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Document [redacted] Subject: INTENTION OF SENIOR SALVADORAN ARMED FORCES COMMANDERS  
TO ASK PRESIDENT ALVARO MAGANA TO REMOVE THE MINISTER  
OF DEFENSEC [redacted] ISZ83-0708626B MIDB  
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COUNTRY: EL SALVADOR

SUBJ: INTENTION OF SENIOR SALVADORAN ARMED FORCES COMMANDERS  
TO ASK PRESIDENT ALVARO MAGANA TO REMOVE THE MINISTER  
OF DEFENSE

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TEXT: 1.

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2. BLANDON SAID THAT THE COMMANDERS WANT PRESIDENT MAGANA TO ABIDE BY HIS VERBAL COMMITMENT IN JANUARY THAT GENERAL GARCIA WOULD LEAVE OFFICE WITHIN SIXTY DAYS AFTER THE SETTLEMENT OF THE REBELLION BY COLONEL SIGIFREDO ((OCHOA)) PEREZ. HE ALSO NOTED THAT AT A COMMANDERS' MEETING ON 3 MARCH GENERAL GARCIA HAD OFFERED TO TENDER HIS RESIGNATION IF THE PRESIDENT SO DESIRED; THUS, IT IS NOW UP TO THE PRESIDENT TO DECIDE IF GARCIA WILL REMAIN IN OFFICE.

3. COLONEL BLANDON EMPHASIZED THAT ALTHOUGH THE COMMANDERS ARE ADAMANT THAT GARCIA MUST LEAVE THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE POSITION, THEY WANT HIS DEPARTURE TO BE A PEACEFUL AND HONORABLE ONE. THEY DO NOT WANT TO GENERATE ADVERSE PUBLICITY OR TO CAUSE FURTHER FRICTION AND DISCONTENT WITHIN THE ARMED FORCES. THUS, THEY PLAN TO APPROACH PRESIDENT MAGANA IN A PEACEFUL AND PROFESSIONAL MANNER. COLONEL BLANDON SAID THAT HE EXPECTED THE PRESIDENT TO UNDERSTAND THE NEED FOR THE UNIFICATION OF THE ARMED FORCES AT A TIME WHEN THE INSURGENTS ARE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE DIVISION WITHIN THE MILITARY CAUSED BY THE DESIRE OF MANY OFFICERS FOR GARCIA'S REMOVAL.

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REPORT CLASS S E C R E T--WARNING NOTICE--

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DISSEMINATION AND EXTRACTION OF INFORMATION CONTROLLED BY ORIGINATOR.

DECL: [Redacted] RECORDED REPORTING OFFICER. ALL PORTIONS CARRY CLASSIFICATION AND CONTROLS OF OVERALL DOCUMENT.

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