAGUA  
 AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
 AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
 AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE  
 AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR  
 AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA  
 USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
 USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PN

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 01 OF 03 GUATEMALA 02718

E.O. 12356: N/A  
 TAGS: ELAB, SHUM, GT, PINR, PINS  
 SUBJECT: GUATEMALA: DEMOCRATIC TRADE UNION  
 - CONFEDERATION CUSG PROTESTS ABDUCTIONS  
 - OF TRADE-UNION LEADERS  
 -

REF: A) GUATEMALA 2510, B) GUATEMALA 1872,  
 C) GUATEMALA 1791

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT.)
2. SUMMARY. IN RECENT WEEKS THE CUSG

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 (CONFEDERATION OF SYNDICALIST UNITY) LEADERSHIP

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J. OLSON  
 DATE/CASE ID: 27 MAR 2001 199502915

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HAS ISSUED STRONG PROTESTS, THROUGH PRESS RELEASES AND RADIO/TV INTERVIEWS, OVER ALLEGED UNSCRUPULOUS MANAGEMENT REPRISALS (ILLEGAL DISMISSALS) AGAINST WORKERS AT THE SAN BERNARDINO BOTTLING COMPANY, WHO ARE TRYING TO ORGANIZE A UNION THERE; OVER THE CLOSURE OF THE COCA-COLA COMPANY AND THE CONSEQUENCES FOR ITS 460 WORKERS; AND OVER THE RECENT DISAPPEARANCES OF TRADE-UNION LEADERS, ESPECIALLY THE DISAPPEARANCE OF STICAVISA TRADE-UNION OFFICIAL EDGAR FERNANDO GARCIA. THE CUSG HAS DEMANDED PROMPT LABOR MINISTRY LEGAL ACTION AGAINST THE SAN BERNARDINO AND COCA-COLA BOTTLING COMPANIES. WITH RESPECT TO GARCIA'S ABDUCTION AND THE RECENT DISAPPEARANCES OF FIVE OTHER TRADE-UNION ACTIVISTS, THE CUSG HAS SAID THAT THESE DISAPPEARANCES MAKE A MOCKERY OF THE LABOR MINISTER'S ASSERTION THAT TRADE-UNION LIBERTY EXISTS IN GUATEMALA. GOING ONE STEP FURTHER, THE CUSG HAS DIRECTLY ACCUSED THE GOVERNMENT OF CULPABILITY IN THE DISAPPEARANCES, WHICH ARE, THEY ALLEGE, PART OF A GOVERNMENT ATTEMPT TO DESTABILIZE THE GUATEMALAN LABOR MOVEMENT. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FROM THE LABOR MINISTER TO THE INTERIOR MINISTER HAVE DENIED GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT IN THE DISAPPEARANCES OF TRADE-UNIONISTS AND ANY PLOT TO DESTABILIZE THE LABOR MOVEMENT THROUGH SUCH ABDUCTIONS. END SUMMARY.

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3. DISAPPEARANCES.  
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-

THE CUSG HAS MOST RECENTLY PROTESTED THE JANUARY

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AND FEBRUARY ABDUCTIONS OF THE FOLLOWING TRADE-UNION ACTIVISTS:

- EDGAR FERNANDO GARCIA: STICAVISA (SINDICATO DE TRABAJADORES DE CAVISA/WORKERS' UNION OF CAVISA); SEE REFTTEL B;
- AMANCIO (SAMUEL) VILLATORO (VILLATORIO): EX-SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ADAMS CHICLET COMPANY

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UNION AND CURRENT OFFICIAL OF THE CNT (CONFEDERACION NACIONAL DE TRABAJADORES/NATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF WORKERS);

- ALFONSO ALVARADO: CNT OFFICIAL AND MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL WORKERS' UNION;

