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DCI WORLDWIDE BRIEFING -- GUATEMALA

Government Forces: 25,500 Total

Armed Extreme Left: Estimate 2,000-3,000 fulltime, similar number militia

Government:

- March 1982 coup by junior officers brought Rios Montt to power following fraudulent national elections; new government staunchly anti-Communist; committed to improving the human rights situation and containing corruption.
- Death squad activities and killings attributable to national police elements have been dramatically reduced, especially in urban areas.
- New anti-guerrilla strategy combines military operations with civic action programs providing assistance to Indian peasants; Army is gaining increasing support from local communities.
- New Civil Defense Force program has enrolled over 50,000 Indians to provide protection for their own villages; they provide important intelligence to the Army and deny insurgents supplies and safehaven.

Extreme Left:

Four major guerrilla groups have an estimated 2,000-3,000 combatants; many are trained and supplied by Cuba; perhaps an equal number of part-time militia.

- Guerrilla tactics have focused on hit and run ambushes of small military patrols and assassinations of government authorities including national police, treasury police, and military commissioners.
- Recent tactical initiative has been attacks on Civil Defense Forces and killings of civilians supporting the government in attempt to discourage such complicity.

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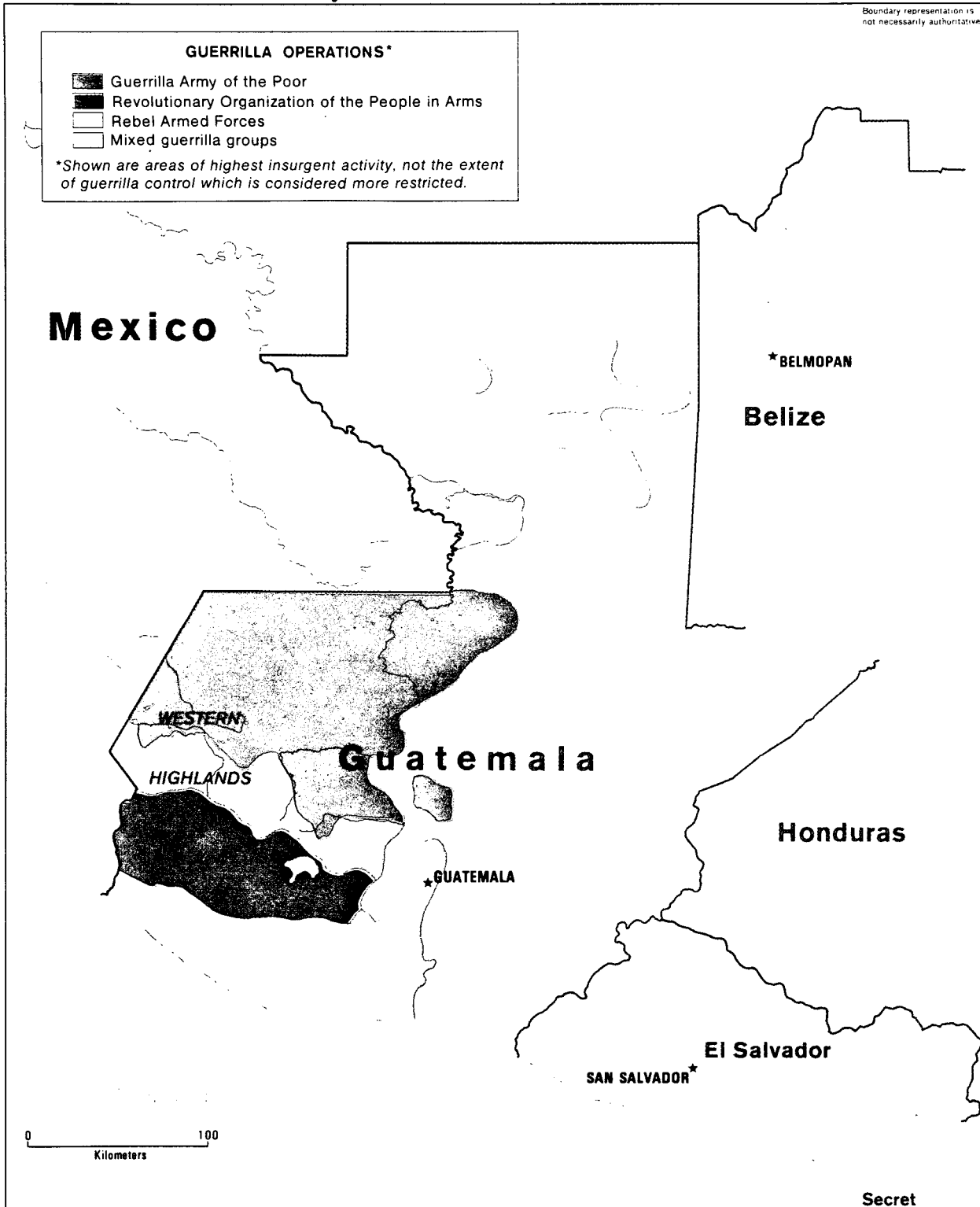
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	Radical or Violent Left	Democratic Left	Center	Conservatiye	Extreme or Violent Right
Political Parties		FUR DCG	PRD	CAN YAN	MLN PID* PR* PUN*
Guerrilla/ Terrorist Groups	EGP FAR PGT/D PGT/O ORPA**	ORPA**			"Death Squads"****
Labor Groups	CNUS****		SITRABI STIGSS		CTP
Business Groups				Amigos del Pais Manufacturers Assoc. Chambers of Commerce	

*Parties that supported President Lucas and official candidate Guevara; future is uncertain because of junior officers' coup.
 **ORPA ~~is~~ Marxist-Leninist and Social Democratic elements.
 ***"Death squads" are operated by both by the rightwing parties and by elements in the government's security forces.
 ****CNUS is a coalition of four leftist unions (FASGUA, CNT, FTG, and FESEBS); ~~CNUS~~ CNUS and its components are largely dormant due to government repression.

which belongs to the guerrilla umbrella organization, includes both

Guatemala: Guerrilla Activity



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