12065: GDS 3/12/88 (NEGROPONTE, John D.) OR-M

ACTION: SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO: AMBASSAD e BOGOTA
AMBASSAD e CARACAS
AMBASSAD e MANAGUA
AMBASSAD e MEXICO
AMBASSAD e SAN JOSE
AMBASSAD e SAN SALVADOR

EXDIS DECAPI tED

REF: STATE 65036

1. CONFIDENTIAL—ENTIRE TEXT.

2. I was summoned to Presidential Palace afternoon March 12 to meet with President, Carlos Flores and Foreign Minister. Flores did most of the talking. Following main points emerged.

3. First, GOH is preparing a public reply to allegations in Washington Post story to effect that Honduran territory will be used to destabilize Nicaragua.

4. Second, GOH is proceeding to elaborate its own response to Nicaraguan peace proposal along lines outlined by.
Flores (TEGUCIGALPA 1748). I raised question of timing and relationship of this proposed initiative with CADC efforts several times; but the best I could extract was promise that we would be given draft Honduran proposal for our views beforehand.

5. Third, Hondurans are agreeable to some sort of generally worded CADC declaration prior to Monge inaugural; it but they do not wish/to be too detailed. Flores seems to be thinking more along lines of a statement on Salvadoran elections with only a passing reference to arms limitation issues.

6. From tenor of Flores' and Foreign Minister's remarks it seemed that there had been virtually no coordination on CADC matters with Salvadorans; and contact with Costa Ricans appeared to be principally through Foreign Minister-Designate Volio. Main preoccupation of Hondurans at the meeting was how best to react to Washington Post story and generally defensive posture in which they believe themselves to be from a public affairs point of view.

NEGROPONTE