

# TELEGRAM

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FROM Amembassy TEGUCIGALPA CLASSIFICATION: ~~SECRET~~

E.O. 12958-2 TAGS: MASS, CO, HO SUBJECT: DOD FUNDING FOR AIRFIELD IMPROVEMENTS IN THE WESTERN CARIBBEAN ACTION: SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE INFO: AMEMBASSY BOGOTA USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PA CINCLANT NORFOLK VA JCS WASHDC

REF: ~~SECRET~~ TEGUCIGALPA 1336 EXDIS MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE (A) STATE 43594; (B) TEGUCIGALPA 1278

## DECAPTIONED

1. ~~SECRET~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. Ambassador discussed airfield improvement and access proposal with President Suazo again on February 19.
3. After lengthy discussion, Dr. Suazo agreed in principle and is prepared to receive small negotiating team to discuss details of an agreement per paragraph 5 STATE 29645.
4. But there is a hitch.
5. President Suazo does not repeat not wish any publicity for this exercise until negotiations are completely wrapped up. What Suazo is seeking to avoid is unnecessary

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DRAFTED BY: AMB:JDNegroponte:kjl	DRAFTING DATE 2-19-82	TEL. EXT. 211	CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY: AMB:JDNegroponte
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50153-101

CLASSIFICATION: ~~SECRET~~

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

debate in his congress which could have effect of delaying or otherwise frustrating negotiations. Suazo apparently does not share Colonel Alvarez' view reported reftel (B) that access agreement will necessarily require congressional approval.

6. In light of foregoing, it appears to us that best course of action would be for DOD witnesses to avoid specifying intended recipient countries until negotiations are complete. Alternatively, reply could be provided on confidential basis pending completion of negotiations.

7. If foregoing approach acceptable to Washington, please advise proposed dates of visit by small negotiating team headed by PM so that we may begin to arrange negotiating schedule mutually acceptable to USG and GOH.

8. FYI: Ambassador did not repeat <sup>raise</sup> not/question of technical team to make preliminary survey of airfields as proposed reftel (A). Believe it preferable to know whether approach outlined above is acceptable to Washington before survey team is invited to come; but we would propose to raise matter ASAP with Honduran High Command as soon as we receive Washington's reply to foregoing. END FYI.

NEGROPONTE

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