COUNTRY: (U) MEXICO (MX); GERMANY (GC); CANADA (CA).

SUBJECT: IIR THE LIBERATIONISTS, 57 PRIESTS AND 27 NUNS LISTED AS INVOLVED IN CHIAPAS UPRISING (U).

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED --- CONFIDENTIAL --- NOT RELEASEABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
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DOI: (U) 940125.

REQS: (U) 

SOURCE: (U) DAILY NEWSPAPER, "EL HERALDO DE MEXICO", MEXICO CITY, MEXICO, 940125 (U) IN SPANISH.

SUMMARY: (U) ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN "EL HERALDO DE MEXICO" A MEXICO CITY DAILY NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED 940125, LISTING A GROUP OF NUNS AND PRIESTS INVOLVED IN THE CHIAPAS UPRISING.

TEXT: 1. (U) THE FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF A PORTION OF THE ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN "EL HERALDO DE MEXICO" A MEXICO CITY NEWSPAPER, 940125, WRITTEN BY LEOPOLDO ((MENDIVIL)).

TRANSLATION BEGINS

HEADLINE: SUBJECT: THE LIBERATIONISTS, 57 PRIESTS, 21 NUNS, ARCHIMBAUD, DEAD

FOR THE PAST TEN (10) DAYS RUNNING (CONFIDENTIAL SUBJECT: THE SIGNAL) WE HAVE DISCUSSED WHAT HAPPENED ON 931231, AND THE STRANGE THING DONE BY THE INHABITANTS OF LAS MARGARITAS, CHIAPAS, BUT NOTHING MORE SUSPICIOUS HAS COME UP THAN THE CHANGING OF THE MASS OF GALLO FROM THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT TO SEVEN IN THE AFTERNOON.

BECAUSE OF THIS, DURING THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT THE CATHOLICS WERE IN THEIR HOMES OR AT PARTIES AND ONLY THE EVANGELISTS WERE IN THEIR OFFICES THAT NIGHT. THERE WERE MANY LESS PEOPLE OUT, ONLY THE POOR PEOPLE THAT CAME TO SUSTAIN THEIR LIVES....

CONFIDENTIAL
THAT NIGHT THEY HAD THREE BLACKOUTS IN LAS MARGARITAS. THE FIRST AND THE SECOND OCCURRED AT ELEVEN P.M. AT APPROXIMATELY TWENTY MINUTE INTERVALS, BUT THEY DIDN'T LAST VERY LONG. HOWEVER, THE THIRD WAS ANOTHER THING. IT OCCURRED DURING THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT AND LASTED LONGER, MUCH LONGER.

WHEN THE SAD REALITY HAD BECOME KNOWN THAT THE BLACKOUT WAS SOMETHING ELSE AND THAT THE LAST BLACKOUT WAS CAUSED BY THE GUERRILLAS OF THE EZLN WHEN THEY ENTERED THE CITY. WHEN THE LIGHT CAME ON AGAIN (AFTER THE LAST BLACKOUT) PEOPLE WENT INTO THE STREETS TO LAUNCH THE LAST OF THEIR FIRE WORKS. THE PEOPLE WERE SURPRISED TO FIND THE STREETS COVERED WITH UNIFORMED INDIVIDUALS, HEADS COVERED OR THE FACE COVERED WITH BANDANNAS AND HEAVILY ARMED, HEAVILY ARMED...

THERE ARE TWO STORIES GIVEN CONCERNING THOSE KILLED IN LAS MARGARITAS. THE FIRST IS THAT THEY OCCURRED IN THE STREET WHEN TWO POLICE RAN INTO THE FIRST COLUMN OF GUERRILLAS JUST AS THE CITIZENS WERE COMING OUT OF THEIR HOUSES. A FIRE FIGHT BEGAN AND THE POLICE WERE SURPRISED, TWO POLICE FELL WITH MORTAL INJURIES. THE FIGHTING RESULTED IN TWO POLICEMEN, ONE CIVILIAN AND TWO OF THE GUERRILLAS KILLED. ONE OF WHICH WAS THE GUERRILLA COMMANDER OF THE GROUP, THAT TURNED OUT TO BE A WHITE WOMAN.

