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ENVELOPE

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HEADER

R 211841Z APR 94  
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CONTROLS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 01 OF 05 [REDACTED]

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SERIAL: (U) IIR [REDACTED]

/\*\*\*\*\* THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE \*\*\*\*\*/  
BODY

COUNTRY: (U) MEXICO (MX).

SUBJECT: IIR [REDACTED] THE ARMY, AUTHENTIC  
PRODUCT OF THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION (U).

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT  
FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT  
CLASSIFIED - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
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AUSTRALIA.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
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DOI: (U) 940408.

REQS: (U) [REDACTED]

SOURCE: (U) DAILY MEXICO CITY NEWSPAPER,  
"EXCELSIOR", 940408, IN SPANISH.

SUMMARY: ~~(C/REL UK,CAN,AUS)~~ NEWSPAPER ARTICLE/ESSAY  
DETAILS PAST AND CURRENT ROLE PLAYED BY THE MEXICAN  
ARMY AND MEXICAN AIR FORCE IN SUPPORT OF THE NATION.

TEXT: 1. ~~(C/REL UK,CAN,AUS)~~ THE FOLLOWING IS AN  
UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF THE SECOND OF SIX ESSAY  
ARTICLES DEALING WITH THE MEXICAN MILITARY WHICH  
APPEARED IN THE "IDEAS" SECTION OF THE APRIL 8, 1994  
EDITION OF THE MEXICO DAILY NEWSPAPER, "EXCELSIOR", IN  
SPANISH. THIS ARTICLE IS ENTITLED "THE ARMY,  
AUTHENTIC PRODUCT OF THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION".

BEGIN TRANSLATION.

THE MEXICAN ARMY, MORE THAN ANY OTHER INSTITUTION IN  
OUR SOCIETY, IS A PRODUCT OF THE MOST IMPORTANT  
POLITICAL AND SOCIAL OCCURRENCE IN MEXICO DURING THIS  
CENTURY THE REVOLUTION OF 1910. IF IT IS CORRECT TO  
SAY THAT ALL ASPECTS OF MEXICAN SOCIETY WERE AFFECTED,  
UP TO A CERTAIN POINT, BY THAT MOVEMENT, THEN IT IS  
SAFE TO SAY THAT THE MILITARY ITSELF, WAS REVISED FROM  
TOP TO BOTTOM. IN EFFECT, TODAY'S MEXICAN MILITARY  
DERIVES FROM THE REVOLUTION OF 1910, AND IT IS A FACT  
THAT ITS CORPORATE IDENTITY AND TRADITIONS CONTINUE AS  
PART OF A REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT. [REDACTED] THE  
SALIENT FEATURE OF THE STUDENT OR ANALYST OF THE  
MEXICAN ARMY IS ITS CLOSE IDENTIFICATION AND TIES TO  
THE REVOLUTION AND THE MEXICAN PEOPLE, WHO WERE UNITED  
UNDER THE PROTECTION OF THE MILITARY UMBRELLA AS A  
RESULT OF THAT REVOLUTION.)

THE REVOLUTION EXPLAINS MANY OF THE PECULIARITIES OF  
THE ARMY AND THE SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP THAT HAS  
DEVELOPED BETWEEN MEXICO'S CIVILIAN AND MILITARY  
AUTHORITIES. THE REVOLUTION PRODUCED ITS OWN  
MYTHOLOGY, PART OF IT FOUNDED ON FACTS, PART ON  
HEARSAY. ONE OF THE MOST INTERESTING MYTHS THAT  
CHARACTERIZES IT, AND OTHER REVOLUTIONS, IS ITS

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POPULAR ORIGINS.

THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE REVOLUTION INTRODUCES NEW SOCIAL PATTERNS TO THE FLOW OF MEXICAN LIFE, PATTERNS THAT THEMSELVES FEED AN ECLECTIC IDEOLOGY STRONGLY INCORPORATED WITHIN THE CONSTITUTION OF 1917 AND TO THE LATER DEVELOPMENT OF POWER WHICH FOLLOWED IN THE 1920'S. IN TERMS OF SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE, THE MOST IMPORTANT CONSEQUENCE OF THE REVOLUTION WAS TO GIVE TO NUMEROUS INDIVIDUALS - ESPECIALLY THOSE FROM RURAL AND WORKING CLASS BACKGROUNDS - OPPORTUNITIES TO ENTER INTO CAREERS IN PUBLIC LIFE AND THE ARMY FROM THE GEOGRAPHIC WELL OF THE MILITARY ELITE

THE MEXICAN ELITE, WHETHER REFERRING TO MEMBERS OF THE POLITICAL CLASSES OR THE OFFICER CORPS IN THE MILITARY, NEVER INCLUDED INDIVIDUALS FROM THE BROAD SECTOR OF THE POPULACE, WHETHER THEY CAME FROM THE REVOLUTIONARY GENERATION OR ANY OTHER. THE REVOLUTIONARY GENERATION, NEVERTHELESS, DID EXPAND THIS SECTOR'S REPRESENTATION IN THE MILITARY AND POLITICAL LEADERSHIP. FOR EXAMPLE, THE MAJORITY OF MEXICANS LIVED IN RURAL AREAS, BEFORE AND DURING THE REVOLUTION, WHILE TWO-THIRDS OF THE POLITICAL CLASS DURING THE PORFIRIO DIAZ ERA CAME FROM THE CITIES. .

THE REVOLUTION CHANGED THESE STATISTICS. IN ITS WAKE, THE NUMBER OF MEXICAN POLITICIANS WHO WERE BORN IN URBAN AREAS DECLINED SHARPLY AND DID NOT RETURN TO PRE-1910 LEVELS UNTIL THE 1960'S, ALMOST A HALF CENTURY LATER. IN ACTUAL FIGURES, THE GREATEST NUMBER OF URBANITE POLITICAL LEADERS WAS ACHIEVED IN 1893, AND NOT REPLICATED UNTIL 1982, DURING THE PRESIDENCY OF JOSE LOPEZ PORTILLO. NEVERTHELESS, THE URBAN CHARACTER OF POLITICIANS DURING THE ERA OF PORFIRIO DIAZ WAS GREATER THAN THAT OF ANY OTHER PRESIDENT UNTIL CARLOS SALINAS DE GORTARI: THE NUMBER OF MEXICANS FROM THE URBAN AREA WAS MINIMAL, WHILE THOSE STATISTICS SHOWED SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH IN THE 1950 CENSUS.

A SIMILAR SHIFT IS SEEN IN THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF THE MEXICAN ARMY'S LEADERSHIP, BUT IT IS MORE PROBABLE THAT ITS MEMBERS WOULD HAVE COME FROM SMALL RURAL COMMUNITIES - ESPECIALLY THOSE OF THE REVOLUTIONARY GENERATION BORN BETWEEN 1880 AND 1890. THIS NOTWITHSTANDING, THE ORIGIN OF THE GENERALS - LIKE THAT OF THEIR CIVILIAN POLITICAL COUNTERPARTS - BEGAN TO BECOME MORE AND MORE UBRAN, CORRESPONDING ALMOST EXACTLY, DECADE AFTER DECADE, WITH THE STATISTICS OF THE POLITICIANS. DURING THE 1930'S, LESS THAN ONE OF

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FIVE NATIONAL POLITICIANS OR GENERALS OF THE ARMY CAME FROM RURAL AREAS. [REDACTED] THE KEY TO UNDERSTANDING THE MILITARY'S CURRENT CONCENTRATION OF SERVING OFFICERS WITH URBAN BEGINNINGS, IS AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE OFFICER SELECTION PROCESS. THE TEST IS OFFERED AT ONLY EIGHT REGIONAL TESTING SITES YEARLY; THESE ARE EIGHT OF MEXICO'S LARGEST URBAN AREAS, AS ONE WOULD EXPECT. THE HIGHER EDUCATIONAL LEVELS ATTAINED IN THE CITIES AND THE COST OF TRAVEL AND MAINTENANCE OF THE TESTEE DURING THE PROCESS RESULTS IN AN OFFICER CORPS SKEWED TOWARD AN URBAN BACKGROUND.)

THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION EXPANDED BRIEFLY THE GEOGRAPHIC WELL FROM WHICH WAS EXTRACTED THE CIVILIAN AND MILITARY ELITE, INFLUENCING ALSO ITS SOCIAL ORIGIN. CONTRARY TO MYTH, THE MAJORITY OF THE SUCCESSFUL MILITARY AND CIVILIAN LEADERS THAT THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION PRODUCED HAD ROOTS IN THE MIDDLE CLASS.

#### HERMETISM TOWARD CIVILIAN INTRUSION

IN FACT, IN EACH ADMINISTRATION SINCE 1920 - EXCEPTING THAT OF LAZARO CARDENAS - TWO THIRDS OR MORE OF THE LEADING CIVILIAN UPPER CLASS HAS COME FROM THE UPPER AND MIDDLE CLASS OF MEXICAN SOCIETY. IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT MEXICAN GENERALS VERY LIKELY CAME FROM THE WORKING CLASS BETWEEN 1920 AND 1930, THEIR ORIGINS WERE INCREASINGLY FROM THE MIDDLE CLASS, IN NUMBERS COMPARABLE TO THAT OF THE CIVILIAN POLITICIANS.

MANY SOCIAL THEORIES ASCRIBE THAT THE SOCIAL AND GEOGRAPHIC ORIGINS OF A PERSON CAN AFFECT THEIR ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIOR. ALTHOUGH SCHOLARLY EVIDENCE SOMEWHAT CONFIRMS THIS, ANALYSTS HAVE SUGGESTED THAT THE MORE HOMOGENEOUS THE SOCIAL AND GEOGRAPHIC ORIGINS OF THE MILITARY AND CIVILIAN LEADERS, THE MORE PROBABLE IT IS THAT THEY WOULD HAVE SHARED IDEOLOGIES AND COMMON GOALS. IN MEXICO, THESE ASSOCIATIONS COULD BE EVEN CLOSER, GIVEN THE SHARED REVOLUTIONARY EXPERIENCE OF BOTH THE MILITARY AND THE CIVILIANS. THERE EXIST A NUMBER OF EXPLANATIONS ABOUT WHY THE APPARENTLY SIMILAR SOCIAL AND GEOGRAPHIC ORIGINS OF THE MILITARY AND CIVILIAN LEADERS IN MEXICO HAVE NOT RESULTED IN A SIMILAR JOINTNESS OF ATTITUDES AND VALUES. THE KEY FACTOR IN EXPLAINING WHY SHARED SOCIAL ORIGINS ARE NOT A BRIDGE BETWEEN THE TWO GROUPS, IS THE INSTITUTIONALIZED HERMITIC NATURE OF THE MEXICAN ARMY AND ITS CONTINUAL EFFORTS TO GUARD ITS AUTONOMY AGAINST CIVILIAN INTRUSION.

[REDACTED] DOES NOT CONSIDER THIS TO BE THE ROOT

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CAUSE. RATHER, THE MEXICAN MILITARY EDUCATION SYSTEM IS DESIGNED FOR THE MILITARY MAN, UNTIL THE WAR COLLEGE LEVEL, WHICH IS NORMALLY ATTENDED BY OFFICERS WITH AN AVERAGE OF 25 YEARS OF SERVICE. THE CADET ACADEMY IN MEXICO IS A HIGH SCHOOL, A SCHOOL WHICH DOES NOT ALLOW THE CIVILIAN ELITE TO MIX WITH THEIR MILITARY AGE GROUP PEERS. THE ONLY OFFICERS, OTHER THAN SPECIALISTS RECEIVING MEDICAL OR JUDICIAL TRAINING, TO RECEIVE A COLLEGE DIPLOMA ARE THE CGSC GRADUATES, ALSO NOT A COURSE DESIGNED TO RECEIVE CIVILIAN PEERS DURING THE COURSE OF INSTRUCTION. THUS, THE FIRST MILITARY EDUCATIONAL CONTACT WITH CIVILIAN POLITICAL ELITES OCCURS AT AN ADVANCED CAREER POINT. ALTHOUGH THE MILITARY IS REKNOWNED FOR ITS PRIVACY AND THE SEAL TO OUTSIDERS, THAT IS NOT THE DETERMINING FACTOR HERE.)

