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RUEENAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC
RUEAIQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC//XO-CTC//
RUEDADA/AIPS AMHS BOLLING AFB DC
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RUEAIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC
RUEHC /SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC
RUEAHCC/CHC CC WASHINGTON DC
RUEHIA/DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD
RUEAHCC/CHC WASHINGTON DC
RUECIA/KCIAAF/AFS FT GEORGE G HEAD!!
RUEALGX/SAFE
AIG 11888
R 082326Z APR 88
TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC
RUEEOHA/USCINCFO QUARRY HTS PM//SCJ2//
BT
CONTROLS
SECRET/NOFORW/UNINTEL
SERIAL: (U) IIR

BODY
************ THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE ************
PASS: (U) DIA PASS TO AIG 11888
COUNTRY: (U) GUATEMALA (GT).

SUBJ: IIR SECOND ECHELON MOVERS AND SHAKERS IN THE GUATEMALAN MILITARY (U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED SECRET/NOFORW/UNINTEL.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
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SECRET

NOFORW

WHINTEL
SUMMARY: (S/NI) REPORT PROVIDES A THUMBNAIL SKETCH ON TWELVE KEY OFFICERS BELOW THE RANK OF GENERAL OFFICER. THESE OFFICERS MAY BE THE FUTURE LEADERS OF THE GUATEMALAN MILITARY.

TEXT: 1. (G/NI)

THIS REPORT DEALS WITH OFFICERS TO WATCH WHO ARE LIKELY TO PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE FUTURE OF THE GUATEMALAN MILITARY. IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT GENERAL OFFICERS HAVE KEY ROLES SO THIS REPORT IS LIMITED TO OFFICERS BELOW THE RANK OF BG.

2. (G/NI) THERE ARE TWO COLONELS WHO STAND OUT AS PROBABLE CANDIDATES FOR PROMOTION TO GENERAL IN 1988 - COL EDGAR ((GODOY)) GAITAN AND COL BYRON DISRAEL ((LIMA)) ESTRADA. THE FIRST IS ALMOST CERTAIN TO MAKE IT WHILE THE SECOND IS LESS CERTAIN FOR POLITICAL REASONS. COL GODOY IS CURRENTLY ASSIGNED AS THE CHIEF OF THE PRESIDENTIAL STAFF, A POSITIONakin TO WHITE HOUSE CHIEF OF STAFF. GODOY'S PREDECESSOR IN THE POSITION, BG ROBERTO ((MATA)), USED IT AS A SPRINGBOARD TO BG RANK. GODOY RECENTLY COMPLETED A SUCCESSFUL TOUR AS THE COMMANDER OF CRITICAL MIL ZONE #18 SAN MARCOS. PRIOR TO THAT HE WAS THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE (D-2). GODOY'S REPUTATION AND JOB PERFORMANCE ARE BOTH EXCELLENT AND HE IS COMMONLY RUMORED TO BE IN LINE FOR THE NEXT BG SLOT. GODOY IS A SUPPORTER OF THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE (MOD) AND WILL HAVE SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE WHILE THE GRAMAJO - CALLEJAS LEADERSHIP IS IN POWER.

3. (G/NI) COL LIMA PRESENTS A STRANGE CASE. HE WAS EXTREMELY SUCCESSFUL AS THE COMMANDER OF THE MOST IMPORTANT MIL ZONE (#20 QUICHE). HE WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE LARGER MZ #23 IN THE PETEN BUT SERVED ONLY A SHORT TIME AS HE WAS TRANSFERRED TO MAKE ROOM FOR A NEW BG SLOT. HE IS CURRENTLY "LANGUISHING" IN THE QUIET MIL ZONE OF CHIQUIMULA (#8). WHILE ASSIGNMENT TO A LESS IMPORTANT MZ CAN BE CONSTRUED AS A DEMOTION IT COULD ALSO BE CONSIDERED AN OPPORTUNITY TO "RECHARGE ONE'S BATTERIES." ALL MZ COMMANDERS ARE IMPORTANT AND LIMA SHOULD NOT BE WRITTEN OFF YET. HIS REPUTATION IN THE OFFICER CORPS IS TOP NOTCH AND
SEVERAL MID-GRADE OFFICERS HAVE RECOGNIZED LIMA AS A PROBABLE BG IN 1988. HE IS KNOWN AS AN EXCELLENT COMMANDER WHO TAKES CARE OF HIS PEOPLE. NOW THE CATCH. LIMA IS VERY STRONG WILLED AND HIGHLY OUTSPoken. THAT COUPLED WITH HIS VERY CONSERVATIVE PHILOSOPHY AND IDEOLOGY MAKES HIM A BIT DANGEROUS IN A BUDDING DEMOCRACY. HE MAY HAVE HAD A BIT OF A FALLING OUT WITH THE MOD AS A RESULT OF THEIR DIFFERENCES OF OPINION ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF DEMOCRATIC SURVIVAL. THE CONCLUSION ABOUT LIMA IS THAT HE SHOULD BE PROMOTED BASED ON MERIT BUT HE MAY BE PASSED OVER IN THE AFTERGLOW OF THE NULLA SITUATION. LIMA'S ROLE UNDER GRAMAJO IS NOT EASY TO REDICT BUT IF THERE IS EVER A CONSERVATIVE BACKLASH TO THE GRAMAJO ERA, LIMA WOULD RISE TO THE TOP LIKE A COMET.

