

TELEGRAM

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FROM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

E.O. 11852:
TAGS:
SUBJECT:
ACTION:

12356: DECL: OADR
MOPS HO
HONDURAN CONFIDENCE BUILDING ACTIVITIES
SECSTATE WASHDC

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~~SECRET~~ TEGUCIGALPA 2720

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FOR JOHNSTONE ARA/CEN FROM AMBASSADOR

REF: (A) TEGUCIGALPA 2381; (B) TEGUCIGALPA 2507

1. ~~S~~ - entire text.

AMB
DCM

2. With the increase in the interaction between USG and Honduran Military staffs which began in earnest last fall, we have increasingly been troubled by the apparent lack of coordination among Washington agencies, and, more particularly, Defense and State. SOUTHCOM has been quite good about attempting to engage the Embassy at an early date in its planning and has frequently solicited and reflected our views. SOUTHCOM has, however, consistently failed to include the Department of State as an addressee on its messages, and we have repeatedly discovered that projects were moving forward without adequate, or sometimes any,

DRAFTED BY: (DCM: SCLowman: mnh)	DRAFTING DATE Mar 21	TEL. EXT. 212	CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY: AMBASSADOR
CLEARANCES:			

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CLASSIFICATION

OPTIONAL FORM 153
(Formerly FS-413)
January 1975
Dept. of State

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

coordination with State.

3. Initially, we found our interaction with SOUTHCOM to be relatively productive. Additionally, we found ourselves in general agreement in substance on much of what SOUTHCOM proposed. Increasingly, however, we have been reluctant to engage ~~XXXXX~~ SOUTHCOM in such an interchange because of our increasing awareness that these projects appear to be progressing without ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ coordination with the Department. For example, last fall, we found that our discussions with SOUTHCOM and SOUTHCOM's discussions with JCS on ~~XXXXX~~ Tara had progressed quite far without the Department's having been brought in. More recently, there have been a number of cases in which JCS has approved activities which impinge upon the Embassy's ~~jurisdiction~~ jurisdiction, and we have been presented with SOUTHCOM plans to proceed with the implementation of such proposals without having received any instructions from the Department. Refrels are two examples of this.

4. While I would emphasize that we do not find ourselves in any basic conflict with SOUTHCOM, I believe that it is essential that proper coordination procedures be developed and adhered to or we face a high probability of a serious SNAFU in the future. I would urge you to take this up with DOD and JCS on a priority basis.

NEGROPONTE