#### CLOSED INSTITUTIONS

THE MILITARY, IN AN ATTEMPT TO REMAIN INTACT FROM CIVILIAN INTERFERENCE, BECAUSE OF POLITICAL-MILITARY INTERVENTION IN OTHER PLACES IN LATIN AMERICA, HAS SACRIFICED, UP TO A CERTAIN POINT, A WIDER RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CIVILIAN SECTOR OF SOCIETY.

THE MEXICAN MILITARY, UNLIKE THEIR CIVILIAN POLITICAL COUNTERPARTS, HAS ESTABLISHED ITS OWN INSTITUTIONS FOR TRAINING AND SHAPING THEIR FUTURE LEADERS. ALL THE OFFICERS IN THE ARMY ARE A PRODUCT OF MILITARY SCHOOLS WHERE THEY HAVE BEEN SINCE AGE 17, WHEN THEY ENROLLED IN THE HEROIC MILITARY COLLEGE. FOLLOWING THAT COMES EVEN MORE ADVANCED COURSES OF TRAINING AT THE SUPERIOR WAR COLLEGE, IF THEY ARE CONSIDERED ADEPT AT BECOMING HIGH LEVEL OFFICERS AND FINALLY, THEY GO TO THE NATIONAL DEFENSE COLLEGE BEFORE THEY BECOME GENERALS.

SINCE THE BODY OF OFFICERS, WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS, HAS BEEN TRAINED WITHIN A CONTROLLED MILITARY ENVIRONMENT, THEY DEVELOP A SET OF ATTITUDES AND VALUES THAT, ALTHOUGH THESE OFFICERS ARE A PART OF CIVILIAN SOCIETY, THEIR OUTLOOKS ARE DOMINATED BY THE MILITARY POINT OF VIEW. LOYALTY TO THE ARMY AS AN INSTITUTION, AND OBEDIENCE TO SUPERIORS ARE ALSO ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF A SUCCESSFUL MILITARY CAREER.

ON THE SURFACE, THE SOCIAL ORIGINS OF THE MILITARY APPEAR QUITE SIMILAR TO THAT OF THE CIVILIAN POLITICAL ELITE. NONETHELESS, IN SOME WAYS THEY ARE DIFFERENT. GIVEN THE DEMANDS OF A SUCCESSFUL MILITARY CAREER, AND THE UNUSUAL LEVEL OF INSTITUTIONAL LOYALTY, A GREAT PERCENTAGE OF FUTURE OFFICERS,

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ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO OBTAIN ADVANCED MILITARY TRAINING IN ORDER TO ACCEDE TO THE RANK OF GENERAL, ARE FREQUENTLY SONS OR FAMILY MEMBERS OF OTHER OFFICERS. IN OTHER WORDS, A GREAT PORTION OF THE FUTURE ASPIRANTS TO THE BODY OF OFFICERS IN THE MEXICAN DEFENSE FORCES COME FROM A PRE-SELECTED WELL OF INDIVIDUALS.

THE TWO GROUPS OF LEADERS ALSO DO NOT PRECISELY SHARE THE SAME SOCIAL ORIGINS. ALTHOUGH BOTH COME FROM THE MIDDLE CLASS, THOSE ORIGINALLY OF LOWER CLASS ARE MORE FREQUENTLY FOUND AMONG THE MILITARY LEADERSHIP. THE REASON FOR THIS IS ESSENTIALLY ECONOMIC.