- MARIO COLINDRES: UNION OFFICIAL FROM AMATITLAN. (NOTE: THE NEWSPAPER STORIES OF HIS JANUARY 23 ABDUCTION DID NOT MENTION HIS TRADE-UNION CONNECTION. AMATITLAN HAS BEEN THE CENTER OF EXTREME LEFT TRADE-UNION ACTIVITY IN THE PAST. SELF-EXILED LEFTIST TRADE-UNION LEADER CARLOS MAZARIEGOS-- SECRETARY GENERAL OF NOR (NUCLEOS DE OBREROS REVOLUCIONARIOS/ REVOLUTIONARY WORKERS' CELLS), FP-31 MEMBER, AND CGUP (COMITE GUATEMALTECO DE UNIDAD PATRIOTICA/GUATEMALAN COMMITTEE OF PATRIOTIC UNITY) EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER--WAS A FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE FOSA (FRENTE ORGANIZADO DE SINDICATOS DE AMATITLAN/ORGANIZED FRONT OF AMATITLAN UNIONS). END NOTE.); AND

- THREE LEADERS OF THE UNION AT THE EMPRESA DE TEJIDOS UNIVERSALES.

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	OMB-01	STR-14	SIL-01	INRE-00	USIE-00	SP-02	SNP-01
	PRS-01	SLPD-01	/082 W				

-----004664 191921Z /42

O 191912Z MAR 84  
FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0506  
INFO AMEMBASSY BELIZE  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
USMISSION GENEVA

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AMEMBASSY MANAGUA  
AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE  
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR  
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PN

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E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, SHUM, GT, PINR, PINS

SUBJECT: GUATEMALA: DEMOCRATIC TRADE UNION

ANOTHER CNT ACTIVIST (ACCORDING TO HIS OWN CLAIM), ALVARO RENE SOSA RAMOS, FLED TO ASYLUM IN THE BELGIAN AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE AFTER BEING SHOT IN AN ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE HIS CAPTORS. ONCE RECOVERED FROM GUNSHOT WOUNDS, HE WILL BE GOING INTO EXILE.

-  
IN ADDITION TO THESE UNION ACTIVISTS, SEVERAL LEGAL ADVISORS TO THE LEFTIST TRADE-UNION

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MOVEMENT HAVE DISAPPEARED:

- VICTOR HUGO QUINTANILLA (SEE REFTTEL A); AND  
- SERGIO MANFREDÓ BELTETON DE LEON (SEE REFTTEL C); HIS ABDUCTORS RELEASED BELTETON ON FEBRUARY 17.

-  
FINALLY, ON MARCH 14, THE CNUS (CONSEJO NACIONAL DE UNIDAD SINDICAL/NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR TRADE UNION UNITY) DENOUNCED ON HAVANA TELEVISION THE DISAPPEARANCE OF CONSTRUCTION WORKER MENGEVER MIRANDA. THE CNUS IS THE UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION FOR THE MARXIST-LENINIST WING OF THE GUATEMALAN LABOR MOVEMENT. THE CNT AND THE COMMUNIST FEDERATION FASGUA (FEDERACION AUTONOMA SINDICAL DE GUATEMALA/AUTONOMOUS TRADE UNION FEDERATION OF GUATEMALA) FOUNDED THE CNUS IN 1976.

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4. CNUS

ALTHOUGH THE CNUS LEADERSHIP IS IN EXILE AND MOST OF ITS STATEMENTS ARE MADE FROM HAVANA, IT STILL RETAINS IMPORTANCE WITHIN GUATEMALA AS A GUATEMALAN MARXIST-LENINIST UMBRELLA TRADE-UNION ORGANIZATION. ITS EXILED LEADERSHIP IS OBVIOUSLY FED INFORMATION ABOUT TRADE-UNION MATTERS BY ADHERENTS WITHIN GUATEMALA. THE NAMES OF ITS PRINCIPAL CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS ARE:

- CUC (COMITE DE UNIDAD CAMPESINA/COMMITTEE OF CAMPESINO UNITY),

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- FENOT (FEDERACION NACIONAL DE OBREROS DE TRANSPORTE/NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TRANSPORT WORKERS),

