

TELEGRAM

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FROM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA		CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL UNCLASSIFIED	
E.O. 12812		7 2 7 2	
TAGS:	12356: DECL: OADR		
SUBJECT:	PINS, PINT, NU; HO		
ACTION:	PROPOSED SAN JOSE MEETING WITH REGIONAL DEMOCRATIC FOREIGN MINISTERS		
	SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY		
	SECRET TEGUCIGALPA 7 2 7 2		
REF:	(A) TEGUCIGALPA 7235; (B) STATE 240334		
	1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT		
	2. I saw Suazo morning August 27 to present Deputy Aid Administrator Morris. After meeting we talked privately for a few minutes.		
	3. Suazo showed me Daniel Ortega's August six invitation to visit Managua; and his draft reply which would propose a meeting between Foreign Ministers instead. I went over substance of paras nine and ten reftel B with Suazo, on basis of which Suazo agreed with my suggestion that he hold off for at least a few days on any reply to Ortega letter pending clarification of prospects for multilateral San Jose meeting.		
	4. I then went over to Foreign Minister's office. He gave me gist of separate August 24 letter from D'Escoto		
AMB DCM POL			
DRAFTED BY: AMB:JDNegroponete:kjl	DRAFTING DATE 8-27-82	TEL. EXT. 211	CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY: AMB:JDNegroponete
CLEARANCES:			

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OPTIONAL FORM 153
(Formerly FS-413)
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Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
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inviting Paz Barnica to visit Managua on either September one, two or three as follow-up to D'Escoto-Paz meeting of last April 21. I again urged Foreign Minister to defer his reply. He obviously felt in a quandary, wanting to accept in order to buy time and avoid image of Honduran intransigence. He asked me what other thoughts occurred to me. I said our first preference was that they delay a reply; a second choice might be to agree to send Vice Foreign Minister instead. We left matters that Foreign Minister would hold off on his reply until we got back in touch towards middle of next week.

5. Finally, Foreign Minister expressed concern over what he detected to be vacillation on part of Costa Rican Foreign Minister Volio. First Volio favored a regional meeting in San Jose and had offered specific date of September 12. Now, in telephone conversation on August 26 Volio saw complications and, according to Paz, had ruled out such meeting in September. Apparently Volio is fretting about Guatemalan participation because of the democracy issue on the one hand, and about Dominican and Colombian participation because of the newness of their governments on the other. I told Paz that none of these sounded like insurmountable obstacles and Costa Rica has a number of friends prepared to help overcome them.

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6. COMMENT: Hondurans are probably willing to hold off
reply to Ortega and D'Escoto letters for a week or so.
But in absence of specific, concrete steps towards
organization of a regional meeting along lines proposed
refitel B, I doubt they can hold off much longer than
that.

NEGRO PONTE

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