THE SECOND VERSION, AND APPARENTLY MORE CORRECT, IS THAT WHEN THE ELECTRICITY RETURNED AND THE LIGHTS CAME ON, THE COMMANDER OF THE GROUP WHO WAS IDENTIFIED BY CITIZENS OF LAS MARGARITAS AS "LA GUERRA" (FEMALE GUERRILLA), "LA MONJA" (THE NUN), OR "LA GENERALA" (THE WOMAN GENERAL), ENTERED A ROOM WHERE A DANCE PARTY WAS BEING HELD ALONG WITH ELEMENTS OF HER TROOP. POLICE WHO WERE MAINTAINING ORDER AT THE PARTY REACTED ACCORDING BASED ON THE GUERRILLAS DRESS AND ACCORDING TO THEIR RESPONSIBILITY...IT COST THEM THEIR LIVES...ALSO ONE CIVILIAN, THE LIVES OF THE LEADER OF THE GUERRILLAS AND ONE OF THE GUERRILLA TROOPS.

EVERYONE THINKS THAT THE DEAD GUERRILLA WAS JANINE PAULINE ((ARCHIMBAUD)) BIAZOT, A FORMER NUN OF THE ORDER OF ST. VINCENT, WHO HAD FALLEN INTO INVOLVEMENT WITH THE GUERRILLA MOVEMENT IN CHIAPAS. I SAID THAT "EVERYONE IS BEGINNING TO THINK THAT IT WAS HER" BECAUSE:

1. NO ONE KNOWS WHAT BECAME OF HER.

2. ON THE 30TH OF DECEMBER, JANINE, DRESSED IN HER
HABIT WAS SEEN WORKING AS A NURSE IN ALTAMIRANO. SHE WAS HAVING A RELATIONSHIP WITH FATHER KARL LENKERSDORF SCHMIDT AND PRIOR TO THE INSURGENCY, THEY SOLD EVERYTHING THEY OWNED, INCLUDING THE HOUSE, WHERE LATER THE INSURGENTS PLACED A LARGE PART OF THE OFFICE EQUIPMENT PLUNDERED FROM THE CITY HALL. AS YOU ALL KNOW THE NEO-ZAPATISTAS TAKE AWAY THEIR DEAD AND WOUNDED WHEN EVER POSSIBLE.

THEY KNOW THAT TWO BODIES WERE BURIED AT DAWN IN THE WOODS AROUND LAS MARGARITAS, BUT NOBODY TO DATE HAS BEEN ABLE TO LOCATE THEM.

A SAD HISTORY, RIGHT? THAT THIS NUN HAD MADE THE DECISION OF HER LIFE, AND GAVE HER LIFE FOR THE DECISION....NOT THAT SHE AND FATHER LENKERSDORF ARE THE ONLY RELIGIOUS CATHOLICS INVOLVED WITH THE EZLN. INFORMATION I'VE RECEIVED FROM MY SOURCES INDICATES THAT IN SINCE 1989 PRIESTS, NUNS, PASTORAL AGENTS AND CATEQUISTAS, THE MAJOR PART OF WHOM ARE FROM THE DIOCESE OF SAN CRISTOBAL HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN THE MOVEMENT.

I HAVE IN MY POSSESSION A FAIRLY LARGE LIST OF THOSE INVOLVED, MANY WHO ARE FOREIGNERS. THEIR INVOLVEMENT HAS BEEN DISCOVERED AND ALSO THAT THE LEADER IS THE BISHOP OF SAN CRISTOBAL, SAMUEL ((RUÍZ)). THEY ARE:

1. PRIEST PABLO ROMO SEDANO, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS "FRAY BARTOLOME DE LAS CASAS".

2. PRIEST GONZALO BERNABE ((ITUARTE)) VERDIZCO, GENERAL VICAR OF THE DIOCESE OF SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS CASAS.

3. PRIEST VICTOR MANUEL ((ANGUIANO)) HERNANDEZ, PARSON OF LA TRINITARIA.

4. PRIEST DAVID ((MENDEZ)) MORENO, PARSON OF THE DIOCESE OF SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS CASAS.

5. PRIEST ROSELIO ((VICTORIA)) FRUTIS, PARSON OF THE DIOCESE OF SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS CASAS.