- FNM (FRENTE NACIONAL MAGISTERIAL/NATIONAL TEACHERS' FRONT),

- SCTM (SINDICATO CENTRAL DE TRABAJADORES MUNICIPALES/MUNICIPAL WORKERS' CENTRAL TRADE UNION),

- SIMCOS (SINDICATO DE TRABAJADORES DE LOS MEDIOS DE COMUNICACION SOCIAL/COMMUNICATION WORKERS' UNION),

- CETE (CONSEJO DE ENTIDADES DE TRABAJADORES DEL ESTADO/STATE EMPLOYEES' COUNCIL),

- ASOCIACION DE PERIODISTAS DE GUATEMALA (GUATEMALAN JOURNALISTS' ASSOCIATION),

- AEU (ASOCIACION DE ESTUDIANTES UNIVERSITARIOS/ ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS).

THE NAMES OF CURRENT CNT AND CNUS LEADERS WITHIN

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GUATEMALA ARE UNKNOWN EXCEPT WHEN THEY ARE KIDNAPPED AND THE CNUS PROTESTS THE ABDUCTIONS. THUS WE CAN ASSUME THAT SAMUEL VILLATORIO/VILLATORO AND ALFONSO ALVARADO WERE ACTING AS CNT EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS AT THE TIME OF THEIR DISAPPEARANCES.

4. COMMENT. BY PICKING UP LEFTIST TRADE-UNION LEADERS CONNECTED WITH THE CNT AND THE FASGUA, THE

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	PRS-01	SLPD-01	/082 W				

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O 191912Z MAR 84  
FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0507  
INFO AMEMBASSY BELIZE  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA  
AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE  
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR  
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA  
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E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: ELAB, SHUM, GT, PINR, PINS  
SUBJECT: GUATEMALA: DEMOCRATIC TRADE UNION  
GOVERNMENT OF GUATEMALA--ADVERTENTLY OR INADVERTENTLY--  
IS DESTABILIZING THE MARXIST-LENINIST WING OF THE  
GUATEMALAN LABOR MOVEMENT. THIS IS PROBABLY NOT

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- THE UNDERLYING MOTIVE OF THE GOVERNMENT, HOWEVER. MORE LIKELY, THESE PEOPLE HAVE SOME CONNECTION WITH URNG INSURGENT ORGANIZATIONS AND SECURITY FORCES ARE AFTER THEM FOR THAT REASON. A CUSG TRADE-UNION LEADER TOLD EMBOFF THAT ALL THE ABDUCTED TRADE-UNIONISTS ARE CONNECTED WITH

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THE EXTREME LEFT. HE ADMITTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD NOT TOUCHED ANY DEMOCRATIC TRADE-UNION LEADERS. NEVERTHELESS, HE EXPRESSED FEAR--WITH OR WITHOUT GROUNDS--THAT THE GOG WOULD GO AFTER DEMOCRATIC TRADE-UNION LEADERS ONCE IT HAD DECIMATED THE RANKS OF THE LEFTISTS. THE FACT THAT THE GOVERNMENT DENIES THAT IT HAS HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE ABDUCTIONS OF LEFTIST TRADE-UNION ACTIVISTS DOES NOT SEEM TO SOOTHE THE ANXIETIES OF LEADERS WITHIN THE DEMOCRATIC WING OF THE LABOR MOVEMENT. THE CUSG WILL CONTINUE TO PROTEST ABDUCTIONS OF TRADE-UNION ACTIVISTS OF THE EXTREME LEFT FOR TWO REASONS: (1) TO ENHANCE THEIR CREDIBILITY AS THE SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT IN GUATEMALA; AND (2) TO PROTECT THEIR OWN TRADE-UNION LEADERS FROM ARBITRARY GOVERNMENT ACTION, BY PLACING ALL SUCH ABDUCTIONS IN THE FIERCE LIGHT OF PUBLICITY. TAYLOR

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