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E.O. 12065: GDS 7/1/88 (GONZALES, RAYMOND J.) OR-P
TAGS: PINT, ASE, SHUM, GT
SUBJECT: (U) VIOLENCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT: MAY 1982

REFS: (A) GUATEMALA 3956, (B) GUATEMALA 3598

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. STATISTICAL SUMMARY AND TRENDS.

(A) COMPILED FROM PRESS REPORTS AN OTHER SOURCES
AVAILABLE TO US, THE MAY DEATH FIGURE REFLECTS AND INCREASE TO
355 FROM THE 294 FIGURE FOR APRIL. WHILE KILLING IN
THE URBAN AREAS CONTINUES TO BE LOWER THAN DURING THE
MONTHS PRECEDING THE COUP OF MARCH 23, THE VIOLENCE IN
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THE INDIAN HIGHLANDS CONTINUES. IN MAY, 163 CAMPESINOS
WERE KILLED, INCLUDING MANY WOMEN AND CHILDREN. THE
SAVAGE MASSACRE OF LARGE NUMBERS OF CAMPESINOS IN

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SPECIFIC ATTACKS REFLECTS A CLEAR INCREASE IN ATTACKS AGAINST UNARMED INDIANS. THE KILLING OF EIGHTY GUERRILLAS BY SECURITY FORCES ALSO SIGNIFIES AN INCREASE IN MILITARY ACTIVITY. FOR THE SECOND STRAIGHT MONTH THE 138 VICTIMS KILLED BY THE LEFT SURPASSES THE NUMBER OF VICTIMS ATTRIBUTED TO THE EXTREME RIGHT, THE GOG, DEATH SQUADS, OR THE NON-ATTRIBUTION CATEGORY.

(B) MAY 1982 DEATHS:

PROBABLY POLITICAL	348
PROSSIBLY POLITICAL	2
DEATH SQUAD	5
TOTAL	355

PROBABLE POLITICAL DEATHS BY ACTION OF:

RIGHT EXTREM	0
LEFT EXTREME	138
GOVERNMENT ELEMENTS	90
CIVIL DEFENSE GROUPS	5
NON-ATTRIBUTION	115
TOTAL	348

3. IDENTIFIABLE DEATHS ATTRIBUTED TO "PROBABLE AND POSSIBLE" POLITICAL MOTIVES (DOES NOT INCLUDE INDIVIDUALS WITH UNKNOWN OCCUPATIONS):

163 CAMPESINOS	12 SOLDIERS
1 STUDENT	4 MILITARY COMMISSIONERS
1 TEACHER	2 MILITARY POLICE (PMA)
2 FARM OWNERS	5 POLICEMEN
1 BUS DRIVER	2 GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES
2 BUSINESSMEN	6 CIVIL DEFENSE MEMBERS

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1 POLITICIAN	1 NIGHT WATCHMAN
1 DUTCH CITIZEN	80 GUERRILLAS

4. DISAPPEARANCES. THE TWENTY-THREE ABDUCTIONS RECORDED IN MAY MARKED A SHARP INCREASE OVER THE FOUR RECORDED IN APRIL. AMONG THE ABDUCTION VICTIMS WERE TWO DOCTORS HUGO LEONEL ALMENGOR, KIDNAPPED IN MAZATENANGO MAY 12, AND RAFAEL MINONDO, KIDNAPPED IN GUATEMALA CITY MAY 25. FIVE RURAL SCHOOL TEACHERS WERE ABDUCTED IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COUNTRY, AS WAS SAN CARLOS UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR GUILLERMO CORALLA TUARCA, KIDNAPPED IN GUATEMALA CITY, MAY 22. GILBERTO PCOASANGRE, A SOCIAL PROMOTER, WAS ABDUCTED IN SAN

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CRISTOBAL, EL PROGRESO ON MAY 20. MILITARY COMMISSIONER JOSE LUIS AZURDIA WAS ABDUCTED FROM A PUBLIC BUS BY ARMED MEN MAY 25 IN ACATENANGO. A BI-LINGUAL PROGRAM DIRECTOR, AUGUSTIN ALVAREZ MEJIA, WAS KIDNAPPED MAY 14 IN SANTA CRUZ DEL QUICHE. THE REMAINING ELEVEN KIDNAP VICTIMS WERE CAMPESINOS ABDUCTED IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COUNTRY.

