

Director of Central Intelligence

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Saturday 4 December 1982

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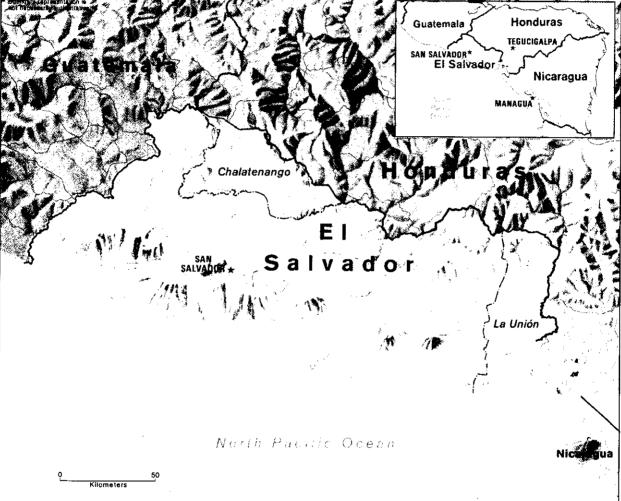
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EL SALVADOR: Insurgents' Plans

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The government's recapture of towns in northern La Union Department has not deterred querrilla operations in the east

The Army claims to have killed 100 guerrillas-including five foreign commanders--and wounded 150 during the counteroffensive in La Union. The US defense attache reports widely scattered insurgent activities continue, however, and much of the eastern part of the country is again without electric power.

<u>Comment</u>: The guerrillas have sustained their military actions for two months despite problems in various units with organization, logistics, and personnel. Although the insurgents generally have attacked isolated towns, public utilities, roads and bridges, and commercial and agricultural facilities, they also have had considerable success against military outposts and convoys. Their claims to have inflicted over 850 government casualties, apparently including 240 prisoners captured along with more than 560 weapons, appear plausible.

Despite the tactical stalemate, the guerrillas appear to be replacing enough personnel and receiving enough supplies to sustain their current level of operations. They seem committed to a prolonged struggle if they cannot force the government to negotiate.

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