4. (S/W) THERE ARE THREE YOUNGER COLONELS WHO SHOULD BE MONITORED OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS. THEY ARE STILL A FEW YEARS AWAY FROM BG CONSIDERATION BUT THE POSITIONS THEY HOLD/HELD INDICATE FUTURE POTENTIAL.

A. COL JOSE DOMINGO ((GARCIA)) SAMAYOA IS THE COMMANDER OF MZ #22 PLAYA GRANDE. THIS FOLLOWS HIS FIRST COMMAND OF MZ #14 SOLOLA. HE HELD THE POSITION AS DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS (D-3) AS A LTC, SOMETHING GRAMAJO DID EARLIER IN HIS CAREER. ALWAYS "FIRST IN HIS CLASS" GARCIA IS RECOGNIZED THROUGHOUT THE OFFICER CORPS AS A STAR PERFORMER. HE HAS RECEIVED MANY ACCOLADES FOR THE JOB HE IS DOING IN THE HIGHLY CONFLICTIVE PLAYA GRANDE AREA. GARCIA HAS MANAGED TO TRANSCEND POLITICAL CLIQUES AND IS A SURVIVOR. HE WAS APPOINTED D-3 UNDER MEJIA AND LOBOS WHICH DID NOT ENDEAR HIM TO THE GRAMAJO CLIQUE. NEVERTHELESS, HE HAS KEPT HIS MOUTH SHUT AND CONCENTRATED ON HIS COMMANDS. THUSLY, HE HAS BECOME A KEY OFFICER WITH THE CURRENT GRAMAJO-CALLEJAS HIGH COMMAND. HIS OBVIOUS TALENTS, ABILITY TO AVOID INSTITUTIONAL POLITICS, AND PRO-DEMOCRATIC OUTLOOK INDICATE THAT GARCIA WILL BE A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH REGARDLESS OF WHO HEADS THE ARMY.

B. COL JOSE LUIS ((QUILO)) AYUSO CURRENTLY COMMANDS MZ #302 CHIMALTENANGO-SACATEPEQUEZ. QUILO ALSO SERVED AS THE IMPORTANT OPERATIONS OFFICER (D-3) ON THE GENERAL STAFF. MZ #302 IS NOT A CRITICAL ZONE BUT IT IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE OF ITS HISTORICAL SUPPORT FOR SUBVERSION AND ITS PROXIMITY TO THE CAPITAL. IT IS POPULATED LARGELY BY INDIAN GROUPS AND HAS SEEN AN INCREASE IN RECENT SUBVERSIVE ACTS DUE TO PRESSURE AGAINST THE GUERRILLAS ELSEWHERE. THEREFORE, THE MOD CONSIDERS IT AN IMPORTANT POST AND PLACES GREAT CONFIDENCE IN QUILO. QUILO IS A STRONG ALLY OF THE MOD BECAUSE OF HIS PRO-DEMOCRACY OUTLOOK. SO LONG AS
THE GRAHANO CLIQUE HOLDS CONTROL QUILDO WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE KEY POSITIONS. QUILDO'S ONE LIABILITY IS THAT HE DOES NOT HAVE A PHYSICAL "COMMAND PRESENCE." HE IS BABY-FACED AND OVERWEIGHT. THE OFFICER CORPS HAS MORE RESPECT FOR PHYSICALLY FIT OFFICERS AND QUILDO WOULD BE WISE TO REDUCE HIS WEIGHT FOR A MORE PROFESSIONAL APPEARANCE.

C. COL EDGAR JUSTINO (OVALLE)) MALDONADO SERVES AS THE 2D COMMANDER OF THE AIRBORNE BRIGADE. HE PREVIOUSLY WORKED AS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS (D-3) AND AS A FACULTY MEMBER AT THE MILITARY STUDIES CENTER (CEM). HE IS A VERY JUNIOR COLONEL. OVALLE DOES NOT JUMP OUT AS A "MOVER AND SHAKER" LIKE THE OTHERS IN THIS REPORT. HAS A HUNCH THAT HE WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE AN OUTSTANDING CAREER. HE IS A VERY DYNAMIC AND EXPERIENCED OFFICER WHO HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO SEVERAL PRESTIGIOUS JOBS DURING RO'S TOUR. HE COULD WELL MOVE UP TO COMMAND THE AIRBORNE BDE WHEN THE INCUMBENT ROTATES. ALL OFFICERS ASSIGNED COMMAND POSITIONS IN THE ELITE AIRBORNE BRIGADE HAVE DONE WELL IN THEIR CAREERS AND OVALLE SHOULD BE NO EXCEPTION. HE COMMANDS GREAT RESPECT AMONG OFFICERS. OVALLE IS "DARK HORSE CANDIDATE" TO BE A FUTURE HIGH LEVEL LEADER IN THE GT ARMY.