

# TELEGRAM

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12356 <del>12007</del> E.O. <del>XXXXXX</del> TAGS: SUBJECT:  ACTION:  INFO:	FROM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA	CLASSIFICATION <del>CONFIDENTIAL</del>	6382	7
	DECL: 8/2/88 <del>XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX</del> PEPR, ES, NU, HO CONVERSATION WITH JORGE ARTURO REINA			
	SECSTATE WASHDC			
	AMEMBASSY BOGOTA AMEMBASSY BONN AMEMBASSY CARACAS <del>AMEMBASSY</del> USINT HAVANA AMEMBASSY MADRID AMEMBASSY MANAGUA AMEMBASSY MEXICO AMEMBASSY PANAMA AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR AMEMBASSY VIENNA			
	<del>CONFIDENTIAL</del> TEGUCIGALPA 6382			
DMST: AMB DCM POL ECON DAO ICA MILGP AID CONS CHRON	1. <del>ENTIRE</del> TEXT			
	2. Jorge Arturo Reina, former Rector of the National University and ALIPO leader, called on Ambassador July 30. He said he had just come back from a trip to Europe, returning by way of Cuba, Panama, Costa Rica, and Nicaragua.			
	3. Reina said he spoke to several Commandates (old friends from the 50's) in Nicaragua. Tomas Borge and Bayardo Arce were making noises about the imminence of war and possibly making preemptive strikes against presumed contras in Honduras.			
DRAFTED BY: TSTOLPER/NEGROPONTE POL: <del>XXXXXXXXXX</del> dsn	DRAFTING DATE 8/2/82	TEL. EXT. 214	CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY: <del>XXXXXXXXXX</del> DCM-SELGEMAN AMBJDNegroponte	
CLEARANCES: <del>XXXXXXXXXX</del>				

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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 \_\_\_\_\_

Reina noted, although without making a value judgment, that the radicalization of the Nicaraguan revolution, drift towards alignment with Moscow/Havana and its belligerence, were creating problems for Honduras.

4. He then went on to say that maybe the solution to Nicaragua is to be found in El Salvador. He intimated that the strongest and most radical leaders of the FMLN, Caeytano Carpio and Shafik Handal, could not be allowed to win. He had, however, met with Guillermo Ungo in Panama (another old friend from when Reina taught at the University in El Salvador). Reina received the impression from Ungo, although never explicitly after several conversations with him, that Ungo does not at this point know where to go from here but that he may be trying to distance the FDR from the FMLN and seek a political solution with existing GOES. For instance, Ungo is only using the FDR label. The Ambassador suggested that while talk of Ungo's interest in negotiated solution was interesting, the acid test of a real break with the FMLN would be expression of willingness to participate in existing Salvadoran political system, e.g. presidential elections which might eventuate from Constituent Assembly elections. Reina surmised that Ungo might get in trouble with his own people over that.

5. Reina mentioned that in his conversations in Europe, especially with Felipe Gonzalez in Spain and Kreisky in Austria, Honduras was being viewed as the aggressor in the tensions with Nicaragua and that Reina found that worrisome.
6. At one point in conversation Reina professed confusion over U.S. policies towards Central America. Reina asked Ambassador to clarify our intentions towards region. Ambassador responded that we were concerned by Marxist-Leninist drift of Nicaragua, its Cuban/Soviet alignment and its export of revolution. We have continuously sought to dissuade Nicaragua from its path, thus far with no success. We have had no choice, therefore, but to increase our help to Nicaragua's neighbors in an effort to buttress democracy in the region. We were responding to Nicaragua's militarism and orientation towards repression and violence, rather than the other way around as is sometimes alleged.
7. COMMENT: Reina is very well tied in to International Socialist movement and has impeccable Communist contacts, if not credentials. He is obviously uncomfortable over drift of events in Nicaragua and within extreme left in Salvador. He may also see dilemma in his strong leftist ties and professed desire to remain patriotic Honduran. He professed confusion at several points in conversation, especially over effect he sees polarization of Central

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on  
America having a traditional, non-violent left.

8. All the same we cannot rule out possibility that Reina, with his Marxist ties and friendships, has a hidden agenda. Most plausible theory would be that he seeks to serve as another conduit for FDR/FMLN ideas very much in the style of Colonel Majano.

9. Our conversation was cut short under pressure of time. Reina obviously had more to say about Central America situation as it affects Honduras specifically. We wouldn't be surprised if we heard from him again shortly.

*JN*  
NEGROPONTE

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