

27 July 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
 FROM : National Intelligence Officer for Latin America
 SUBJECT : Political Violence in El Salvador -- Deliberate Disinformation
 by the Extreme Left

1. The attached table and graph summarizes data on political violence in El Salvador deriving from the US Embassy summary of press reports and from other sources which are often presumed in the US and Europe to be impartial.

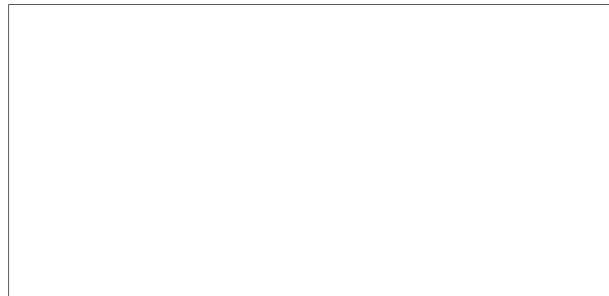
2. The following summarizes the numbers deriving from these five sources for 1981 and 1982:

	<u>US Emb/El Sal</u>	<u>Socorro Juridico</u>	<u>CDHES</u>	<u>UCA</u>	<u>Committee of Mothers</u>
<u>1981</u>	<u>Press Reports</u>				
	5,331	13,353	16,276	11,929	
<u>1982</u>	1,573	2,704	2,440	2,096	2,441

Note that the four groups have much higher numbers than those deriving from US Embassy summaries of press reports.

3. CIA is now in the process of preparing a short analysis of the connections each of these groups has with elements of the extreme left in El Salvador. However, it can be said that there is strong evidence that these groups exist in order to mislead public opinion both in El Salvador and internationally. Each has been connected with different groups composing the extreme left coalition. One example is the Socorro Juridico which is usually described in the US media as the legal aid office of the Roman Catholic Church, and its false numbers are usually attributed to the Roman Catholic Church in El Salvador. In fact, the Archbishop of El Salvador, in his March 1981 New York Times interview, said explicitly that this organization has no formal relationship to the Catholic Church and that he does not think it is fair in its assessment of political violence because it never counts any of the victims of the extreme left. This same pattern is repeated in each of these four groups.

Atts: (3)



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Deaths Attributable to Political Violence

<u>1980</u>	<u>Press Reports</u>	<u>Socorro Juridico</u>	<u>CDHES</u> ¹	<u>UCA</u> ²	<u>Committee of Mothers</u>
October	819		1,383	1,038	
November	779		718	962	
December	<u>575</u>		<u>700</u>	<u>687</u>	
Total:	2,173		2,801	2,687	
 <u>1981</u>					
January	665	2,644	2,293	2,333	
February	481	903	1,402	1,402	
March	599	1,922	1,704	1,622	
April	493	2,311	3,048	2,341	
May	454	536	712	547	
June	392	744	730	685	
July	534	586	819	667	
August	479	582	654	592	
September	296	472	498	486	
October	345	438	975	1,038	
November	244	820	1,295	216	
December	<u>349</u>	<u>1,395</u>	<u>2,146</u>	<u>-----</u>	
Total:	5,331	13,353	16,276	(11,929)	
 <u>1982</u>					
January	279	466	626	539	631
February	361	532	405	387	405
March	438	526	905	483	905
April	194	805	235	353	235
May	<u>301</u>	<u>375</u>	<u>269</u>	<u>334</u>	<u>265</u>
Total:	1,573	2,704	2,440	2,096	2,441
June	189	355	N/A	N/A	³ N/A

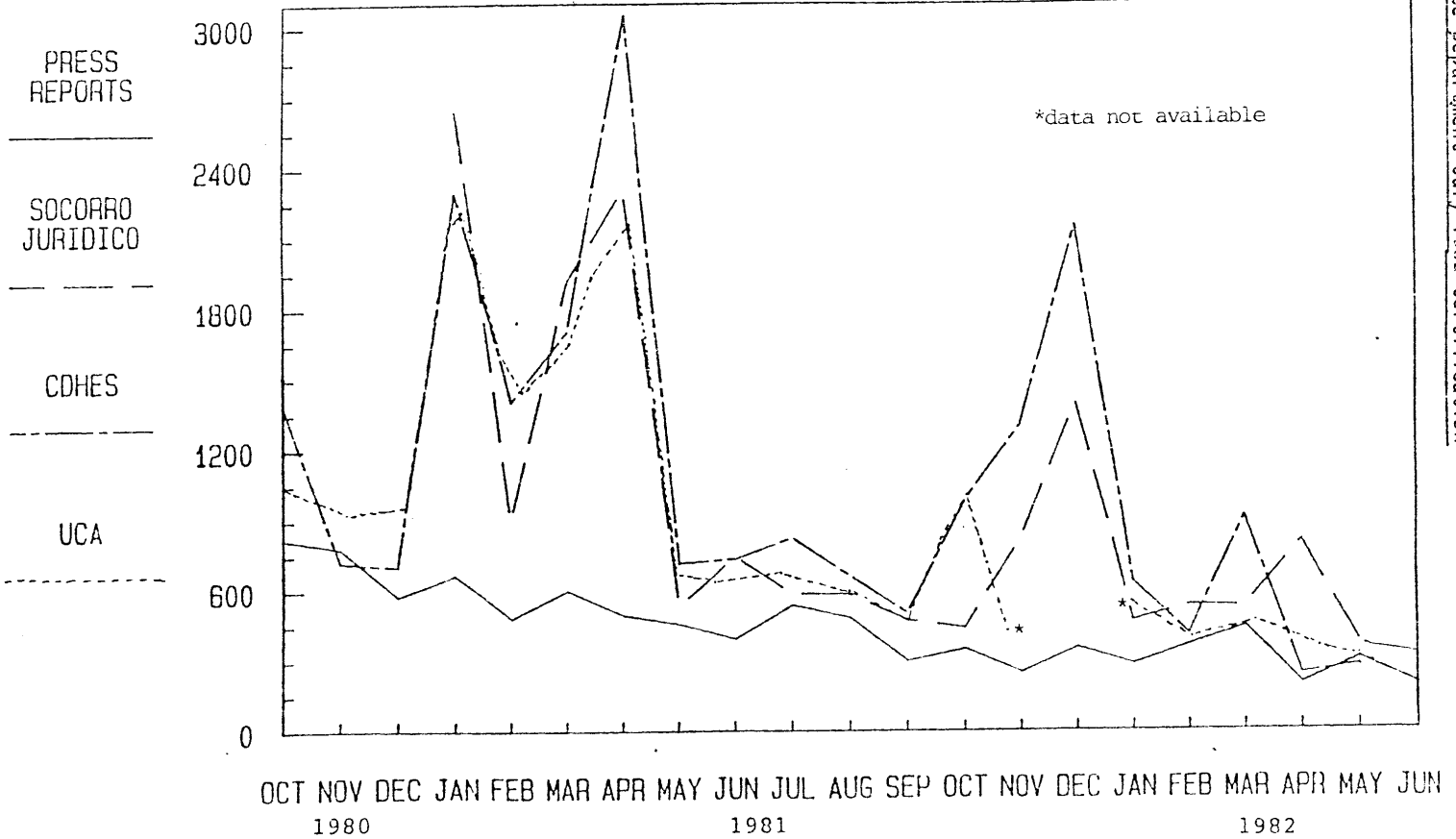
1 The Human Rights Commission of El Salvador (CDHES).

2 The University of Central America (UCA).

3 Not yet released.

CIVILIAN DEATHS ATTRIBUTABLE TO POLITICAL VIOLENCE

DEATHS



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