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[REDACTED]

*Directorate
of Intelligence*

[REDACTED]

Intelligence Memorandum
Office of African and Latin American Analysis
23 February 1994

2 8 FEB 1994

Mexico: [REDACTED]

Summary

The unexpected peasant revolt that erupted in January has left Mexican politicians and voters with an unsettled playing field and a broad range of vexing political, economic, and social questions to address.

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On The Ground in Chiapas

Peace talks between the Mexican Government and the Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN) have begun

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EZLN spokesperson Subcommander Marcos also has emphasized the guerrillas' desire for more equitable land distribution, another key rebel complaint, and called for the creation of an autonomous zone that would permit the EZLN to govern eastern Chiapas without Mexico City's interference. He has warned that the rebels would launch new attacks if the government attempted to isolate them politically.

The government has made some concessions to the rebels as part of its measured response to the uprising. Mexico City has created two demilitarized "buffer zones" in EZLN-held territory and sanctioned a rebel request that Mexican nongovernmental organizations form a security cordon around the site of the talks.

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Pages: 3-6

Exemptions: (b)(1) (b)(3)