

# TELEGRAM

FEB 11 23 36 83

INDICATE  
 COLLECT  
 CHARGE TO

AZ02  
R

FROM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA CLASSIFICATION ~~TOP SECRET~~ ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ ~~SECRET~~ ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

E.O. ~~12812~~ 12356: DECL: N/A  
TAGS: SOCI, EAID, UNESCO, HO  
SUBJECT: HONDURAN LITERACY CAMPAIGN

CN: 1434

7.

ACTION: SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO: AMEMBASSY MANAGUA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USmission USUN NY

~~TOP SECRET~~ TEGUCIGALPA 1434

AMB  
DCM  
POL  
ECON  
AID  
USIS  
PC

1. SUMMARY: GOH plans major four-year adult literacy campaign using fourth year highschool students as teachers. Goal is to teach one hundred thousand persons a year to read and write in addition to those in regular school systems. UNESCO reportedly prepared to provide materials. GOH seeking about two-and-one-half million dollars per year to fund minimal per diem costs of student-teachers. END SUMMARY.

2. At a January 26 dinner in honor of visiting AID Assistant Administrator Otto Reich, Minister of Education Alma Rodas de Fiallos described to Ambassador proposed GOH adult literacy campaign. Fiallos said Doctor Suazo wishes to

DRAFTED BY: ~~gives literacy~~ DRAFTING DATE: 1-28-83 TEL EXT: 211 CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY: AMB:JDNegroponete

CLEARANCES: AMB:JDNegroponete:kjl

~~AMB:PCastelar~~  
~~AMB:Gomez~~

~~TOP SECRET~~  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
LIMITED REFERENCE  
CLASSIFICATION

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

50153-101

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.  
( ) Release ( ) Excise ( ) Deny ( ) Declassify  
Date 6/2/98 Exemption

give literacy issue high priority because of pressing social/economic need and because politically it is one area where he believes Honduras is very vulnerable to comparison with Nicaragua. Honduras has an illiteracy rate of approximately forty-five percent.

3. GOH idea, as described by Fiallos, would be to create an obligatory year of national service for highschool seniors and then have them in turn contribute about five months of their time to teaching people outside the normal school system to read and write. Tentative plan calls for having about five thousand such student-teachers at any given time; and goal would be to train one hundred thousand additional persons a year to read and write. If goals were attained this would represent significant dent into illiteracy problem of this country of three point seven million people.

4. Mrs. Fiallos says she has assurances of support for teaching materials for such an initiative. She does not have the two-and-one-half million or so dollars which would be needed to fund token salaries for and expenses of the student-teachers, as well as associated administrative costs. It was clear from the conversation that Mrs. Fiallos would welcome additional USG resource assistance in this area.

TOP SECRET

NEGROPONIE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Classification