

TELEGRAM

FEB 24 1982

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FROM Amembassy TEGUCIGALPA CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

E.O. 11652X 12065: GDS 2/24/88 (NEGROPONTE, John D.) OR-M CN: 1488 7
TAGS: PEPR, PINT, XK
SUBJECT: CADS: DECLARATION ON CENTRAL AMERICAN BUILDUP

ACTION: SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO: AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NICARAGUA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE

~~SECRET~~ TEGUCIGALPA 1488

EXDIS **DECAPTIONED**

REF: (A) STATE 42400 (NOTAL); (B) MANAGUA 768; (C) MEXICO 805;
(D) TEGUCIGALPA 1470

1. ~~SECRET~~ - ENTIRE TEXT
2. SUMMARY: We need a coordinated public position on Mexican/Nicaraguan "peace offensive". From Tegucigalpa vantage point it would seem that proposed CADC Declaration (reftel A), if adopted, would provide far and away the best response. Essential point is that Nicaraguan proposal is selective in nature and evades major pre-occupation of its neighbors. Guidance, even of an interim nature, is requested because of intense local interest

AMB
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DRAFTED BY: AMB:JDNegroponte:kjl DRAFTING DATE: 2-24-82 TEL. EXT.: 211 CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY: AMB:JDNegroponte

CLEARANCES:

~~SECRET~~

CLASSIFICATION

50153-101

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

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
() Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify
Date 6/1/98 Exemption _____

this subject. END SUMMARY.

2. Ambassador called on President Suazo morning February 24 to deliver President Reagan's CBI letter. After brief discussion that topic, Suazo raised his concern over recent Mexican/Sandinista "peace initiatives".

4. Suazo commented that Mexican and Nicaraguan positions appeared to have been quite well coordinated and he was quite obviously concerned about finding an adequate public response. Thus far, GOH has confined itself to stating through its Foreign Minister that it sees no need for a non-aggression pact; but it has also stated that it has received no such formal proposal from Nicaragua.

5. Ambassador agreed with Dr. Suazo that an appropriate and coordinated public response would appear desirable. Ambassador expressed personal opinion that draft CADC Declaration on Central American arms buildup which CADC governments now have under study would appear to be excellent basis for response. Principal advantage of such declaration, Ambassador continued, was its comprehensive nature. Nicaraguan proposal appears very selective. It focuses on non-aggression without addressing underlying ~~xxx~~ causes of tension in the region, e.g., size of armed forces, arms ~~xx~~ buildup, export of

subversion, and massive presence of Cuban advisors. Ambassador also ventured personal view that if Mexican ideas had been designed for other than influencing public opinion and showing solidarity with Nicaragua, ^{Mexico} ~~MXIXIX~~ would have undertaken to consult privately with other affected Central American countries beforehand. It was at this point that Suazo observed that Mexico's position certainly appeared to have been well coordinated with Nicaragua.

6. Conversation this subject ended with agreement that Ambassador would seek further guidance from Washington, especially in respect to what Washington believes would be best and most comprehensive possible reaction. It was also agreed that we would be back in touch on February 25 or 26 at which time we would have readout from Foreign Minister Paz Barnica's February 24 visit to San Jose.

NEGROPONTE