

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

NIO/W

National Intelligence Officers

NFAC 7006-79
27 December 1979

25X1

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence 25X1

VIA: Deputy Director for National Foreign Assessment
National Intelligence Officer for Warning 25X1

FROM: Jack Davis
National Intelligence Officer for Latin America


SUBJECT: Monthly Warning Assessment: Latin America 25X1

1. Action Requested: None; for your information only. 25X1

2. Background: The meeting concentrated on the situation in El Salvador. Most participants expressed growing concern about the survival of the reformist Junta. First, the government seemed uncertain about its priorities and subject to at least tactical disagreements over follow through on both the reform and pacification fronts. Second, the leftist extremists seemed bolder, better armed, and more effective in their disruptive activities: guerilla raids, terrorist attacks, and demonstrations. Equally significant, the security and military forces, especially the army, seemed in poor condition (training, organization, morale, leadership) to deal with the security situation. And this problem was impossible to solve over the short term. Finally, the extreme right had the potential to play a spoiler role. 25X1

3. Most participants concluded that the time for the Junta was probably running out: only more decisive action and increased US economic and military assistance could stem the momentum of the extremists; even this might not prove sufficient to preserve the reformist government in control. 25X1

4. There was general agreement that an IIM on El Salvador be undertaken and completed as quickly as possible. 25X1


Jack Davis

25X1

SECRET

Page Denied