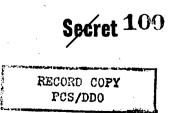
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Weekly Situation Report on International Terrorism

8 February 1977



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Approved for Release: 2020/01/15 C06626244

SECRET

8 February 1977

ARTICLES

Guatemalan Guerrilla Army of the Poor Allegedly Kidnaps U.S. Citizen

Several men suspected of being members of the Guatemalan Guerrilla Army of the Poor (EGP) kidnaped Edmundo Brol, a naturalized U.S. citizen of Guatemalan extraction, on the morning of 7 February, only a few hundred feet from the U.S. embassy where Brol's son-in-law is a commercial attache. A letter left with Brol's driver at the scene of the incident very much resembles a ransom letter sent by the EGP following the late December 1976 kidnaping of Juan Jose Hermosilla, a Guatemalan businessman. Like the Hermosilla letter, the Brol ransom letter demands \$500,000 dollars in various specified denominations.

Supporting the assumption that the EGP is perpetrating the kidnaping is the fact that accompanying the ransom letter was a document removed from one of several coffeehauling trucks owned by Brol. The trucks had been burned by EGP members on the south Guatemalan coast during late 1976.

As far as family members know, the kidnapers are not aware that Brol is a U.S. citizen. The Brol family, fearing action by government forces which would endanger the victim's life, have not yet decided whether to report the kidnaping to the Guatemalan government or to try to obtain Brol's release on their own. This may be the second incident between the EGP and U.S. personnel during the last few months; the first incident involved a Shenandoah Oil Company drilling camp, which was occupied for several hours on the morning of 26 November 1976. (See the 30 November 1976 issue for additional background.)

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<u>Place</u>: Guatemala, Guatemala City

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U.S. Businessman Kidnaped in
Guatemala City
Edmundo Brol, a naturalized
U.S. citizen of Guatemalan
extraction, was kidnaped by
several men in Guatemala City
on 7 February. A ransom of
\$500,000 was demanded in a
letter, purportedly from the
Guatemalan Army of the Poor
(EGP), which was left with
Brol's driver. Brol is the
father-in-law of a U.S. em-
bassy officer in Guatemala
City. (See Article.) (SE-
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