

A433
R

TRP
VZCZCTGI *
RR RUEHFO RUEHC RUEHBE RUEHGT RUESMG RUEHME
RUEHZP RUEHSJ RUEHSN
DE RUEHTG #7596 201 **
ZNR UUUUU

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
CHRG: USIS 07/20/93
APPRV: PAO:CSARGOS
DRFTD: IO:RJCALLAHAN:MT
CLEAR: NONE
DISTR: AMB.DCM USIS
POL ECON CHRON

R 202338Z JUL 93
FM USIS TEGUCIGALPA
TO RUEHFO / USINFO WASHDC
INFO RUEHC / SECSTATE WASHDC
RUEHBE / AMEMBASSY BELIZE
RUEHGT / AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
RUESMG / AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
RUEHME / AMEMBASSY MEXICO
RUEHZP / AMEMBASSY PANAMA
RUEHSJ / AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
RUEHSN / AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
BT

UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 27596

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

USINFO FOR P/RC, P/PPL, VOA/BL
STATE FOR ARA/CEN

E.O. 12356: N/A

SUBJECT: N.Y. TIMES ARTICLE ON POLL OF AMERICANS'
ATTITUDE TOWARD CENTRAL AMERICAN POLICY

1. N.Y. TIMES ON JULY 1 CARRIED STORY BY ADAM CLYMER
ON A TIMES/CBS POLL OF AMERICAN OPINION VIS-A-VIS
ADMINISTRATION'S CENTRAL AMERICAN POLICY. THE TEXT OF
THE ARTICLE AND THE GRAPHS USED TO ILLUSTRATE IT ARE IN
OPEN CONTRADICTION.

2. IN THE THIRD PARAGRAPH, CLYMER WRITES THAT "NO
CURRENT UNITED STATES POLICY OR ANTICIPATED PROPOSAL,
FROM NEGOTIATIONS TO THE SENDING OF AMERICAN TROOPS,
COMMANDED MAJORITY SUPPORT."

3. YET THE GRAPHS SHOW THAT, WHEN THOSE WHO DID NOT
HAVE AN OPINION ARE ELIMINATED, A MAJORITY OF THOSE
APPEARING INFORMED "SUPPORT THE "TRIPLING OF U.S.
MILITARY AID" IN ORDER "TO PREVENT A COMMUNIST
OVERTHROW OF THE GOVERNMENT OF EL SALVADOR." AMONG THOSE
APPEARING "UNINFORMED," 49 PERCENT SUPPORTED THE ABOVE
PROPOSITION AND ONLY 32 PERCENT OPPOSED IT.

4. NEVER, HOWEVER, DOES CLYMER MENTION THIS IN THE
TEXT. HE CONTINUALLY MAINTAINS THAT THE
ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY TOWARD THE REGION IS UNPOPULAR
WITH A MAJORITY OF AMERICANS WHEN THIS SIMPLY IS FALSE.

5. THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE POLL, WHICH INDICATE THAT
MORE AMERICANS SUPPORT CURRENT U.S. POLICY TOWARD EL
SALVADOR THAN OPPOSE IT, WOULD NO DOUBT COMPLEMENT OUR
DIPLMATIC EFFORTS. AT THE SAME TIME A FLAGRANTLY
MISLEADING ARTICLE, WHICH APPEARED IN AMERICA'S MOST
INFLUENTIAL NEWSPAPER, WOULD BE EXPOSED. ARGOS

BT
#7596