MANY INDIVIDUALS WHO DO NOT COME FROM MILITARY FAMILIES ENTER THE OFFICER CORPS AS A MEANS OF CLIMBING THE SOCIAL LADDER. ALSO, UNTIL 1944, THE MILITARY ALLOWED ENLISTED SOLDIERS, WHO HAD ATTAINED THE GRADE OF CORPORAL AND SERGEANT TO ATTEND THE HEROIC MILITARY COLLEGE. THEREFORE, THIS STRENGTHENED OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH MODEST ORIGINS.

POLITICAL AND MILITARY LEADERS.

TO SUMMARIZE, ACCEPTANCE AS A CADET IN ONE OF THE MILITARY ACADEMIES IS THE ROAD TO A HIGHER EDUCATIONAL LEVEL AND PROFESSIONAL STATUS. TO BE A SUCCESSFUL POLITICIAN, ONE SHOULD HAVE AN UNIVERSITY EDUCATION AND, NOWADAYS, POSTGRADUATE STUDIES. THE ARMY GUARANTEES AN EDUCATION ONCE THE INDIVIDUAL JOINS THE INSTITUTION, JUST LIKE THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OFFERS SEMINARY EDUCATION TO THEIR FUTURE PRIESTS AND BISHOPS. THE POLITICIAN, HOWEVER, HAS TO HAVE THESE CREDENTIALS ██████████ BEGIN BOLD-TYPE IN ARTICLE) "BEFORE" (END BOLD-TYPE) BEING CONSIDERED. THERE EXIST IMPORTANT CONSEQUENCES IN THE SOCIAL TRAJECTORY OF OFFICERS AND NATIONAL POLITICIANS. FOLLOWING THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION OF 1910, NUMEROUS PROMINENT FIGURES EMERGED WHOSE ROOTS WERE IN THE VIOLENCE OF THE EARLY DECADES OF THE CENTURY; INDIVIDUALS WHO COULD BE BETTER DESCRIBED AS POLITICAL-MILITARY. THESE MEN WHO WERE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT, ACTED AS A BRIDGE BETWEEN THE MILITARY AND CIVILIAN LEADERSHIP, BUT BEGAN TO DISAPPEAR DURING THE 60'S AND 70'S, AS THE MILITARY BEGAN TO PROFESSIONALIZE, MORE AND MORE, ITS CORPS OF OFFICERS.

ALTHOUGH THE MILITARY LEADERSHIP CONTINUES SUBORDINATE TO CIVILIAN CONTROL, NUMEROUS TENSIONS EXIST BETWEEN THE TWO GROUPS OF LEADERS; TENSIONS THAT PARTLY COME FROM SEPARATIONS WHICH THE MILITARY THEMSELVES HAVE

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IMPOSED. THE POLITICAL LEADERS HAVE FEW SOCIAL CONTACTS WITH THE MEXICAN OFFICER CORPS. THIS LACK OF SOCIAL INTERACTIONS THUS MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO RESOLVE SUSPICIONS ABOUT MOTIVATIONS AND INTERESTS OF THE OTHER GROUP. GIVEN THAT MILITARY POLICIES ARE SELDOM DISCUSSED OPENLY, OR ARE PART OF THE POLITICAL DEBATES IN MEXICO, THE MILITARY UNDERSTANDS MORE OF THE POLITICAL COMMUNITY, THAN THE POLITICAL COMMUNITY DOES OF THE MILITARY. [REDACTED] RECENTLY-- DUE TO A SERIES OF NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING INVOLVEMENT CLAIMS, SEVERAL RESULTING FROM A DECEMBER 1991 SHOOT OUT WITH FEDERAL JUDICIAL POLICE DURING A CN OPERATION BY THE POLICE; OF HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSE ALLEGATIONS FROM CN OPERATIONS IN BABORIGAME AND OTHERS AS A RESULT OF THE REVOLT IN CHIAPAS; AND OF CIVILIAN DOUBTS ABOUT THE LOYALTY OF THE MILITARY TO THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS, DUE TO THE MILITARY'S CLEARLY STATED LACK OF SUPPORT FOR THE NEW RULING INSTITUTIONAL REVOLUTIONARY PARTY CANDIDATE IN THE WAKE OF THE ASSASSINATION OF THAT CANDIDATE'S PREDECESSOR-- THE TENSIONS BETWEEN THE MILITARY AND ITS CIVILIAN LEADERSHIP HAVE BECOME MORE PRONOUNCED AND CERTAINLY MORE VISIBLE TO THE PUBLIC EYE.)

