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 TO RUEHC / SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4573
 INFO RUEKJCS / SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
 RUEKJCS / JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
 RUEHSN / AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE 0295
 RUEHSJ / AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE 9351
 RUEOEHA / USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PN IMMEDIATE
 BT

CLASS: SECRET
 CHRG: PROG 08/1/84
 APPRV: AMB:JDNEGROPONTE
 DRFTD: ~~AMB:JDNEGROPONTE~~
 CLEAR: NONE
 DISTR: AMB DCM POL3
 MILGP DAO CHRON

TEGUCIGALPA 09589

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
 TAGS: MASS,HO, ES, MARR
 SUBJECT: RMTC: GOH CONDITIONS FOR TRAINING NEXT
SALVADORAN BATTALION

1. ~~SECRET~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. THIS IS AN IMMEDIATE ACTION MESSAGE.
3. TWO HOUR SESSION WITH PRESIDENT, CARLOS FLORES, GENERAL LOPEZ AND COLONEL GONZALEZ MORNING AUGUST ONE ENDED INCONCLUSIVELY WITH RESPECT TO TRAINING OF NEXT SALVADORAN BATTALION AT RMTC STARTING AUGUST 3. (SEPTEL REPORTS MORNING MEETING.) AT END OF MEETING, WE AGREED THAT PRESIDENCY MINISTER FLORES AND AMBASSADOR WOULD BE IN TOUCH REGARDING NEXT STEPS.
4. EARLY AFTERNOON FLORES CALLED IN AMBASSADOR TO INFORM HIM THAT GOH WAS AGREEABLE TO SALVADORAN BATTALION BEGINNING ITS TRAINING PROVIDED FOLLOWING CONDITIONS ARE MET:
 - A. THAT SALVADORANS FORMALLY REQUEST TRAINING;
 - B. THAT AN EQUAL NUMBER OF HONDURANS BE TRAINED SIMULTANEOUSLY. THIS WOULD BE EITHER IN THE FORM OF AN ENTIRE UNIT OR A COMBINATION OF A UNIT AND SELECTED INDIVIDUALS;
 - C. THAT THE CENTER BE GIVEN MORE OF A REGIONAL ASPECT BY ALSO TRAINING OTHERS THERE. FLORES SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED COSTA RICAN POLICE.
5. FLORES SAID THAT THIS WOULD BE A TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENT PENDING RENEGOTIATION OF RMTC TERMS OF REFERENCE AND MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION OF SEVERAL OTHER ISSUES IMPINGING ON RMTC ISSUE. AMBASSADOR AND FLORES AGREED THAT SUCH DISCUSSIONS COULD BEGIN NEXT WEEK ONCE WE HAVE HAD CHANCE TO STUDY GOH PAPER WHICH WAS GIVEN TO US IN MORNING MEETING. IN REPLY TO AMBASSADOR'S SPECIFIC QUESTION, FLORES ASSURED AMBASSADOR THAT GOH WISHED TO CONTINUE CONTRIBUTING TO THE TRAINING OF SALVADORAN ARMED FORCES OVER THE LONGER

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TERM; BUT UNDER WHAT GOH CONSIDERS TO BE MORE EQUITABLE CONDITIONS AND BETTER OBSERVANCE OF CERTAIN HONDURAN SENSITIVITIES. THESE WOULD BE THE KINDS OF THINGS WE COULD TALK ABOUT NEXT WEEK.

6. AS OF FOR THE GOH CONDITIONS, AMBASSADOR RESPONDED THAT WE WOULD TRANSMIT THEM TO WASHINGTON AND OTHERS CONCERNED FOR A REACTION. AMBASSADOR OFFERED PERSONAL COMMENT THAT TRAINING COSTA RICAN POLICE SOUNDED LIKE IT MIGHT BE SOME SORT OF PROBLEM. AMBASSADOR RECALLED THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME GUATEMALAN INSTRUCTORS AT RMTG AT ONE POINT AND THEIR RETURN MIGHT BE HELPFUL.

7. COMMENT AND ACTION REQUESTED: COMPARED TO EARLIER GOH POSITION THAT THEY DIDN'T WANT SALVADORAN BATTALION AT ALL UNTIL RMTG TERMS OF REFERENCE RENEGOTIATED AND UNTIL SOME PROGRESS ON BORDER ISSUE, PRESENT GOH CONDITIONS REPRESENT AN IMPROVEMENT. THERE IS NOTHING IN PRINCIPLE WHICH STRIKES US AS UNACCEPTABLE ABOUT AGREEING TO THE TRAINING OF AN EQUAL NUMBER OF HONDURANS AS SALVADORANS THIS TIME AROUND. (THERE ARE ALREADY 400 HONDURAN NCO'S TRAINING THERE NOW; SO THE INCREASE NEEDED FOR PARITY WOULD NOT BE TOO GREAT.) NOR DO WE SEE ANYTHING UNREASONABLE ABOUT A FORMAL REQUEST BY GOES FOR TRAINING AT RMTG. AS FOR WIDER REGIONAL ASPECT, PERHAPS WE CAN COME UP WITH SOME FIELD TRAINING FOR PEOPLE ALREADY AT USARSA OR REVIVE THE IDEA OF GETTING GUATEMALAN INSTRUCTORS BACK. IN ANY EVENT, WE THINK THIS LATTER CONDITION, THOUGH IMPORTANT TO GOH IN LONGER TERM, MAY NOT BE SO PRESSING AS PARITY IN NUMBERS AND FORMAL SALVADORAN REQUEST. PERHAPS A COMMITMENT TO

MAKE BROADER REGIONAL PARTICIPATION A FEATURE OF FUTURE TRAINING CYCLES MAY BE SUFFICIENT TO MEET HONDURAN CONCERN AT THIS TIME.

8: REQUEST IMMEDIATE INSTRUCTIONS AS TO WHAT WE SHOULD RESPOND TO GOH CONDITIONS. NEGROPONTE

BT
#9589

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