THE HONDURAN AND NICARAGUAN AIR FORCES

1. ENTIRE TEXT

2. We were pleased to receive your interesting "Current Analyses" on above subject which we believe was basically well prepared.

3. We do, however, believe that both the summary and the section entitled Air Balance would have benefitted from a reference to the asymmetry between Nicaraguan and Honduran ground forces. We are not talking about the air forces of these two countries in a vacuum; but rather in the context of Nicaragua's outnumbering Honduras' army two to one with that ratio likely to continue its rise. Honduras sees its air superiority as a deterrent to this development. I feel that this aspect of the issue was not sufficiently discussed in your otherwise excellent paper.

NEGROPONTE

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Clearances: