

# TELEGRAM

014682

INDICATE  
 COLLECT  
 CHARGE TO

A227

	FROM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA	CLASSIFICATION <del>SECRET</del> UNCLASSIFIED	EXDIS
E.O. 12812	12356: DECL: OADR		CN: 10600
TAGS:	OVIP (REAGAN, RONALD W.), HO, GT		
SUBJECT:	RIOS MONTT PARTICIPATION IN SAN PEDRO EVENTS		
ACTION:	SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT/IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE NIACT/IMMEDIATE		
INFO:	AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE		
	<del>SECRET</del> TEGUCIGALPA 10600		
	EXDIS	DECAPTIONED	
	WHITE HOUSE FOR BILL HENKEL		
	WHITE HOUSE ALSO PLEASE REPEAT TO RON FULLER IN SAN PEDRO		
	1. <del>SECRET</del> ENTIRE TEXT		
	2. Ambassador was summoned to Presidential Palace by Doctor thirty Suazo afternoon November/28 to discuss Rios Montt participa- four tion in December/1 events at San Pedro. Also attending meeting were Foreign Minister Paz Barnica, Minister of Presidency Flores and Embassy Public Affairs Officer Arcos.		
AMB DCM POL	3. Foreign Minister recalled that when initial invitation to Rios Montt had been extended at our request so that he could hold bilateral with President Reagan, invitation had		

DRAFTED BY: AMB:JDNegroponete:kjl	DRAFTING DATE 11-30-82	TEL. EXT. 211	CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY: AMB:JDNegroponete
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CLEARANCES:

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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 \_\_\_\_\_

clearly specified that Rios Montt expected to arrive  
afternoon December four perhaps an hour or two before  
President Reagan's arrival. GOH was now therefore some-  
what taken aback by call from Guatemalan Foreign Minister  
who informed Paz Barnica that Rios Montt intended to visit  
Salvador for meetings with President Magana December two  
and "had decided" to come to Tegucigalpa Friday,  
December three. It was further Rios Montt's ~~XX~~ intention  
to travel together with Doctor Suazo from ~~Tegucigalpa~~  
Tegucigalpa to San Pedro on December 4.

4. I will spare our readers the atmospherics of Doctor  
Suazo's reaction to these unexpected and rather belated  
suggestions. The long and the short of our conversation  
was that Doctor Suazo is unable to receive Rios Montt  
before the afternoon of December four and that it ~~would~~  
would be inconvenient to receive him in Tegucigalpa in  
any event since San Pedro is the locus of all prepara-  
tions for President Reagan's visit.

5. GOH therefore intends to reaffirm its invitation to  
Rios Montt for an arrival in San Pedro between two and  
two-thirty p.m. Saturday, December four. After arrival  
ceremonies, Doctor Suazo would hold bilateral of approxi-  
mately one hour's length with Rios Montt whereupon latter  
would proceed to his hotel awaiting bilateral with Presi-  
dent Reagan. GOH understands that Rios Montt is probably

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Not rpt not interested in substantive economic discussions because of the nature of his delegation and his desire that his first meeting with any American official on this visit be with President Reagan.

6. Doctor Suazo made clear that he did not expect any press conferences or press declarations to be made after his bilateral with Rios Montt and GOH also intends to make clear that for sake of uniformity with program being elaborated/~~none~~ <sup>neither</sup> of the <sup>two</sup> Central American ~~Presidents~~ <sup>Presidents</sup> will be holding ~~no~~ <sup>press</sup> conferences until after President Reagan's departure.

7. Doctor Suazo/<sup>was</sup> also very clear that his program simply does not allow any possibility of receiving Rios Montt before the date ~~and time~~ already indicated.

8. Finally, GOH strongly suspects that Rios Montt's suggestion of arriving twenty-four hours <sup>was earlier</sup> ~~than~~ invited is designed to take advantage of ~~inexorable~~ <sup>inevitable</sup> press focus on Honduras during that time. Suazo is determined that there be no publicity prior to President Reagan's arrival which might in any ~~way~~ way undermine impact of our President's visit.

9. GOH and ourselves continue to expect Guatemalan delegation for nine a.m. meeting Thursday, December two at San Pedro military airbase for "walkthrough" of visit arrangements.

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10. After this message written Foreign Minister Paz Barnica called me to say that he had subsequently spoken twice to his Guatemalan counterpart. In face of Paz Barnica's explanations, Rios Montt has now reportedly abandoned idea of December three arrival in Yaguajay Tegucigalpa. He is now suggesting ten a.m. arrival at San Pedro December four "whether or not Suazo is there to greet him". Paz Barnica told me that he intended to review matter again with President Suazo morning December one.

11. COMMENT: After a couple of false starts, GOH and GOG may be reaching agreement on Rios Montt arrival time.

MESEDPONTE

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