CONFIDENTIAL

INQUIRE=DOC25D
ITEM NO=00114807
ENVELOPE
CDSN = LGX526  MCN = 94026/35989  TOR = 940261922
RTTCZYWD RUEKJCS8617 0261926=--RUEALGX.
ZNY=--
HEADER
R 261926Z JAN 94
FM DIA WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEADWH/OCSA WASHINGTON DC
RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC
RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC
RUEACMC/CMA WASHINGTON DC
RHLBAAK/CDRUSARSO MAXI FT CLAYTON PM//SOIN-IDI//
RUETIAQ/MPC FT GEORGE G MEADE MD
RUCBSAA/CINCUSACOM NORFOLK VA//J2//
RUCQVAB/USCINCSOC INTEL OPS CEN MACDILL AFB FL
RUEOFAA/COMJSOC FT BRAGG NC//J2//
RHLBAAA/USCINCSCO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC
RULQIAN/MARCORINTACT DET QUANTICO VA
RULSJI/COGARD INTELCOORD/CEN WASHINGTON DC
RUEALGX/SAFE
R 261711Z JAN 94
TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC//ARA-MEX//
RUEAHQA/OASF WASHDC//IAL//
RUEHGT/AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA//USDAO//
BT
CONTROLS
C O N F I D E N T I A L  S E C T I O N  0 1  O F  0 3
CONFIDENTIAL NOFORM

SERIAL:   (U) IIR

/************ THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE ************/
BODY
COUNTRY:   (U) MEXICO (MX); GUATEMALA (GT).

SUBJECT:   IIR GUERRILLAS CAPTURE KEY TOWNS IN CHIAPAS, MEXICO. CORRECTED REPORT (U).

WARNING:   (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED - C O N F I D E N T I A L NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS.

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NOFORM
DOIO: (U) 940101.
REQUIS: (U)
SOURCE: (U)

SUMMARY: (U) GUERRILLAS HAVE CAPTURED FOUR TOWNS IN SOUTHERN MEXICO AND CALLED FOR A GENERAL LOCAL INDIAN UPRISING. THE CAPTURED TOWNS INCLUDE SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS CASAS, COMITAN, OCOSINGO, AND LAS MARGARITAS, ALL IN CHIAPAS STATE.

TEXT:

1. (C/INF) GUERRILLAS HAVE CAPTURED FOUR TOWNS IN SOUTHERN MEXICO AND CALLED FOR A GENERAL LOCAL INDIAN UPRISING. THE CAPTURED TOWNS INCLUDE SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS CASAS, COMITAN, OCOSINGO, AND LAS MARGARITAS, ALL IN CHIAPAS STATE. INITIAL ESTIMATES ON GUERRILLA ELEMENT SIZE RANGE FROM 200-500 MEN.

2. (C/INF) AT APPROXIMATELY 0300 LOCAL, 931231, LOCALS IN SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS CASAS WERE AWAKENED BY GUNFIRE FROM THE PRINCIPLE SQUARE CONTAINING GOVERNMENTAL OFFICES. WITNESSES THEN STATED THAT MEN IN GREEN MILITARY STYLE UNIFORMS AND BLACK BOOTS, ALL CLEAN AND NEW, HAD OCCUPIED THE SQUARE. UNCONFIRMED REPORTS STATE THAT SOME SMALL NUMBER OF BODIES WERE SEEN LYING IN THE SQUARE. ASIDE FROM THE MEN IN GREEN, SEVERAL MEN IN ALL BLACK, MUDDY AND DIRTY UNIFORMS WITH BALACLAVAS GUARDING THEIR IDENTITIES WERE SEEN; THESE MEN APPEARED TO BE IN CHARGE. THE SQUARE IN SAN CRISTOBAL WAS OCCUPIED BY LESS THAN A PLATOON, BUT SEVERAL BACKPACKS WITH GRENADES AND APPROXIMATELY ONE THOUSAND ROUNDS EACH WERE SEEN.

3. (C/INF) THE TOWNS TO THE WEST OF SAN CRISTOBAL HAVE ALSO BEEN OCCUPIED. THESE INCLUDE OCOSINGO, COMITAN, AND ALTAMIRANDO. IN OCOSINGO THE GUERRILLAS
HAVE TAKEN OVER AN AM RADIO STATION AND BEGUN BROADCASTING. A LOCAL POLICE STATION WAS ALSO REPORTEDLY BURNED AND LOCAL PGR OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN OVERWHELMED BY THE UPRISING.

4. OUTSIDE OF EACH TOWN GUERRILLAS HAVE SET UP ROAD BLOCKS USING FELLED TREES AND LIMITED BOTH ENTRY AND EXIT FROM THE TOWNS. IN AT LEAST ONE TOWN, A PAMPHLET WAS PASSED OUT ASKING FOR A GENERAL INDIAN UPRISING.

5. ONE REPORT STATED THAT A TALL "CENTRAL AMERICAN, SLENDER WITH GREEN EYES" WAS ONE OF THOSE IN CHARGE.

6. ONE REPORT ALSO INDICATED THAT SMALL AIRCRAFT WERE CIRCLING THE TOWN AND FIRED UPON FROM THE GROUND USING ROCKETS OF AN UNDETERMINED TYPE. THERE ARE NO REPORTS OF DOWNED AIRCRAFT.

COMMENTS:

1.
7. (C/HF) INITIAL ASSESSMENT SUMMARY.
A. A COORDINATED, WELL-PLANNED AND EXECUTED TAKEOVER
OF FOUR TOWNS IN THE STATE OF CHIAPAS BY A TRAINED
GUERRILLA GROUP, PERHAPS LED BY CENTRAL AMERICANS, HAS
OCCURRED.
B. THE NATURE OF THE TERRAIN HAS AIDED THE GUERRILLAS
IN THEIR ISOLATION OF THE TOWNS. IT WILL ALSO AID IN
THE POSSIBLE DEFENSE OF THE AREA'S WHICH HAVE BEEN
OCCUPIED. A COMPLICATING FACTOR ARE THE NUMEROUS
FOREIGNERS IN THE TOWN DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON,
MAKING DEFENSE EASIER AND ATTACK BY MEXICAN ARMED
FORCES MORE DIFFICULT.