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PAGE 0001  
TOR: 271609Z APR 85

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 271605Z APR 85 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SUBJECT: VICTOR MANUEL ((SANTOS)) MARINEZ

[REDACTED]

*Embassy* 1. [REDACTED] LEGAL OFFICER (L/O) ADVISED [REDACTED] THAT HE IS IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH VICTOR MANUEL ((SANTOS)) MARTINEZ, FORMER HACIENDA POLICE DETECTIVE WHO IS PROVIDING INFORMATION ON THE SHERATON MURDER CASE. [REDACTED] SANTOS PROVIDED L/O WITH DETAILED INFO ON SHERATON MURDER PLOT [REDACTED] L/O IS NOW ATTEMPTING TO ASSESS VALIDITY OF THIS INFO AS WELL AS SANTOS HIMSELF. [REDACTED] TRACES ON SANTOS REVEAL THAT HE WAS IDENTIFIED [REDACTED] AS BEING INVOLVED WITH RIGHT WING EXTREMISTS. [REDACTED] SUBSEQUENTLY PROVIDED US WITH DETAILED BACKGROUND INFO ON SANTO [REDACTED]

2. SANTOS ENTERED HACIENDA POLICE IN 1972 AND WORKED IN SPECIAL SECTION ON POLITICAL MATTERS UNDER COMMAND OF MAJOR JOSE ALBERTO ((ALVAREZ)) GODINEZ. ALVAREZ WAS FRIENDLY WITH MEMBERS OF SEVERAL LEADING FAMILIES INCLUDING DAGLIO, QUINONEZ, MEZA AYAU, MOLINS, GONZALEZ AND MUYSCHONDT. HE FREQUENTLY ASSIGNED SANTOS TO PERFORM INVESTIGATIVE WORK FOR THE BUSINESSES BELONGING TO THESE FAMILIES. IN 1979 SANTOS WAS DISMISSED FROM THE HACIENDA POLICE FOR UNSPECIFIED INFRACTIONS HE COMMITTED WHILE ON ACTIVE DUTY. SANTOS THEN WORKED AS CHIEF OF SECURITY FOR A GROUP OF ENGINEERS PROVIDING SECURITY FOR THEIR CONSTRUCTION PROPERTY. HE REPORTED DIRECTLY TO CARLOS ((PINEDA)), A WEALTHY CIVIL ENGINEER. WHILE SANTOS WORKED FOR PINEDA, PINEDA'S SON WAS KIDNAPPED AND SUBSEQUENTLY RELEASED. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, BOTH PINEDA AND SON DEPARTED EL SALVADOR AND SANTOS WAS FORCED TO LOOK

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... WITH AS SECURITY CHIEF FOR MARIO ((RAUN)), OWNER AND MANAGER OF MEDICAL LAB AND PHARMACY. AFTER SIX MONTHS OF EMPLOYMENT WITH RAUN, SANTOS QUIT AND VOLUNTEERED FOR TRAINING WITH THE CIVIL DEFENSE AS A LOCAL COMMANDER. IN 1980, HE WAS ASSIGNED AS COMMANDER OF A CIVIL DEFENSE UNIT IN CUSCATANCINGO, NORTH OF SAN SALVADOR, WHERE HE SERVED FOR OVER ONE YEAR. DURING HIS TENURE AS CIVIL DEFENSE COMMANDER, SANTOS WAS SUSPECTED OF MURDERING SEVERAL PERSONS LIVING IN CUSCATANCINGO. IN 1981, HE WAS ARRESTED BY THE NATIONAL GUARD AND JAILED FOR THREE MONTHS ON CHARGES OF MURDERING A STUDENT. SANTOS WAS LATER RELEASED FOR LACK OF WITNESSES OR EVIDENCE. SANTOS WAS THEN TRANSFERRED TO THE TOWN OF ELPAISNAL IN SAN SALVADOR DEPARTMENT WHERE HE SERVED AS LOCAL COMMANDER FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE YEAR. DURING LATTER PART OF 1981 AND 1982, SANTOS WAS FREQUENTLY SEEN WITH SEVERAL ARMED MEN UNDER HIS COMMAND VISITING PROMINENT CITIZENS IN SAN SALVADOR ASSOCIATED WITH THE RIGHT WING, INCLUDING JOSE ALBERTO ((GONZALES)) GINER, JOSE LUIS ((MOLINS)) RUBIO, MARIO ((RAUN)) AND ARTURO ((MUYSCHONDT)). IN 1983, SANTOS WAS TRANSFERRED TO VERAPAZ IN SAN VICENTE DEPARTMENT WHERE HE DESERTED AFTER ALLEGEDLY STEALING 10,000 ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION FOR DIFFERENT CALIBRE WEAPONS. ACCORDING TO GONZALEZ GINER, SANTOS SOLD THE AMMUNITION TO HIM AND GONZALEZ GINER TURNED ALL OF THE AMMUNITION OVER TO ARMED FORCES GENERAL STAFF AFTER THE INVESTIGATION BEGAN LEADING TO HIM. GONZALEZ GINER WAS NOT ARRESTED, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE HE WAS SON-IN-LAW OF JOSE FRANCISCO ((GUERRERO)), AT THAT TIME MINISTER OF THE PRESIDENCY FOR PRESIDENT ALVARO ((MAGANA)). IN MID-1984, SANTOS TURNED HIMSELF IN TO THE POLICE AND WAS JAILED FOR THREE MONTHS BEFORE BEING RELEASED FREE OF CHARGES. HE WAS DENIED PERMISSION TO RE-ENTER THE CIVIL DEFENSE.

3. BOTH SANTOS' FIRST AND SECOND WIVES ABANDONED HIM DUE TO SANTOS' ALCOHOLISM. AT THE END OF 1984, SANTOS WAS ARRESTED BY THE NATIONAL POLICE FOR INVOLVEMENT IN A DRUNKEN BRAWL AT A FUNERAL HOME. HE WAS JAILED FOR TWO MONTHS AND RELEASED. HE NOW REPORTEDLY ATTENDS "ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS." RECENTLY, SANTOS WAS HEARD BRAGGING THAT HE WAS EMPLOYED BY U.S. EMBASSY AND SERVED AS BODYGUARD FOR U.S. AMBASSADOR.

4. L/O IS REVIEWING THIS INFO ALONG WITH INFO PROVIDED TO HIM BY SANTOS IN EFFORT TO DETERMINE APPROPRIATE FOLLOW-UP ACTION.

