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 DE RUESAL #1315 0482007
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 R 171658Z FEB 82
 FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
 TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7970
 INFO RUESRS/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 1857
 RUESGT/AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA 239
 RUESMG/AMEMBASSY MANAGUA 5789
 RUEHME/AMEMBASSY MEXICO 1048
 RUEHZP/AMEMBASSY PANAMA 8805
 RUESJO/AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE 2289
 RUESTE/AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA 8571
 RUEKJCS/US DIA WASHDC
 RULPALJ/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PN
 BT
 UNCLAS SAN SALVADOR 1315

DEPT PLEASE PASS TO CONGRESSMEN LEAHY, PELL AND MURTHA

E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PEPR, ES

SUBJECT: PRIVATE SECTOR PROTESTS ORIENTATION OF VISITING CONGRESSMEN

3. IN THEIR MARCH 16 EDITIONS, BOTH MAJOR SAN SALVADORAN MORNING DAILIES PUBLISHED A STATEMENT BY THE ASOCIACION NACIONAL DE LA EMPRESA PRIVADA (ANEP) WHICH ACCUSED VISITING CONGRESSMEN OF BAD FAITH IN THEIR VISIT TO EL SALVADOR. (ALTHOUGH THE STATEMENT WAS AIMED AT THE RECENT VISIT OF SENATORS LEAHY AND PELL AND REPRESENTATIVE MURTHA, THE STATEMENT DID NOT SPECIFICALLY NAME THE CONGRESSMEN IN

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QUESTION.) FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS OF THE STATEMENT.

2. TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS HAVE WAGED IN A NUMBER OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES A MASSIVE CAMPAIGN OF DISINFORMATION ABOUT THE INTERNAL PROBLEMS OF EL SALVADOR. SOME REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS OF THE UNITED STATES ARRIVE WITH THEIR MINDS ALREADY MADE UP ABOUT THE TRAGIC SITUATION WHICH OUR PEOPLE ARE SUFFERING. CONVERSATIONS WITH SEVERAL OF THESE CONGRESSMEN HAVE CLEARLY SHOWN THAT THEY ARE NOT INTERESTED IN TRULY LEARNING ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THIS COUNTRY, BUT COME INSTEAD SIMPLY TO CONFIRM WITH A VISIT THE POSITIONS OF THEIR POLITICAL PARTY IN OPPOSITION TO PRESIDENT REAGAN. THEY HAVE NO INTEREST IN THE WELLBEING OF THE SALVADORAN PEOPLE; THEIR TRUE INTEREST IS TO GAIN POLITICAL RECOGNITION IN THE U.S. BY CRITICIZING, ATTACKING AND OPPOSING THE PRESIDENT OF THAT COUNTRY. THEIR PRETENCE AT AN INVESTIGATION WAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONFUSING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND TO TRY TO BLOCK THE ADMINISTRATION OF PRESIDENT REAGAN, WHICH HAS A CLEAR VISION AND AWARENESS OF WHAT IS HAPPENING IN EL SALVADOR. ANEP PROTESTS SUCH POLITICAL MANEUVERS. THIS ASSOCIATION ALSO REJECTS CATEGORICALLY ANY MOVE TOWARD A NEGOTIATION WITH THE TERRORIST DIRECTORATE. FREE, PURE AND HONEST ELECTIONS ARE THE SOVEREIGN DETERMINATION OF OUR PEOPLE WHICH NO ONE CAN CHANGE.

3. IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE STATEMENT, PRENSA GRAFICA CARRIED AN EDITORIAL IN THE SAME ISSUE IN WHICH IT MENTIONED THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION BY NAME AND ACCUSED THEM OF NOT RESPECTING THE SOVEREIGNTY OF EL SALVADOR. THE EDITORIAL STATED, "EL SALVADOR IS NOT A DEPENDENCY OF THE SENATE. ATTITUDES LIKE THOSE OF LEAHY, PELL AND MURTHA REPRESENT AN INTERNATIONAL ABUSE WHICH DESERVES PROTEST AND REBUTTAL BY THE PRESENT SALVADORAN GOVERNMENT."
HINTON

END OF MESSAGE

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