THE TENSION BETWEEN THE TWO GROUPS OF LEADERS INCREASES IN TIMES OF POLITICAL CRISES. THUS, THE SITUATION IN CHIAPAS HIGHLIGHTS ALREADY EXISTING PROBLEMS BETWEEN THE MILITARY AND CIVILIAN LEADERSHIP, AND THE MILITARY'S ABILITY TO RELATE TO THE SOCIETY IN GENERAL. THE MILITARY HAD ITS OWN STRATEGY TO DEAL WITH THE ZAPATISTA ARMY OF LIBERATION (EZLN), A STRATEGY THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF PRESIDENT CARLOS SALINAS DE GORTARI INITIALLY ACCEPTED. [REDACTED] SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ANTONIO ((RIVIELLO)) BAZAN OPENLY CRITICIZED THE PRESIDENT AT HIS LOYALTY DAY SPECCH, AN UNPRECEDENTED ACT.)

THE CIVIL LEADERSHIP TURNED AGAINST THIS STRATEGY - HARD AND REPRESSIVE AS IT WAS - BEFORE THE INTENSE SCRUTINY OF THE INTERNATIONAL NEWS MEDIA AND HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS. THE POLITICAL LEADERSHIP, ESPECIALLY UNDER SALINAS DE GORTARI, HAS BEEN SENSITIVE TO THE TONE OF PUBLIC OPINION AND THE MASSIVE MEDIA IMAGES. IN FACT, IT HAS BECOME A VICTIM OF ITS OWN PULIC RELATIONS CAMPAIGN AND ITS NATIONAL POLICY IN CHIAPAS IS BEING DIRECTED, TO A GREAT EXTENT, BY THE NECESSITY OF ADHERING TO A CERTAIN POLITICAL IMAGE.

POOR MANAGEMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS

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BY CONTRAST, THE MILITARY IS NOT ADAPTED TO MANAGE MEDIUMS OF COMMUNICATION. THE REASON FOR THIS IS TWOFOLD:

- FIRST, THE DESIRE FOR AUTONOMY THAT IS REFLECTED IN THE MILITARY'S SECRETIVE AND PROTECTIVE INSTITUTIONAL POSTURE, IS GUARANTEED BY THE CIVILIAN LEADERSHIP THAT ACTS AS A CENSOR FOR THE PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF MILITARY AFFAIRS. THE CIVILIAN LEADERSHIP INTERVENES BETWEEN THE MILITARY AND THE NEWS MEDIA IN MATTERS PERTAINING TO MILITARY POLICY. MOREOVER, THERE DO NOT EXIST MILITARY ANALYSTS IN MEXICO, WHICH IS TO SAY, CIVILIANS WITH SPECIALIZED INTERESTS AND EXPERIENCE IN DEALING WITH MILITARY ISSUES.

- SECOND, THE NATURALLY HERMETIC SOCIAL NATURE OF THE MEXICAN MILITARY IMPEDES THEIR ESTABLISHING A WIDE NETWORK OF CONTACTS AND LINKS WITH THE INTELLECTUAL WORLD, AND THAT OF THE NEWS MEDIA; LINKS THEY COULD USE TO AIR THEIR OWN VIEWPOINTS ABOUT POLITICAL MATTERS AND HELP STRENGTHEN THEIR OWN IMAGE. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE MILITARY IS IN THE PROCESS OF ADDRESSING THIS RATHER SEVERE SHORTCOMING BY SENDING PUBLIC RELATIONS EXCHANGE TEAMS ABROAD IN AN EFFORT TO DEVELOP A MORE MEANINGFUL, POSITIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE MEDIA.)