6. PRIEST JOEL ((PADRON)) GONZALEZ, PARSON OF THE CHURCH OF SAN ANTONIO DE PADUA, IN SIMOJOVEL,

7. PRIEST JORGE ALBERTO ((BARRON)) GUITTELIN, ARGENTINE, PARSON OF TUMBALA.
8. PRIEST RAYMUNDO ((BARRAGAN)), PARSON IN YAJALON.

9. PRIEST HERIBERTO ((CRUZ)) VERA, PARSON IN TILA.
10. PRIEST FELIPE DE JESUS ((INIGUEZ)) PEREZ, HONDURAN, PARSON IN AMATAN.

11. PRIEST JERONIMO ALBERTO ((HERNANDEZ)) LOPEZ, PARSON IN PALENQUE.

12. PRIEST OSCAR ((RODRIGUEZ)) RIVERA, PARSON OF THE CATHEDRAL OF SANTO DOMINGO IN PALENQUE.

13. PRIEST GONZALO ((ROSAS)), PARSON OF THE CATHEDRAL OF SANTO DOMINGO IN PALENQUE.

14. PRIEST GUSTAVO ((ANDRADE)) HERNANDEZ, PARSON OF THE CATHEDRAL OF SANTO DOMINGO IN PALENQUE.

15. PRIEST FELIPE DE JESUS ((TOUSSAINT)) LOERA, PARSON IN SABANILLA.

16. PRIEST HAUL ((MANDUJANO)) GARCIA, PARSON IN CIMITAN DE DOMINGUEZ.

17. PRIEST ANGEL ((CERVANTES)) MARTINEZ, PARSON IN CIMITAN DE DOMINGUEZ.

18. PRIEST JOSE ((LUIS)) VILLELA, PARSON IN ATAMIRANO.

19. PRIEST JUAN ((RUIZ)), PARSON IN STALA.

20. PRIEST MARIO ((HERNANDEZ)), PARSON IN SITALA.

21. PRIEST HERVE ((CAMIER)) DUPLOY, FRENCH, PARSON IN EL BOSQUE.

22. PRIEST AMANDO ((HERRERA)) RIOZ, PARSON IN CHILON.

23. PRIEST GUILLERMO ((BADILLO)), PARSON IN LA LIBERTAD.

24. PRIEST ALFREDO ((INDA)) ANDREU, PARSON IN FRONTERA COMALAPA.

25. PRIEST PABLO ((IRIBARREN)) PASCAL, SPANISH, PARSON IN OCOSINGO.

26. PRIEST JORGE ((TREJO)) RUIZ, PARSON IN OCOSINGO.

27. PRIEST JORGE ((RAFAEL)) DIEZ, PARSON IN ALTAMIRANO.

28. PRIEST PABLO ((GUIZAR)) BARRIGA, PARSON IN
OCOSINGO.

29. PRIEST PASCUAL ((ALMANIZ)), PARSON IN OCOSINGO.

30. PRIEST MAURICIO ((OLVERA)) GARCIA, PARSON IN LAS MARGARITAS.

31. PRIEST FRANCISCO PEDRO ((CURIEL)) SAUVEDRA, PARSON IN TRES PICOS, TONALA.

32. PRIEST LESTER ALAN ((JENKINS)), U.S.A., OF THE PARROQUIA SAN FERMANO GUADALUPE DE SALTO DE AGUA.

33. PRIEST PAUL JOHN NADDOINY ((STEINWANS)), U.S.A., OF THE PARROQUIA SAN FERMANO GUADALUPE DE SALTO DE AGUA.

34. PRIEST ARTURO ((FERNANDEZ)), THE STATE OF MEXICO, CHURCH OF SAN JOSE TLAUTCLOCO.

35. PRIEST FELIPE AGUIRRE (FRANCO)), BISHOP OF TUXTLA GUITERREZ.

36. PRIEST JORGE ((MARTINEZ)) RODRIGUEZ, PARSON OF THE DIOCESE OF SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS CASAS.

37. PRIEST FRANCISCO JAVIER ((RUZ)) REYES, PARSON OF THE DIOCESE OF SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS CASAS.

