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[REDACTED]

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THE GUATEMALAN ARMY WAS PREPARING TO SUSPEND TWO SENIOR OFFICERS IMPLICATED IN THE JUNE 1990 DEATH AND COVER-UP THE DEATH OF U.S. CITIZEN MICHAEL ((DEVINE)).

COLONEL JULIO ROBERTO ((ALPIREZ)) AND COLONEL MARIO ROBERTO ((GARCIA)) CATALAN WOULD BE SUSPENDED UNTIL A JUDICIAL INVESTIGATION CLEARS THEIR NAMES, OR FINDS PROOF AGAINST THEM, IN WHICH CASE THEY WILL BE DISCIPLINED. (GUATEMALA CITY FIELD COMMENT: PRESS WIRE SERVICES ARE REPORTING ON 26 APRIL THAT ALPIREZ AND GARCIA WERE SUSPENDED PENDING AN INVESTIGATION INTO THEIR ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT IN THE DEVINE

~~SECRET~~

MURDER.) [REDACTED] THIS DECISION WILL CAUSE STRONG DISCONTENT AMONG ARMY OFFICERS, AND COULD FURTHER CONTRIBUTE TO DESTABILIZING THE ADMINISTRATION OF PRESIDENT RAMIRO ((DE LEON)) CARPIO. [REDACTED] THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT INTEND TO CONDUCT FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE CIRCA 1992 DEATH OF GUERRILLA COMMANDER EFRAIN ((BAMAACA)) VELASQUEZ, ALIAS "COMANDANTE EVERARDO." THE BAMAACA CASE WILL BE LEFT TO THE HISTORICAL CLARIFICATION COMMISSION ONCE A PEACE AGREEMENT IS SIGNED WITH THE GUATEMALAN NATIONAL REVOLUTIONARY UNION (URNG). [REDACTED] COMMENT: BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENT IS SEEKING TO HAVE AN AMNESTY IN PLACE FOR THE GUATEMALAN MILITARY AND MEMBERS OF THE URNG BY THE TIME THE AGREEMENT IS SIGNED, IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THE BAMAACA CASE WILL EVER BE FULLY RESOLVED.)

[REDACTED] THE CRISIS RESULTING FROM THE DEVINE/BAMAACA/ALPIREZ AFFAIR, COMBINED WITH THE CONFRONTATION BETWEEN DE LEON AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR OVER TAX REFORMS, HAS LEFT THE PRESIDENCY WEAKENED AND SUBJECT TO COUP PLOTTING. [REDACTED] THE GOVERNMENT IS AWARE OF EFFORTS BY SOME PRIVATE SECTOR LEADERS, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CONSERVATIVE LEADERS FROM THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURAL, COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND FINANCIAL ASSOCIATIONS (CACIF), AND INDIVIDUALS FROM THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR, TO ENLIST THE SUPPORT OF HARDLINE MILITARY OFFICERS. [REDACTED] THE REMOVAL OF DE LEON, AND HIS REPLACEMENT [REDACTED] WAS DISCUSSED DURING SEVERAL MEETINGS BETWEEN THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND MILITARY OFFICIALS; [REDACTED] HOWEVER, [REDACTED] THE PLAN DID NOT MATERIALIZE.

[REDACTED] MORALE IS AT A LOW EBB IN THE GOVERNMENT, CAUSED ESPECIALLY BY WHAT IS SEEN AS A DISTANCING IN TIES ON THE PART OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT--TRADITIONALLY SEEN AS GUATEMALA'S STRONGEST ALLY--AS A RESULT OF THE DEVINE/BAMAACA/ALPIREZ SCANDAL. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] OTHER FRIENDLY COUNTRIES ARE MOVING IN TO OCCUPY THE SPACE LEFT BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT [REDACTED]

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