5. PROBABLE GOVERNMENT VIOLENCE. THE GOG ARMY AND SECURITY ELEMENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATH OF 80 GUERRILLAS. MOST OF THESE WERE GUERRILLAS KILLED IN COMBAT OR IN ATTACKS ON GOVERNMENT INSTALLATIONS. THERE IS SOME INDICATION THAT GUATAVO ADOLFO AZURDIA LONZO WAS KILLED AND HIS WIFE KIDNAPPED BY GOG ELEMENTS ON JUNE 11 IN GUATEMALA CITY. OUTSIDE OF GUATEMALA GROUPS SUCH AS THE GUATEMALAN PATRIOTIC UNITY COMMITTEE (CGUP) AND THE COMMITTEE FOR PEASANT UNITY (CUC) CONTINUE TO PUBLISH REPORTS ACCUSING THE GOG OF THE MASS MURDER OF INDIANS IN THE HIGHLANDS AREA. WHILE AS MANY AS 163 CAMPESINOS WERE KILLED DURING THE MONTH, WE DID NOT ATTRIBUTE ANY OF THESE KILLINGS TO THE GOG.

6. MILITARY CLASHES. THERE WERE A TOTAL OF ELEVEN
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MILITARY/GUERRILLA CLASHES DURING THE MONTH. THESE RESULTED IN THE DEATHS OF TWELVE SOLDIERS AND EIGHTY GUERRILLAS. THESE CLASHES OCCURRED IN: COYOTENANGO, SUCHITEPEQUEZ, MAY 1; PARRAMOS CHIMALTENANGO, MAY 2, FIFTEEN GUERRILLA VICTIMS; NEBAJ, EL QUICHE, MAY 2, FIFTEEN GUERRILLA VICTIMS; SANTIAGO, HUEHUETENANGO, MAY 4, 2 SOLDIERS KILLED, FIVE WOUNDED;

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PATZUN, CHIMALTENANGO MAY 5, TWO GUERRILLAS KILLED;
PALMIRA, QUEZALTENANGO MAY 7, TWO ORPA GUERRILLAS
KILLED; ZACUALPA, EL QUICHE, MAY 19, 30 EGP GUERRILLAS
KILLED; MALACATAN, SAN MARCOS, MAY 21, 1 GUERRILLA
KILLED; NEBAJ, EL QUICHE, MAY 22, FOUR SOLDIERS, TWO
GUERRILLAS KILLED; SANTA CRUZ DEL QUICHE, MAY 22,
EIGHT GUERRILLAS KILLED; SAN MARTIN JILOTEPEC,
CHIMALTENANGO, MAY 23, TEN GUERRILLAS, SIX SOLDIERS
KILLED.

7. CIVIL DEFENSE- GUERRILLA CLASHES. THERE WERE TWO
CLASHES BETWEEN CIVIL DEFENSE (CD) PATROLS AND
GUERRILLAS. THE FIRST OCCURRED NEAR SALAMA, BAJA
VERAPAZ ON MAY 15, IN WHICH FIVE C.D. PATROL MEMBERS
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WERE KILLED AND A MILITARY COMMISSIONER ACCOMPANYING
THEM KIDNAPPED. ON MAY 31 IN NEBAJ, EL QUICHE GUERRILLAS
CLASHED WITH A C.D. PATROL, KILLING ONE C.D. MEMBER.
CIVIL DEFENSE ACTIVITY WAS DOWN THIS MONTH FROM THE
SEVEN CLASHES IN APRIL. THEY
CONTINUED TO BE POORLY ARMED BUT APPEAR TO BE RECEIVING
INTENSIFIED TRAINING FROM ARMY ELEMENTS.

8. PROBABLE RIGHT EXTREMIST VIOLENCE. THERE WERE NO
DEATHS ATTRIBUTED TO THE EXTREME RIGHT DURING THE MONTH.

9. PROBABLE LEFTIST TERRORIST VIOLENCE. (DOES NOT
INCLUDE CLASHES WITH THE ARMY OR CIVIL DEFENSE PATROLS).

A. IN ADDITION TO THE TWELVE SOLDIERS AND SIX
C.D. PATROL MEMBERS KILLED BY THE LEFTISTS, THEY
ARE ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATH OF 120 OTHER
INDIVIDUALS. AMONG THE VICTIMS ARE SEVEN POLICE
OR OTHER SECURITY ELEMENTS, FOUR MILITARY COM-
MISSIONERS AND THE ELECTED MLN MAYOR OF SOLOLA.
NOTEWORTHY DURING THE MONTH WERE FOUR MASSACRES IN
WHICH TEN OR MORE CAMPESINOS WERE KILLED. BASED
ON SOME EVIDENCE AND THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING
THESE KILLINGS, WE ATTRIBUTE THEM TO GUERRILLA
ELEMENTS. THERE WAS A TOTAL OF 91 MEN, WOMEN AND

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CHILDREN KILLED IN THESE ATTACKS. THE FIRST OCCURRED MAY 8 IN LA DEMOCRACIA, HUEHUETENANGO WHERE TERRORISTS TOOK OVER THE VILLAGE OF CHAMAXU, KILLED THIRTEEN RESIDENTS AND BURNED HOUSES. ON MAY 10 IN CHISEC, ALTA VERAPAZ THE EGP KILLED TWENTY CAMPESINOS INCLUDING WOMEN AND CHILDREN AND BURNED THEIR HOUSES. IN COTZAL, EL QUICHE TERRORISTS KILLED TWELVE INDIANS ON MAY 18. IN THE MOST GRUESOME ATTACK OF THE

