

# TELEGRAM

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INDICATE  
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 CHARGE TO

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12356  
E.O. 11652  
TAGS:  
SUBJECT:

FROM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA CLASSIFICATION [REDACTED]

CN: 2398

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DNG: CO 3/11/93  
PREL, HO, XK  
MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER

ACTION:

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO:

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA  
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA  
AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE  
AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO  
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR  
~~AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA~~

DIST:  
AMB  
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CHRON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

DECAPTIONED

~~SECRET~~ TEGUCIGALPA 2398  
EXDIS

REF: (A) TEGUCIGALPA 2097 (B) SAN SALVADOR 1767

1. S-ENTIRE TEXT.
2. Ambassador accompanied by political counselor met with Foreign Minister Edgardo Paz Barnica March 11 to review diplomatic developments during Ambassador's consultations in Washington.
3. Paz went over much of the same ground he had covered with DCM (ref A) concerning state of play on proposed Central American Foreign Ministers' meeting. He still had

DRAFTED BY:	DRAFTING DATE	TEL. EXT.	CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY:
POL: RFBURGHARDT: dsn	3/11/83	214	DCM: SCLOWMAN
CLEARANCES:			

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~~SECRET~~  
CLASSIFICATION

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

50153-101

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

no rpt no indication that the Sandinistas would attend.

Paz made the following new points:

- The original Chavez Mena draft for a Central American Treaty of Peace and Cooperation was clearly unacceptable; "the Sandinistas would have signed it in a moment". The new draft which was produced by the three Honduran, Salvadoran and Costa Rican experts is a great improvement, but it still has deficiencies. (Comment: Ref B, which contains the draft treaty text provided by the GOES to Embassy/<sup>San</sup>Salvador, does not indicate whether it is the original text or the revised one. Considering the weaknesses that text contains, we hope it is the original one. Paz is, of course, unaware that we have seen any text ~~of the treaty~~. END COMMENT)
- The Mexican position towards the five-plus-five proposal was unclear. Sepulveda had been distinctly unenthusiastic when Paz discussed the subject with him in Cartagena, but Volio had informed him by phone that President de la Madrid had just written a letter to Monge which expressed support for the proposed meeting. Paz said he understood the letter had been published by the Mexico press.
- Paz noted another recent hopeful sign out of Mexico was a letter he had just received from Sepulveda offering Mexico's support for Honduras!

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- so far unsuccessful petition for Non-Aligned Movement observer status.
- Paz said Guatemala's position on the proposed meeting was still not one hundred percent clear. Castillo told Paz the GOG would attend. But Rios Montt had earlier said otherwise and Castillo had commented to Honduran Foreign Ministry advisor Pineda Milla (who has made two trips recently to Guatemala) that President Rios Montt was not interested in participation in peace forums and other regional meetings because they all were too obviously managed by the U.S.
  - The GOES' announcement to advance the date of their elections was very good news. Paz planned to make a favorable comment during his next press conference.
  - News reports announcing the attendance of the Presidents of Venezuela and Costa Rica at a Peace Forum meeting in Honduras (Tegucigalpa 2368) were completely without basis.
  - The Pope's visit to ~~MAN~~ Nicaragua had accomplished more in a few hours in discrediting the Sandinistas than Honduras and its friends had been able to accomplish in a year and a half.
  - Paz expressed some concern that left-leaning elements in Costa Rica were attempting to influence that

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country's foreign policy toward the Contadora line and were arguing that Honduras was discredited. The close relationship between Honduras and Costa Rica was of fundamental importance and Paz hoped the U.S. could exert its influence to prevent this disturbing trend from developing any further.

-- Paz plans to do a good deal of travelling, including an informal stop in Santo Domingo around Easter and a long-postponed visit to Taiwan in April. The Panamanian and Venezuelan Foreign Ministers also are scheduled to visit during the next two months and visits by their Bolivian and Ecuadorian counterparts are ~~also~~ possible.

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NEGROFONTE

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