THE ARMY HAS CONSIDERED ITSELF, FOR QUITE SOME TIME, A PRODUCT OF THE MEXICAN POPULACE: DERIVED FROM THE POPULAR CLASSES OF THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION. AND IT IS CERTAIN THAT IT CAN MAKE THIS CLAIM WITH GREATER LEGITIMACY THAN ANY OTHER LEADING GROUP. NEVERTHELESS, IN THE YEARS TO COME, IT WOULD DO WELL TO CALL UPON ITSELF TO RE-EVALUATE ITS LOYALTY TO THE MEXICAN PEOPLE, SUCH AS THE COUNTRY'S CIVILIAN LEADERS ARE DOING AT THIS MOMENT. BY MEANS OF RE-EVALUATING WHAT ITS RELATIONSHIP TO MEXICAN SOCIETY SHOULD BE, THE MEXICAN MILITARY WILL NEED TO OPEN ITSELF UP TO GREATER PUBLIC SCRUTINY AND THEREBY ENHANCE ITS SOCIAL IMAGE.

END OF TRANSLATION.

COMMENTS: 1. (~~REL UK, CAN, AUS~~) [REDACTED]  
THIS EXCELLENT ARTICLE "SAYS IT LIKE IT IS", AND PAINTS A GOOD COMMON-SENSE PICTURE OF HOW THE MEXICAN ARMY'S THOUGHT PROCESS AND COMPORTEMNT WERE DEVELOPED. WE SHOULD HOPE THE LEADERSHIP OF THE MEXICAN ARMY READS AND UNDERSTANDS THE VERY ACCURATE MESSAGE WHICH THIS ARTICLE CONVEYS. WE SHOULD FURTHER HOPE THAT AN INFORMED PUBLIC READS AND UNDERSTANDS "WHY" THE

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MEXICAN ARMY IS THE WAY IT IS, AND THUS DOES IT OWN PART TO DRAW THE ARMY CLOSER INTO THE FOLD OF POPULAR SOCIETY

2. (~~C/REL UK,CAN,AUS~~) IT IS INTERESTING TO OBSERVE THAT THE NEWSPAPER "EXCELSIOR" WHICH CARRIED THIS ARTICLE IS GENERALLY CONSIDERED A MOUTHPIECE TO DISSEMINATE THE OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT POSITION, AND THAT THE ADMINISTRATION APPEARS WILLING TO PUBLISH AN ARTICLE, THOUGH NOT PER SE CRITICAL OF THE MILITARY, IS UNABASHED IN ACCURATELY DESCRIBING THE ARMY'S CURRENT RELATIONSHIP WITH MEXICAN SOCIETY.

3. (~~C/REL UK,CAN,AUS~~) IT IS ALSO INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT THIS EXCELLENT COMMENTARY WAS AUTHORED BY AN AMERICAN LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES PROFESSOR WHO RECENTLY PUBLISHED A LARGELY UNSATISFACTORY AND INACCURATE BOOK ON THE MEXICAN MILITARY. THE AUTHOR'S EXCELLENT AND WELL-DESERVED REPUTATION AS A MEXICAN POLITICAL SYSTEM OBSERVER CROSSED OVER INTO HIS WIDELY ACCEPTED RESEARCH ON THE MEXICAN MILITARY, AN UNWARRANTED ACCEPTANCE OF A WORK FULL OF INACCURACIES, AS ANY REPORTER WHO HAS IN FACT WORKED WITH AND BEEN SCHOOLED WITH THE MEXICAN MILITARY CAN EASILY ATTEST.

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~  
ADMIN

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PREP: (U) ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~

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DISSEM: (U) ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~

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