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MONTH, TERRORISTS KILLED FORTY-SIX VILLAGERS IN SAQUIYA, CHICHICASTENANGO, EL QUICHE. THE VICTIMS, INCLUDING TWENTY-FIVE CHILDREN AND FIFTEEN WOMEN, WERE MACHINE-GUNNED AND HACKED UP WITH MACHETES. THE PERPETRATORS WERE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN WEARING OLIVE GREEN UNIFORMS (NOT STANDARD ARMY COMBAT DRESS), AND SURVIVORS FLED TO THE ARMY FOR HELP, THUS PRESENTING A STRONG CASE FOR ATTRIBUTING THIS MASSACRE TO THE EXTREME LEFT.

B. TERRORISTS WERE ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR THIRTEEN VILLAGE TAKE-OVERS. ORPA TOOK CREDIT FOR FOUR OF THESE WHILE THE EGP TOOK CREDIT FOR THREE. ALL OF THESE VILLAGE TAKE-OVERS OCCURRED IN THE INDIAN HIGHLANDS REGION OF THE COUNTRY. THERE WERE NINE MAJOR BOMBINGS DURING THE MONTH. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT WERE THE EGP BOMBING IN MALACATONCITOS, MAY 1 WHICH DESTROYED A BRIDGE ON THE PAN AMERICAN HIGHWAY AND TNT BOMBS WHICH DESTROYED ELECTRICAL FACILITIES IN VILLA NUEVA, GUATEMALA. THERE WERE THIRTY-SEVEN ADDITIONAL TERRORIST ACTS DURING THE MONTH WHICH INCLUDED THE BURNING OF GASOLINE STATIONS, BUSES AND OTHER VEHICLES; THE DESTRUCTION OF TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH LINES; THE BURNING OF FARM STRUCTURES AND EQUIPMENT; AND ATTACKS ON GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS. PERHAPS THE MOST DRAMATIC TERRORIST ACT WAS THE TAKE-OVER OF THE BRAZILIAN EMBASSY ON MAY 12 BY ELEMENTS OF THE CUC AND FP-31, BOTH CONNECTED WITH THE EGP. AFTER SEVERAL DAYS OF NEGOTIATIONS

WITH BRAZILIAN OFFICIALS, HOSTAGES INCLUDING THE BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR, WERE RELEASED UNHARMED AND THE TERRORISTS FLOWN TO MEXICO. IN EXCHANGE FOR THE RELEASE OF HOSTAGES LOCAL PAPERS AND SEVERAL INTERNATIONAL PAPERS RAN COPIES OF A MANIFESTO DEMANDED BY THE TERRORISTS (REFTEL B).

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10. HUMAN RIGHTS ATMOSPHERICS. ON MAY 8 THE 4TH
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GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN CENTRAL AMERICA
RELEASED ITS REPORT IN SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA. THE
ASSEMBLY IS A LOOSE-KNIT, NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPING
OF HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS WITH A LEFTIST LEANING. IN
THE REPORT THE ASSEMBLY ACCUSED THE U.S. OF COMMITTING
"THE GREATEST VIOLATION OF THE PEOPLE'S RIGHTS THROUGH
VARIOUS FORMS OF POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND
MILITARY INTERVENTION OF WHICH THE PEOPLES OF CENTRAL
AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN ARE VICTIMS... ESPECIALLY
THROUGH MILITARY AID TO EL SALVADOR AND GUATEMALA."
THE ASSEMBLY ALSO DENOUNCED THE EXISTENCE OF POLITICAL
PRISONERS IN GUATEMALA AND EL SALVADOR. THE ASSEMBLY'S
FINAL REPORT APPEARED TO HAVE LITTLE IMPACT INTER-
NATIONALLY SINCE THE GROUP IS NOT A PART OF ANY
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION SUCH AS THE UN OR OAS.
MEANTIME, IN GUATEMALA THE GOG'S ASTUTE HANDLING OF THE
BRAZILIAN EMBASSY OCCUPATION SERVED THEM WELL IN THEIR
EFFORTS TO CHANGE THEIR INTERNATIONAL IMAGE. LIKEWISE
THE INCREASED GUERRILLA VIOLENCE AGAINST NON-COMBATANTS
IN THE INDIAN HIGHLAND COULD, IF KNOWN, DO MUCH TO ALTER THE
"GOOD GUY" IMAGE THEY HAD ENJOYED IN SOME PARTS OF
THE WORLD. GUATEMALA 4822 REPORTED, HOWEVER, ON AN INTERNA-
TIONAL DISINFORMATION CAMPAIGN TO DISCOURAGE THIS FROM
HAPPENING.

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