TELEGRAM

FROM: AMBASSADOR TEGUCIGALPA

E.O. 11594
TAGS: CDS 3/22/88 (NEGROPONTE, John D.) OR-M
SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON NICARAGUA

ACTION: SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO: AMBASSADOR BOGOTA IMMEDIATE
AMBASSADOR CARACAS IMMEDIATE
AMBASSADOR GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE
US INTEREST HAVANA IMMEDIATE
AMBASSADOR MEXICO IMMEDIATE
AMBASSADOR SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE
AMBASSADOR SALVADOR IMMEDIATE
US MISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMBASSADOR MANAGUA

SECRET TEGUCIGALPA 2308 2332
EXDIS DECAPTIONED

REF: TEGUCIGALPA 2308

1. [REDACTED] ENTIRE TEXT.

2. Further to information obtained reftel, Hondurans have now modified thinking on subject meeting somewhat. Their first preference now is that Security Council meeting not take place. Their second preference is that, if possible, it be postponed to Friday. Latter option would allow opportunity for Hondurans to present their case to the Permanent Council of the OAS afternoon March 23 and for

DRAFTED BY: AMB:JD Negroponte:kl1

DRAFTING DATE: 3-22-82
TEL. EXT.: 211

AMOUNT OF CLASSIFICATION: 100

CLASSIFIED

DCM:W.G. Walker
POL: D. Shaw

OPTIONAL FORM 153
(Formerly FS-413)
January 1975
Dept. of State

Date Release , ) Exercise , ) Deny ( ) Declasify

Exemption
subsequent

CADC meetings in Washington Wednesday/

Thursday, March 24/25.

3. Honduran Foreign Minister, Edgardo Paz Barnica, left
for Washington morning March 22 and will arrive Washington
from Miami aboard PanAm Flight 336. In phone conversation
with Ambassador March 21, Paz Barnica said that he
expected to stay for CADC and associated meetings in
Washington March 23-24 unless Security Council proceedings
somehow intervene.

4. COMMENT: Foregoing taking place in atmosphere of
fluidity
considerable fluidity, confusion and anger on part of
GOH at what it considers to be Nicaraguan provocations
and major propaganda campaign to distort actual situation.
During past week there have been several shooting
incidents, most recent of which took place on Atlantic
coast March 21 when, according to Honduran military,
Sandinista patrol boats seized several Honduran fishing
vessels north of 15th Parallel. Honduran reaction was
to dispatch aircraft to rescue in what Hondurans consider
to be clearly their territory. During course of this
mission one of the Honduran fighter aircraft involved
reportedly took four hits from Sandinista patrol boat.
Honduran Air Force has been placed on full alert. For
further details see USDAO HONDURAS IIR 6 841 0059 82.
5. Hondurans are clearly determined to present their version of situation to U.S. and international public opinion. We have detected, however, considerable confusion as to how they propose to relate their initiative at CAS with upcoming Security Council and CADC meetings. We believe Paz Barnica will require maximum handholding from Department. If in this process Paz Barnica appears to require stronger instructions from his superiors in Tegucigalpa, please let us know immediately.

NEGROPONTE