COUNTRY: EL SALVADOR

SUBJ: SITUATION REPORT AS OF 1430 HOURS LOCAL TIME

001: 16 NOVEMBER 1989


2. AT 0020 HOURS LOCAL TIME ON 16 NOVEMBER, THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL AMERICA (UCA) RECTOR, IGNACIO (EL&ACURIA), UCA VICE RECTOR IGNACIO MARTIN-BARO AND FOUR OTHER PRIESTS WERE KILLED BY UNIDENTIFIED SUBJECTS AT EL&ACURIA'S RESIDENCE NEAR THE UCA CAMPUS. THE COOK AND DAUGHTER WERE ALSO KILLED. THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS HAS GAINED ACCESS TO THE RESIDENCE GROUNDS AND IS REPORTING EL&ACURIA'S DEATH. THE SALVADORAN SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE UNIT (ISU) IS INVESTIGATING THE CASE. INFORMALLY, SALVADORAN MILITARY OFFICIALS HAVE BLAMED THE FARABUNDO MARTI NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT FOR EL&ACURIA'S KILLING. FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE REPORTED SUBSEQUENTLY AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE.

AND THE TREASURY POLICE HEADQUARTERS IN SAN SALVADOR. SEPARATELY.

The First Infantry Brigade has positioned four 105mm howitzers north of the First Brigade Headquarters to support the elements fighting in the northern suburbs of San Salvador.

During fighting in Soyapango on the afternoon of 15 November, Air Force elements suffered eight wounded and confirmed 60 insurgents killed. Air Force units reentered Soyapango in the early morning hours of 16 November, supported by Air Force helicopter gunships. The Air Force believes that insurgents who had been holding positions in Urbanización Los Conacastes in Soyapango had moved to Colonia Guadalupe. The Beloso Immediate Reaction Infantry Battalion is still positioned north of the city, but is not engaged in combat.

The International Red Cross has called for a truce to allow the Red Cross and other humanitarian organizations to evacuate wounded from the conflictive areas. There is no indication that a truce will be called.

Salvadoran President Alfredo ([Cristiani]) has again condemned Cuban and Nicaraguan government support to the FMLN. Cuban and Soviet sources have said the FMLN attacks as acts of terrorism against defenseless people and stated that it is incomprehensible that these two governments can support such acts. He has again called upon the civilian population to remain calm and to continue cooperating with the Salvadoran government. Also, Costa Rican President Oscar ([Arias]) has condemned the FMLN offensive and is urging the FMLN to go to Caracas on 20 November and to resume the negotiation process begun in September.

As of the evening of 15 November, an undetermined number of insurgents were in a gully in Colonia Las Magnolias in the Ayutuxtepeque/Cuscatancingo area and were using the gully as a staging area. They appeared to be able to come and go from this area at will; there was no combat in the area. The insurgents appeared to be in control of Ciudad Delgado as of late 15 November. The insurgents appeared to be entering and leaving Ciudad Delgado at will. Also, a member of the Salvadoran Green Cross stated that the insurgents appeared to be in control in Apopa, north of San Salvador, as of late 15 November. Insurgents in Apopa were mounting regular foot patrols in the town.

Elements of the First Brigade found a car filled with Molotov cocktails. The car looked like a press car. The car had the letters "T.V." in its window. Most press elements in El Salvador put the letters "T.V." in their car windows to clearly identify themselves to both the government and the insurgents.

On 15 November, People's Revolutionary Army leader "Joaquin Villalobos" spoke during a "Radio Venceremos" broadcast and urged the insurgents to continue fighting.