E.O. 12356:  DECL:  OADR  
TAGS:  PREL,  UNSG,  OAS,  X1,  HO  
SUBJECT:  SUAZO REPLIES TO CONTADORA PRESIDENTS

1. (U) IN LETTER DATED JULY EIGHTEEN, CONTADORA PRESIDENTS TRANSMITTED CANCUN DECLARATION TO DOCTOR SUAZO.

2. (U) ON JULY TWENTY-ONE DOCTOR SUAZO REPLIED. SUAZO'S LETTER PUBLISHED IN LOCAL PRESS JULY TWENTY-THREE. SUAZO BEGINS HIS MESSAGE BY EXPRESSING SINCERE APPRECIATION FOR THIS ADDITIONAL EFFORT AND THE VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS WHICH THE CONTADORA GROUP IS MAKING TO RESTORE PEACE AND SECURITY TO CENTRAL AMERICA. SUAZO GOES ON TO SAY THAT HE NOTES THE GREAT SIMILARITY BETWEEN "SOME POINTS OF THE CANCUN DECLARATION AND THE HONDURAN PEACE PLAN PRESENTED TO THE OAS ON MARCH TWENTY-THREE, 1982; THE FIRST-SERIOUS PEACE EFFORT EMANATING FROM THE (CENTRAL AMERICAN) AREA DESIGNED TO ACHIEVE THE LAUDABLE OBJECTIVES WE SHARE".

3. (U) NEXT SUAZO REPEATS HONDURAN SIX-POINT PLAN IN ITS ENTIRETY, OBSERVING THAT IT HAD BEEN FORMULATED LESS THAN TWO MONTHS AFTER SUAZO TOOK OFFICE AND REMAINED BASIS OF HONDURAN POSITION. HE STATES THAT: "IT IS IN SPIRIT OF HONDURAN PEACE PLAN THAT HONDURAS WILL ATTEND THE UPCOMING PANAMA MEETING. SUAZO THEN MAKES MENTION OF THE JOINT PRESS COMMUNIQUE OF THE CENTRAL AMERICAN FOUR EMANATING FROM THEIR JULY 19-23 MEETING. HE NOTES THAT IT CONTAINS SOME SPECIFIC OBSERVATIONS CONCERNING CANCUN DECLARATION FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION AT PANAMA MEETING."
4. (U) SUAZO LETTER CLOSES BY REITERATING "GREAT VALUE" WHICH HIS GOVERNMENT ATTACHES TO THE EFFORTS OF THE CONTADORA GROUP, NOW REINFORCED AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL AND DESIGNED TO FACILITATE THE ABILITY OF CENTRAL AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS TO FIND THE COMPREHENSIVE AND REGIONAL SOLUTIONS DEMANDED BY THE NATURE OF THE PROBLEMS AFFECTING THE ENTIRE AREA.

5. (C) COMMENT: SUAZO'S LETTER PAYS LIP SERVICE TO THE CONTADORA PROCESS. BETWEEN THE LINES IT IS CLEAR THAT HE HAS LESS THAN TOTAL CONFIDENCE IN IT. HE SEES A COINCIDENCE OF VIEWS BETWEEN CUNCAN DECLARATION AND GOV POSITION ONLY ON "SOME POINTS"; HE STICKS FIRMLY TO HONDURAN PEACE PLAN AS BASIS FOR GOV POSITION; AND HE FINDS MORE THAN ONE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE CLEAR HIS CONVICTION THAT CENTRAL AMERICAN PROBLEMS MUST BE SOLVED BY CENTRAL AMERICANS THEMSELVES. SUAZO EFFECTIVELY STATES THAT CONTADORA GROUP CAN ONLY PLAY A FACILITATIVE ROLE - AT BEST.

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