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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

25X1X6

COUNTRY El Salvador

DATE DISTR. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT Projected Coup d'Etat

NO. OF PAGES<sup>1</sup>

25X1A2g

25X1A6a

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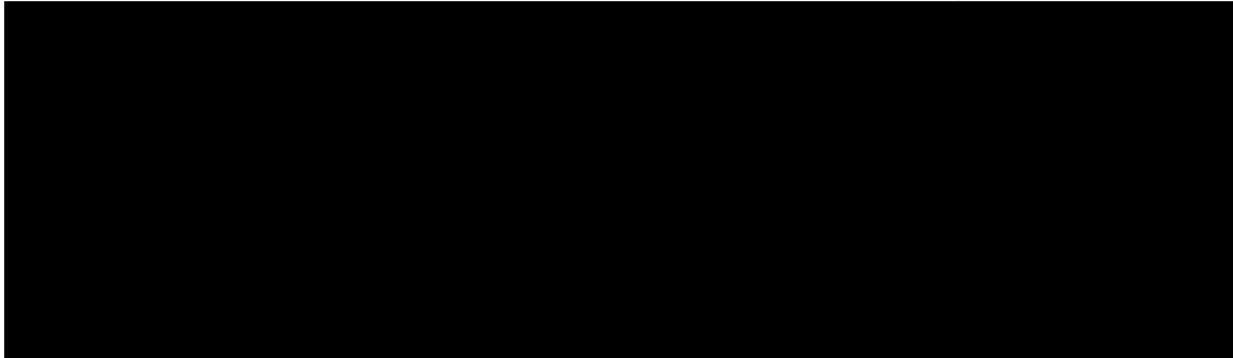
PLACE ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO. 20 April 1949

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

25X1X6



1. The following Salvadoran Army officers have agreed to support a coup d'etat:

Lt. Col. Miguel Angel Parada	Director of the National Police
Lt. Col. Adan Parada	Commander of the First Artillery
Captain Francisco Ponce	Commander of the Air Force
Mejor Esquivel	Deputy Commander of the Air Force
Lt. Col. Benancio Reyes*	Commander of the Second Infantry

2. Major Carlos Joaquin Cruz, Deputy Commander of the Salvadoran National Guard, will assume command of that unit in the projected coup. Considerable bribing of sergeants in the Guard has already been undertaken by Colonel Ezekiel Guzman.\*

3. A doubtful component is the First Infantry Regiment, commanded by Major Mario Mendez. Doctor Jose Maria Mendez has approached his brother, Mario Mendez, to inform him that if he offers resistance the First Infantry Regiment will be attacked from the air.

4. Colonel Juan Antonio Fogelbach Zaldivar,\* Governor of the Department of Santa Ana, was called to the capital on 20 April for a meeting of the principal figures in the plot to select a triumvirate which would take over the government.

25X1X6

5. It is also reported that the government is aware of this proposed coup. The [REDACTED] stated that the government could prevent it but would not, because it desired to stop the movement with determination once it got started.

**Comment.** There is a definite possibility that one or more of the above officials will inform the government of the plot or has already done so. Adan Parada is considered the most likely to do this.

**Comment.** Reyes, Guzman and Fogelbach Zaldivar have been previously reported [REDACTED] as members of a group of officers and civilians who were planning a coup d'etat to free Col. Osmin Aguirre, Salvadoran ex-President who was imprisoned by army officers at the time of the December 1948 coup "for precaution."

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STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NSRB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBI	DISTRIBUTION	Document No. [REDACTED] DRAWN in Class. [REDACTED] RECLASSIFIED CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77 Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763 Date: 15 MAY 1979
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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States. Approved For Release 1999/09/09 : CIA-RDP82-00457R002700060010-9 Next Review Date: 2008

**BY CABLE**