Honduran Foreign Minister invites Nicaraguan Foreign Minister to prove existence of counterrevolutionary camps in Honduras.

1. Ambassador has received first person note dated February 18 from Honduran Foreign Minister Edgardo Paz Barnica. Free translation follows:

2. BEGIN TEXT: Mr. Ambassador, I have the honor to bring to the attention of your illustrious government the telegraphic message which on this date I have sent to the Foreign Minister of Nicaragua, Mr. Miguel D'Escoto Brockman. In this message, the freely-elected government of Honduras, presided over by Doctor Roberto Suazo Cordova, again demonstrates the faithful observance of the principle of non-intervention and respect for the self-determination of peoples, as
well as a conduct of effective neutrality, as essential tenets which
govern the foreign policy of my country.

3. The text of the telegraphic message to Minister D'Escoto is as
follows:

4. Tegucigalpa, 18 February 1983. Excellency Mr. Miguel D'Escoto
Brockman, Foreign Minister, Managua, Nicaragua. 052

I have the honor to extend to your excellency a cordial invitation so
that you, in my company, may visit the border region between our two
countries. The purpose of such visit would be so that you could see
for yourself how unfounded is the tendentious campaign being waged
internationally by the Government of Nicaragua to cast doubt on
Honduras' neutrality with respect to the internal conflict which our
country is experiencing. Your excellency may specify places where
there are supposedly counterrevolutionary camps in the certainty that
you will be convinced that the constitutional and democratic govern-
ment of Honduras strictly respects the principle of non-intervention
in the affairs of other states and the right of self-determination of
peoples. In the hope that your excellency will see fit to accept
this invitation, extended with the sincere spirit of compromise which
characterizes my government in its struggle for regional peace, I would
very much appreciate your indicating to me a place and date for a
meeting so that I may make the necessary arrangements. I reiterate
to your excellency sentiments of my highest and most distinguished
consideration. Edgardo Paz Barnica, Minister of Foreign Relations
of Honduras.

4. Complimentary Close. End

NEGROPONTE