38. PRIEST VINCENTE ((FERRER)), PARSON OF SAN CRISTOBAL.

39. PRIEST CARLOS JAVIER ((CAMARENA)) LABADIE, PARSON IN BACHAJON.

40. PRIEST RAMON ((CASTILLO)) AGUILAR, PARSON IN INDEPENDENCIA.

41. PRIEST FRANCISCO ((MARTIN)) OLVERA, PARSON IN OCOSINGO.

42. PRIEST KARL LENKERSDORF ((SCHMIDT)), GERMAN.

43. PRIEST RODOLFO (IZAL) ERLES, SPANISH, PARSON IN SABANILLA.

44. PRIEST ANTOON JULES MARIA ((VAN DE MEULEBROECKE)) POEVEY, BELGIUM, PARSON IN THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF THE CANDELARIA IN SOCOLTENANGO.

45. PRIEST CONSTANTINO ((GOMEZ)) URIA, SPANISH.

46. PRIEST MICHEL HENRYE JEAN CHANTEAU ((DESLILLIERS)),
FRENCH.

47. PRIEST JAMES ALBERT ALLISON ((MAHONEY)), CANADIAN.

48. PRIEST EDUARDO JOSE ((GARCIA)) RUIZ, NICARAGUA,
    PARSON OF THE DIOCESE IN SAN CRISTOBAL.

49. PRIEST LORENTO LAYORE ((RIABE)) STAR, NORTH
    AMERICAN, PARSON IN YAJALON.

50. PRIEST RODOLFO ANTONIO ((ROMAN)) GORDILLO, PARSON
    IN TILA.

51. PRIEST JOSE LUIS ((CORTES)) LINARES, PARSON IN THE
    DIOCESE OF SAN CRISTOBAL.

52. PRIEST SALAVADOR ((VILLARUEL)) MALDONADO, PARSON OF
    HUIXTAN.

53. PRIEST ISIDRO ((BADILLO)) BRANA, PARSON IN
    TRINITARIA.

54. PRIEST ARNULFO ((QUINTANAR)) MONROY (ORIGINALLY
    FROM BROWNSVILLE TEXAS, NATIONALIZED MEXICAN, PARSON IN
    SAN FRANISCO, SALTO DE AGUA.

55. PRIEST ORLANDO ((LOMELI)) RADILLO, PARSON IN SAN
    BARTOLOME DE LOS LLANOS, VENUSTIANO CARRANZA.

56. PRIEST VINCENTE FOSTER.
57. PRIEST ANTONIO ((GARNICA)) LOPEZ, PARSON IN OXCHUC.

THERE IS MORE PRESIDENT SALINAS, A GROUP OF NUNS, MOST
OF WHOM ARE DOMINICAN, IT IS WELL DOCUMENTED THAT THEY
ARE INVOLVED WITH THIS MOVEMENT, THEY ARE:

1. SISTER BERTHA, BERTHA ((LATTAPI)) BOYSSELLE,
    FRENCH.

2. SISTER MARIA DEL CARMEN, MARIA DEL CARMEN ((PURR))
    MIGSDALIA, SPANISH.

3. SISTER MARIA, MARIA DEL SOCORRO ((AGUAYO)),
    SPANISH.

4. SISTER PATRICIA, PATRICIA ((MOYSEN)) MARQUEZ,
    ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR OF THE SAN CARLOS HOSPITAL IN
    ALTAMIRANO.

5. SISTER GUADALUPE, MARIA GUADALUPE ((CALVILLO))
    RINCON.
6. SISTER CONY, MARIA CONSTANCE ((AGUILAR)) ABRIL, SALAVADOR.

7. SISTER MARIA LUISA, MARIA LUISA ((GONZALEZ)) GALINDO.

8. SISTER SUSANA, CUBA.

9. SISTER ESPERANZA, ESPERANZA ((RODRIGUEZ)) MURGIL, HOSPITAL SAN CARLOS IN ALTAMIRANO.

10. SISTER CRISTINA, CRISTINA ((MANTILLA)) CALDERON, HOSPITAL IN ALTAMIRANO.

11. SISTER TERESA, MARIA TERESA ((AGUAYO)), SPANISH.

12. SISTER INES.

13. SISTER SOYLA, SOYLA ((SOLIS)).

14. SISTER ESTELA, ESTELA ((BARCO)) HUERTA, IN SABANILLA.

15. SISTER GRACIELA, GRACIELA ((ORNELES)), HOSPITAL DE LAS CARIDAD, IN SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS CASAS.

