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OCI No. 0671/69

69 JUL 15 PM 1:26

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Directorate of Intelligence
15 July 1969

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

El Salvador-Honduras

(Situation Report #1 - As of 1:00 PM EDT)

1. The OAS commission is arriving in Guatemala at about 1300 hours and having lunch before proceeding to San Salvador. Their plane will attempt a landing in San Salvador despite continuing reports of attack on the airport.

2. Air attacks and ground fighting on the border are continuing.

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[redacted] Honduras is sending 100 troops to the area to augment the 25-man force already there. The Honduran army has reportedly suffered 12 dead.

3. Honduras claims to have downed three Salvadoran fighter planes. The Salvadorans had attacked Tegucigalpa at dawn and made additional forays against localities in Olancho and in southwestern Honduras. Salvadoran planes were reported making machine gun runs against the civilian population in the Nueva Ocotepeque area. Honduran aircraft have struck the airport at San Salvador, the port of La Union, and the Acajutla oil refinery and port.

4. Salvadoran President Fidel Sanchez' speech early this morning maintained a belligerent tone. The Salvadoran congress has instituted a state of siege for 30 days.

5. The Honduran minister of defense has sent orders to all stations to expell all Salvadoran nationals residing in Honduras.

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6. The Hondurans, feeling they are at a military disadvantage, are seeking weapons from abroad. The U.S., as a member of the OAS team, has rejected a request for arms and ammunition.

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