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Document:CIAA -0000 523550 Subject: PLANS BY SAI MINISTER OF DEFENSE RESIGN ON 11 APRILC 1031 MIDB	
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062204ZCIA 523550 TO: IMMEDIATE DIRNSA, DEPT OF STATE, DIA, WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM, NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL STAFF, ZEN/CIA OFFICE OF CURRENT OPERATIONS, USCINCSO QHTS PANAMA.	CRET
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY	
WARNING: INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTE	ELLIGENCE.
REPORT CLASS S E C R E TWNINTEL-	
DIST: 6 APRIL 1983 COUNTRY: EL SALVADOR	
SUBJ: PLANS BY SALVADORAN AIR FORCE OFFICERS TO DEM	MAND THAT
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TEXT: 1. OVER NINETY PERCENT OF SALVADORAN AIR FORCE HAVE AGREED THAT A CONTINGENT OF THEIR COLLEAGUES SHOUL WITH PRESIDENT ALVARO ((MAGANA)) ON 11 APRIL 1983 AND D THAT THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE, GENERAL JOSE GUILLERMO ((RESIGN ON THAT DATE AS HE PROMISED TO DO IN AN 11 JANUA COMMANDERS' MEETING. THE OFFICERS PLAN TO UNDERSCORE T	LD MEET DEMAND (GARCIA)) ARY
SEGRET	CL BY: CL REASON: DECL ON: DRV FROM:

Approved for Release: 2019/08/07 C06629937

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DEMAND BY CEASING ALL ACTIVITIES AT THE ILOPANGO AIR FORCE BASE UNTIL THE MINISTER RESIGNS.	
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2. THE EXTENT TO WHICH AIR FORCE COMMANDER, COLONEL JUAN RAFAEL ((BUSTILLO)), FAVORS THIS ACTION IS NOT KNOWN BUT HE IS BEING PRESSURED BY HIS OFFICERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONFRONTATION WITH MAGANA AND COULD LEAD THE CONTINGENT WHICH PLANS TO MEET WITH	
THE PRESIDENT. SOME OF THE MORE ADAMANTLY ANTI-GARCIA AIR FORCE OFFICERS HAVE THREATENED OTHER OFFICERS NOT COMMITTED TO THIS ACTION IN AN ATTEMPT TO COERCE THEM INTO AGREEING TO THE MAJORITY'S PLANS.	
3 IT IS UNCERTAIN AT THIS TIME WHETHER OFFICERS OF THE FIRST INFANTRY BRIGADE WILL JOIN THE AIR FORCE IN CONFRONTING MAGANA. COLONEL ADOLFO O. ((BLANDON)), THE FIRST BRIGADE COMMANDER, HAS OPPOSED GARCIA SINCE THE CRISIS BEGAN BUT RECENTLY HAS ATTEMPTED TO MEND FENCES WITH THE MINISTER AS HE HAS PERCEIVED GARCIA TO BE WINNING HIS BATTLE TO REMAIN IN OFFICE. BLANDON'S RECENT BEHAVIOR SUGGESTS THAT HE WILL BASE HIS DECISION ON WHAT HE VIEWS AS HIS PERSONAL ADVANTAGE.)	
4. THE SITUATION SHOULD NOT BECOME DANGEROUS UNLESS MILITARY UNITS SUCH AS THE FIRST BRIGADE DECIDE TO JOIN THE AIR FORCE IN DEMANDING GARCIA'S IMMEDIATE RESIGNATION OR THE AIR FORCE OFFICERS ATTEMPT TO CARRY OUT SOME ACTION WHICH WOULD DRAMATICALLY DEMONSTRATE THEIR DISSATISFACTION WITH GARCIA REMAINING IN OFFICE IF THEY DO NOT RECEIVE A FAVORABLE REPLY TO THEIR DEMAND ON 11 APRIL.)	
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