

TELEGRAM

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FROM	AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA	CLASSIFICATION SECRET UNCLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652 XXXXX TAGS: SUBJECT:	12356: DECL: OADR MPOL, MASS, HO SECURITY ASSISTANCE POLICIES AND PRIORITIES	CN: 7317
ACTION:	SECSTATE WASHDC	
INFO:	USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PN JCS WASHDC SECDEF WASHDC CDR USASAALA FT CLAYTON PN USAFSO HOWARD AFB PN COMUSNAVSO FT AMADOR PN USCINCLANT NORFOLK VA	Dept of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Release () Excise () Deny <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Declassify Date <u>6/6/00</u> Exemption _____
	██████████ TEGUCIGALPA 7317	
REF:	USCINCSO 242240Z AUGUST 82	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ██████████ - ENTIRE TEXT 2. General Nutting proposes in ref tel that we consider a "United States policy determination to neutralize any Nicaraguan offensive military action outside sovereign Nicaraguan land, sea and air space." 	
AMB DBM POL-2 DAO MILGP	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. In the case of Honduras, I would concur with the fore-going policy proposal if we added the words "beyond the capacity of Honduras to ^{meet} cope with its own conventional forces." Such an approach would, I believe, be more consistent with our desire to raise the threshold of possible 	

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OPTIONAL FORM 15C
(Formerly FS-413
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Dept. of State)

direct United States military involvement here as high as possible. It would also be consistent with the Honduran military's desire to retain responsibility for their defense to the maximum extent possible. The Hondurans have the will to defend themselves; they also have many of the requisite skills; but being a poor country they lack the material means. That is where they count on us for the most help.

4. Additionally, modified formulation along lines I am suggesting would avoid apparently sweeping implications of General Nutting's proposed formulation and also avoid risk of creating exaggerated expectations within Honduran military here. I further believe we should avoid any policy declarations which might have effect of reducing Honduran sense of vigilance in face of continuing violations of their territorial integrity by Nicaragua. (See, for example, TEGUCIGALPA 7165 for compendium of more than twenty such violations since January 30, which, under General Nutting's formula, could arguably have triggered use of United States forces.)

5. In short, I believe our present approach of confidence building measures, combined with strengthening a balanced conventional/unconventional Honduran capability is best course for USG. Our security umbrella should be there such as that implied by the airfield access agreement or

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a possible joint-use naval base; but to extent possible it should be ~~xxxx~~ in the background with the Hondurans themselves out in front.

6. Finally, I welcome General Nutting's support for our recommendation that urgent consideration be given to providing F-5 training to Honduran Air Force pilots. Lest any addressees believe this would represent a quantum jump in Honduran capabilities, my ^{understanding} ~~xxxxxxx~~ is that Honduran Super Mystere qualified pilots could be qualified ~~xxxxxxx~~ in F-5's in considerably less than six months.

JEN
NEGROPONTE