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TITLE: SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION REPORT, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1989

ORIGDATE: 198911012059

SOURCE: STATE

DOCNO: MEXICO 27742

TEXT:

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION REPORT, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1989

RELEASED IN PART B3 CIA
PERS/ORG

1. BUSH - GORVACHEV MEETING

LEAD NEWSPAPER COMMENTARY: INFORMAL BUSH - GORBACHEV MEETING.

SUMMARY OF COVERAGE: LEFTIST NATIONALIST UNOMASUNO CARRIED AN EDITORIAL SAYING: "THE RAPID POLITICAL CHANGES IN EASTERN EUROPE HAVE BEEN A DETERMINING FACTOR IN CHANGING PRESIDENT BUSH'S MIND, THUS HIS DECISION TO MEET WITH SOVIET LEADER MIKHAIL GORBACHEV IN EARLY DECEMBER. THEIRS WILL BE AN INFORMAL MEETING. THIS MEANS THAT NO CONCRETE AGREEMENTS WILL BE REACHED, BUT IN ANY EVENT, THERE WILL BE AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWPOINTS BETWEEN THE TWO LEADERS.

"THE POSITIVE REACTION TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THIS MEETING -- MADE BY PRESIDENT BUSH AND SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER SHEVERDNADZE -- DEMONSTRATES THAT THERE IS POLITICAL WILL IN THE WEST AND IN THE EAST TO FURTHER THE PROCESS OF REDUCING TENSIONS STARTED BY GORBACHEV'S POLICY AND BY THE FIRST NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND MOSCOW."

2. U.S. - CHINA

LEAD NEWSPAPER COMMENTARY: IT IS NOW THE U.S. TURN.

SUMMARY OF COVERAGE: NATIONALIST EXCELSIOR PUBLISHED AN EDITORIAL SAYING: "BY ACCUSING THE U.S. OF HAVING HAD A LOT TO DO WITH THE ANTI-GOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATIONS IN CHINA EARLY THIS YEAR, CHINESE LEADER (DENG XIAOPING) APPEARS TO BE TRYING TO BLOCK THE SUN WITH ONE FINGER. WE ARE NOT TRYING TO DEFEND THE U.S. -- THERE ARE MANY

REVIEW AUTHORITY: James Cooper, Senior
Reviewer

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HISTORIC AND CURRENT INSTANCES OF U.S. INTERVENTION IN OTHER NATIONS' AFFAIRS -- HOWEVER THERE IS TOO LARGE A GAP BETWEEN WHAT ACTUALLY TOOK PLACE AND THE THESIS THAT THE U.S. IS RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS SPRING'S BLOODY DEVELOPMENTS IN CHINA. DENG XIAOPING IS NOT ENGAGING IN SELF-CRITICISM, THUS HE RESORTS TO THE OLD AND MUCH USED ARGUMENT THAT THERE WAS A FOREIGN CONSPIRACY TO EXPLAIN THE KILLINGS IN TIANANMEN SQUARE."

3. DRUG TRAFFICKING

LEAD NEWSPAPER STORY AND COMMENTARY: COLOMBIAN COCAINE CARTELS MAY MOVE TO MEXICO; DEA: ASTRONOMICAL PROFITS.

SUMMARY OF COVERAGE - LEFTIST NATIONALIST UNOMASUNO CARRIED A WASHINGTON DATED CORRESPONDENT REPORT BY ANGEL ISAAK SAYING: "DEA DIRECTOR, JACK LAWN, STATED THAT THE COLOMBIAN COCAINE CARTELS ARE OPERATING IN MEXICO, WHERE THEY MOVE APPROXIMATELY A THIRD OF THE 90 MILLION TONS OF DRUGS THAT ENTER THE U.S. FROM SOUTH AMERICA. HE ADDVD THAT THE ADMINISTRATION OF PRESIDENT SALINAS, 'WITH INCREASING CONCERN,' HAS HAD TO 'FACE REALITY.' LAWN SAID THAT THE RECENT ARRESTS IN MEXICO OF CRIMINALS WHO CONFESSED TO BEING MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZATION OF COLOMBIAN 'GODFATHER' AND LEADER OF THE MEDELLIN CARTEL PABLO ESCOBAR ARE EVIDENCE OF THE ACTIVITIES BY COLOMBIAN DRUG TRAFFICKERS IN MEXICO. IN A HERITAGE FOUNDATION SPONSORED CONFERENCE ON 'CAN THE FLOW OF DRUGS FROM MEXICO BE STOPPED?' -- ALSO ATTENDED BY FORMER ATTORNEY GENERAL EDWIN MEESE -- IT WAS ALSO SAID THAT THE CURRENT MEXICAN ADMINISTRATION'S EFFORTS TO COMBAT DRUG TRAFFICKING HAVE BEEN IMPORTANT BUT THERE IS CONCERN THAT CORRUPTION AMONG THE MILITARY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS MAY CAUSE THE CAMPAIGN TO FAIL."

EXCELSIOR CARRIED AN EDITORIAL SAYING: "THE HUGE ECONOMIC POWER OF DRUG TRAFFICKERS IS COMPELLING THE U.S. TO MODIFY ITS BANKING SYSTEM IN ORDER TO PREVENT MONEY LAUNDERING... THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT HAS PROPOSED SEVERAL MEASURES TO ATTACK MONEY LAUNDERING

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2

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ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS A STRICTER DOCUMENTATION SYSTEM TO
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SECSTATE FOR ARA/MEX, ARA/PA
TIJUANA FOR ACALLAGHAN
MONTERREY FOR RBROWN
GUADALAJARA FOR MLIDDICK

E. O. 12356: N.A.

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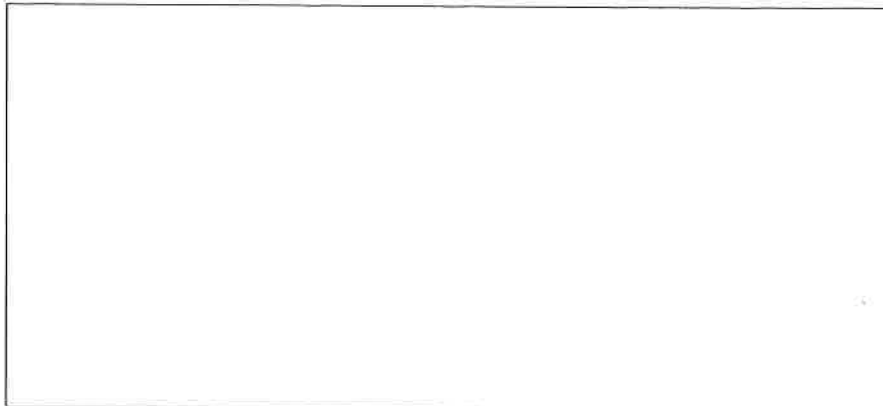
CONTROL INTERNATIONAL MONEY TRANSACTIONS, AND ALLOWING
BANKS TO DISCLOSE THE NAMES OF THEIR CLIENTS.

"THESE MEASURES WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY DEAL A HARD BLOW
TO DRUG TRAFFICKING, BUT ONE CAN ANTICIPATE THAT THEY
WILL BE RESISTED BECAUSE THE U.S. IS THE DESTINATION OF
MUCH CAPITAL FLIGHT FROM OTHER NATIONS -- CAPITALS WHOSE
ORIGIN IS NOT DRUG-RELATED. FURTHERMORE, IF BANKING
SECRECY WERE ELIMINATED, FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN THE U.S.
COULD BE REDUCED AT A TIME WHEN THERE ARE SERIOUS
FINANCIAL PROBLEMS IN THE U.S. IN ANY EVENT, SERIOUS
REFORMS ARE NEEDED TO PREVENT A FURTHER INCREASE IN THE
ECONOMIC POWER OF DRUG TRAFFICKERS AROUND THE WORLD."

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END OF MESSAGE

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FROM: FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

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5