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National Intelligence Daily (Cable)

10 March 1982

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Intelligence Sources and Methods Involved

(WNINTEL)

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Central America:	i
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Approved for Release: 2017/11/17 C05065644 CENTRAL AMERICA:

Salvadoran Electoral Activity

Four of the parties contesting the elections scheduled for 28 March have presented full slates of candidates for the constituent assembly in all of the country's 14

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departments. These parties include the cogoverning Christian Democrats and the two major rightist group- ings, Roberto D'Aubuisson's ultraconservative National Republican Alliance and the National Conciliation Party. One other rightist party will field candidates in most departments, while another is on the ballot in more than half. The Central Elections Council claims that the leftist but noninsurgent-affiliated Renewal Action Party did not make the deadline for registration of assembly candidates. Disputing this, the party head has charged the Council with fraud. The Christian Democrats also have asked the Council to reconsider.	, (þ)(3 ,
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Comment: The success of the parties in fielding complete slates gives voters definite choices and thus should enhance voter turnout. The parties' success also casts doubt on the effectiveness of guerrilla efforts to inhibit political organizing in individual departments.	(b)(3
The Christian Democrats' request that the decision be reconsidered reflects their concern that exclusion of the only leftist party will reinforce insurgent claims that the elections are not representative and therefore not valid. The Christian Democrats probably also regard this party as their most likely supporter in any coalition.	. (b)(3)
Although labor has never been a major political force in Salvadoran elections, the coalition probably controls about 100,000 urban and rural workers. The military realizes that labor support for the elections will enhance the popular image of the process, increase	•
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voter turnout among the working classe guerrilla appeals for a national strik day.		3)
Pressure on the Christian Democrats		
//Former Costa Rican President Od to US officials that a coalition of re and Social Democrats invites insurgent Ungo to meet under their sponsorship w doran Government to discuss a cessation Oduber's proposal assumes a Christian	egional Christian leftist spokesman with the new Salva- on of hostilities.	
Comment: //Oduber apparently wan insurgents to stop fighting or admit to control them. In the latter case, he into breaking with the rebels or losing support.//	hat he does not would be pressured	
Army Repels Insurgents		
After bitter fighting on Monday, Army drove insurgents from the departm San Miguel. The guerrillas also were attacking San Vicente, San Sebastian, de Lima.	ental capital of driven off after	(
Comment: The Salvadoran military	has	
taken appropriate defensive measures. can prevent the insurgents from seizin	Although the Army	
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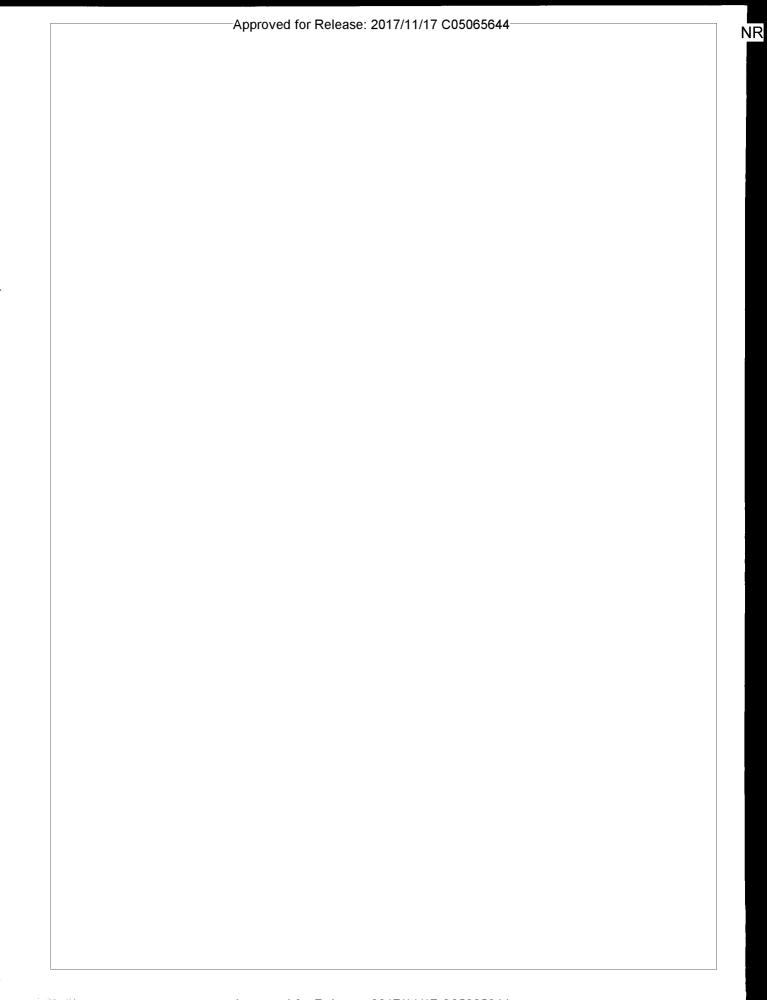
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population centers, the presence of a large international press contingent in El Salvador assures the guerrillas	
considerable propaganda for their actions.	(b)(3)
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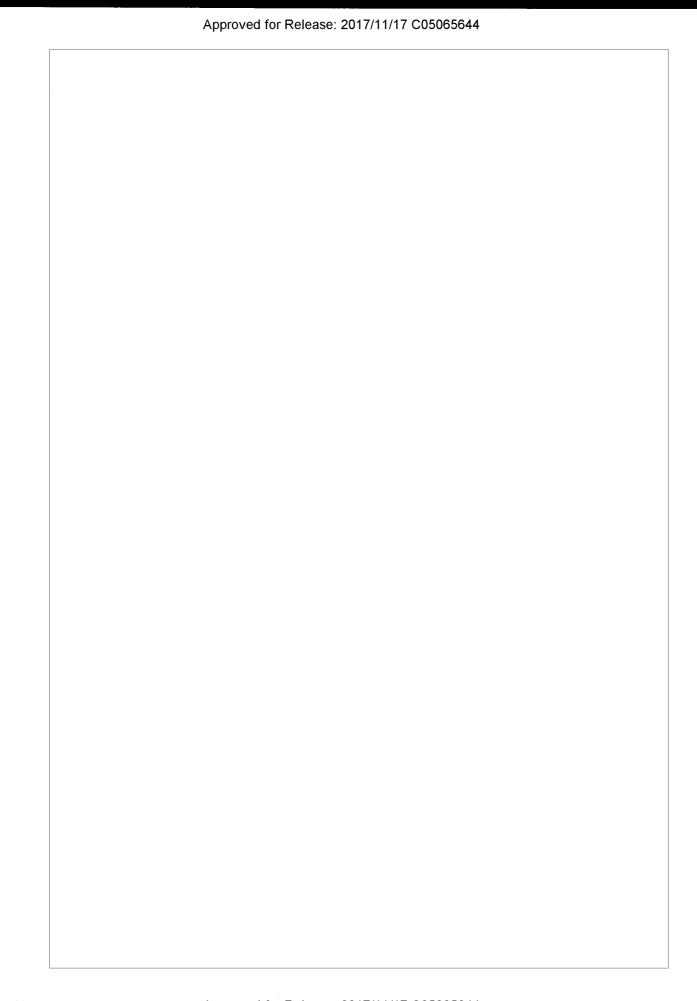


