

*El Salvador*

GRS 146

UNCLASSIFIED

DESKBY 310900Z

FM MEXICO CITY 310100Z MARCH 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 231 OF 30 MARCH

INFO WASHINGTON TEGUCIGALPA SAN JOSE HAVANA UKMIS NEW YORK  
PARIS.

WASHINGTON TELNO 1025: EL SALVADOR ELECTIONS

1. THE HIGH TURN-OUT IN THE ELECTIONS IN EL SALVADOR HAS BEEN INTERPRETED BY MOST OF THE MEXICAN PRESS, RADIO AND TELEVISION AS AN IMPORTANT SUCCESS FOR THE RULING JUNTA AND AS A SET-BACK FOR THE GUERRILLAS. EVEN THE LEFT-WING PRESS HAS GRUDGINGLY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT GENUINE ELECTIONS TOOK PLACE.

2. ASKED YESTERDAY ABOUT THE MEXICAN VIEW ON THE ELECTIONS, PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO SAID THAT IT WAS NOT FOR MEXICO TO HAVE AN OPINION. THIS WAS FOR THE SALVADOREANS THEMSELVES. THE PRESIDENT HOPED THAT THE PATH CHOSEN TO RESOLVE THEIR PROBLEMS WAS LEGITIMATE AND INSTITUTIONAL, AND WOULD ELIMINATE VIOLENCE. MEXICO FERVENTLY RESPECTED THE INTERNAL PROCESSES OF OTHER COUNTRIES, IN THE SAME WAY THAT MEXICO WANTED ITS INTERNAL PROCESSES TO BE RESPECTED BY OTHERS. THE FACT THAT THE SALVADOREAN PEOPLE HAD BEEN PREPARED TO RISK THEIR LIVES TO GO OUT TO VOTE WAS QUOTE A BEAUTIFUL SPECTACLE UNQUOTE.

3. PLEASE SEE MIFT.

TICKELL

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EL SALVADOR STANDARD

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