

ASD
519

TEGUCIGALPA 7387

DECLASSIFIED

TRP
VZCZCTGI *
RR RUEHC RUESBG RUEHCV RUEHGT RUEHMD RUEHSMG
RUEHME RUEHZP RUEHSJ RUEHSN RUEHDT
DE RUEHTG #7387 196 **
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
R 151802Z JUL 83

CLASS: SECRET
CHRG: PROG 7/15/83
APPRV: AMB:JDNEGROPONTE
DRFTD: AMB:JDNEGROPONTE
CLEAR: NONE
DISTR: AMB DCM POL-2

Chiron R

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
TO RUEHC / SECSTATE WASHDC 5827
INFO RUESBG / AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 1824
RUEHCV / AMEMBASSY CARACAS 1421
RUEHGT / AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA 0860
RUEHMD / AMEMBASSY MADRID 0211
RUEHSMG / AMEMBASSY MANAGUA 5161
RUEHME / AMEMBASSY MEXICO 1641
RUEHZP / AMEMBASSY PANAMA 7984
RUEHSJ / AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE 8515
RUEHSN / AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR 9364
RUEHDT / USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 1263
BT

[REDACTED] TEGUCIGALPA 07387

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: OFDP, HO
SUBJECT: NEW HONDURAN FOREIGN MINISTER

REF: PANAMA 6683

1. **[REDACTED]** - ENTIRE TEXT

2. RUMORS OF PAZ BARNICA'S DEMISE HAVE CIRCULATED FROM TIME TO TIME IN THE PAST. RECENTLY THE MOST ARDENT PROMOTER OF SUCH STORIES HAS BEEN UN-AMBASSADOR ORTEZ COLINDRES WHO HIMSELF IS WIDELY BELIEVED HERE TO ASPIRE TO PAZ BARNICA'S OFFICE.

3. IN LIGHT OF RECENT SPATE OF SUCH RUMORS AMBASSADOR QUERIED MINISTER OF PRESIDENCY CARLOS FLORES ABOUT THEM AT MEETING JULY 2. FLORES INFORMED AMBASSADOR THAT THERE WAS NOTHING TO SUCH REPORTS AND THAT, IN ANY EVENT, ORTEZ COLINDRES WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE THE MOST LIKELY SUCCESSOR TO PAZ BARNICA WERE THE LATTER TO EVER LEAVE HIS POST FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER.

4. SUBSEQUENTLY, PRESIDENT SUAZO, UPON RETURN FROM TRIP TO U.S. JULY 9, PUBLICLY DENIED RUMORS TO EFFECT THAT EITHER FOREIGN MINISTER OR MINISTER OF EDUCATION WERE RESIGNING.

5. FOR REASONS MENTIONED ABOVE, THEREFORE, WE DOUBT REPORT CONTAINED REFTTEL IS CORRECT. NEGROPONTE

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