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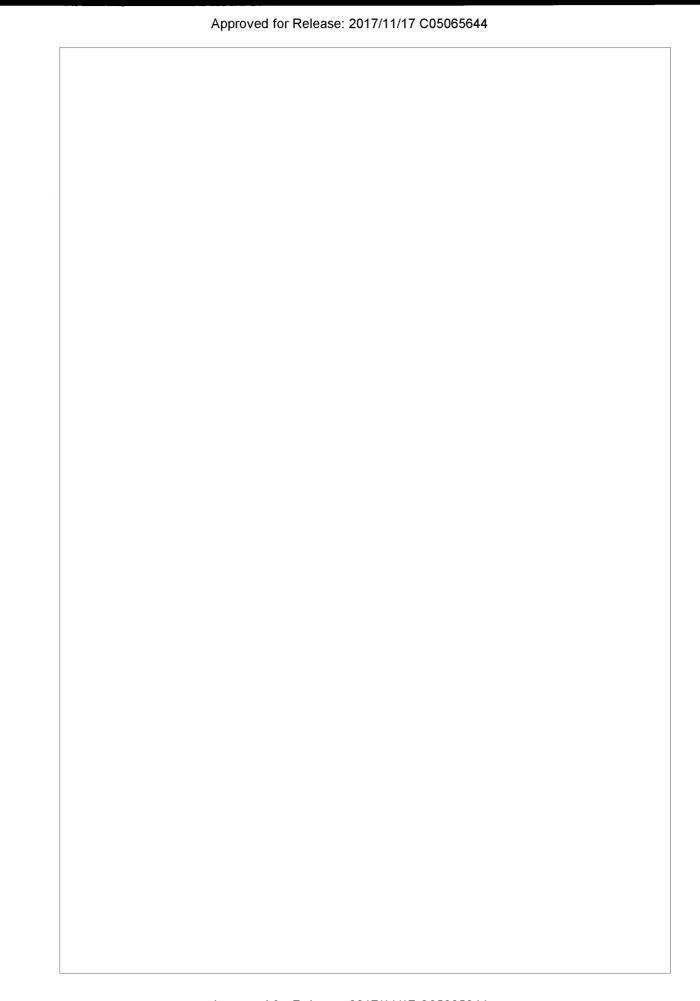
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