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Department of State TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 270

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8792

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 5089

SUBJ: CORONA DEL ROSAL ON THE HALCONES
REF: MEXICO 4939

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. IN INTERVIEW WITH EXCELSIOR PUBLISHED SEPT 5, FORMER REGENT CORONA DEL ROSAL DENIED THAT HE HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH FORMATION OF HALCONES "OR ANY OTHER GROUP WITH SIMILAR PURPOSES." HE STATED THAT DURING HIS TENURE IN CITY HALL HE WAS "NEVER ORDERED TO FORM ANY ARMED REPRESSIVE OR CLANDESTINE GROUP." HE THEN ASKED THE INTERVIEWER, "WHO WOULD HAVE ORDERED ME TO DO IT?"

2. CORONA DID SAY THAT PERSONS WERE HIRED TO PROTECT PUBLIC INSTALLATIONS IN THE CITY BUT THAT THEY WERE NOT ARMED AND DID NOT RECEIVE ANY MILITARY TRAINING. HE SAID THEIR FUNCTIONS ENDED NOVEMBER 30, 1970, WHEN HE LEFT OFFICE.

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3. COMMENT: EXCELSIOR PRINTED STORY WITHOUT COMMENT, PROBABLY FEELING COMMENT UNNECESSARY. IT IS DOUBTFUL MANY PEOPLE WILL BELIEVE CORONA'S STATEMENTS. GP-3.
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