16. SISTER IGNACIA, IGNACIA ((CORDOVA)).

17. SISTER ROSA OR MOTHER ROSA, ROSA ((RAMIREZ)) DE HERNANDEZ, SECRETARY OF BISHOP RUIZ.

18. SISTER MARTHA, MARTHA ((GOMEZ)) ALVEREZ, OF THE MISSION OF GUADALUPE, IN COMITAN DE DOMINGUEZ.

19. SISTER TERESA, TERESA ((ROSILLO)) CARMONA.

20. SISTER ADELAIDA, ADELAIDA ((SALAZAR)) LABASTIDA.

21. SISTER JANYN, CATHOLIC NUN OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD EL AERNAL IN ALTAMIRANO.

HERE IS A LIST OF RELIGIOUS CATHOLICS THAT ARE NATURALLY FOLLOWING THE THEOLOGY OF LIBERATION THEOLOGY, AND THEY ARE IDENTIFIED WITH THE GUERRILLA MOVEMENT IN CHIAPAS.

I ASK MYSELF:

IF TWO OR THREE MONTHS AGO, THEY HAD RECEIVED CERTAIN NOTICES REGARDING INCREASES IN THEIR SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS, WOULD THEY HAVE INITIATED (THOSE THAT
PARTICIPATED IN THE GUERRILLA UPRISING?

UNFORTUNATELY, THAT WAS THE ONLY TIME THE TALKS COULD HAVE TAKEN PLACE AND THEY NEVER DID.

TRANSLATION ENDS

COMMENTS:  1. THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO IS RELEASING INFORMATION TO THE MEDIA TO SHOW INVOLVEMENT BY FOREIGNERS AND MEMBERS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH. THE GOVERNMENT HAS ISSUED STATEMENTS TO THE CONTRARY THAT DOWNPLAY FOREIGN INVOLVEMENT HOWEVER.

2. INFORMATION, SO FAR UNSUPPORTED, IS BEING RELEASED CONCERNING INVOLVEMENT OF THE CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP IN CHIAPAS AND IT IS LOGICAL THAT PRIESTS, NUNS AND LAY PRIESTS WOULD HAVE CONCERNS OVER THEIR "FLOCK". IT IS ALSO LOGICAL THAT RELIGIOUS LEADERS DESIRING A BETTER LIFE FOR THEIR INDIGENOUS GROUPS EMBRACE THE CONCEPT OF, "LIBERATION THEOLOGY". LIBERATION IDEOLOGY IS PERFECTLY SUITED TO CHIAPAS (AND SEVERAL OTHER STATES IN MEXICO). RELIGIOUS LEADERS HAVE SEEN THEIR "FLOCKS" DISCRIMINATED AGAINST FOR SEVERAL HUNDRED YEARS. THEIR DESIRES TO SEE THAT THEIR CONGREGATION HAS FOOD, ELECTRICITY, EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND A BETTER LIFE ALONG WITH OTHER PROBLEMS IN CHIAPAS, MAKES THEM EASY TARGETS TO BE RECRUITED.

3. THE EZLN BEGAN OPERATION IN 830000 AND ACCORDING TO THIS ARTICLE IT WASN'T UNTIL 890000 THAT RELIGIOUS LEADERS WERE SWEEP INTO THE INSURRECTION. IF THIS DATE IS CORRECT, RELIGIOUS LEADERS IN CHIAPAS (SOME OF WHOM PERHAPS ALWAYS HAVE BEEN SYMPATHETIC WITH THE MOVEMENT) HAVE MOVED FROM PROVIDING MORAL SUPPORT TO BECOMING MORE PROACTIVE.

4. THERE ARE CONFLICTING REPORTS CONCERNING THE LOCATION AND FATE OF THE FRENCH NUN, JANINE PAULINE ARCHIMBAUD BIAZOT. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SHE WAS NOT KILLED DURING THE ASSAULT ON LAS MARGARITAS.