

TELEGRAM

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AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA	UNCLASSIFIED	R

E.O. ~~11652X~~ 12356: N/A
 TAGS: SOPN, HO
 SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S COMMENTS ON NEWSWEEK ARTICLE
 ACTION: SECSTATE WASHDC
 UNCLASSIFIED TEGUCIGALPA 9683
 REF: FOR ARA DAS BOSWORTH FROM NEGROPONTE
 NEGROPONTE/BOSWORTH TELECON NOVEMBER 2
 1. Herewith Embassy's informal translation of EL TIEMPO November 2 story based on Ambassador Negroponte's remarks upon emerging from meeting November 1 with President Suazo and Congressman Billy Tauzin.
 2. BEGIN TEXT: The Ambassador of the United States of America in Honduras, Mr. John Dimitri Negroponte, stated yesterday that he had not seen the text of an article published ~~published~~ by the prestigious magazine of that country, NEWSWEEK. The article blamed the Ambassador for having exceeded that northern country's policy in the region, and particularly in Honduras, as regards Nicaragua.
 "I have explained many times our policy in Honduras. I have the impression that this article (in NEWSWEEK) contains many errors and, above all, that it was written

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DRAFTED BY:	XXXXXXXXXXXX	DRAFTING DATE	TEL. EXT.	CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY:
	AMB:JDNegroponte:kjl	11-3-82	211	AMB:JDNegroponte
CLEARANCES:				

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Dept of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
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[by someone who is not in favor of our policies here in Central America," said Negroponte in televised interview.

He pointed out he did not know to ~~whom~~ whom or to what to attribute this accusation, "but we support the peaceful policies of Honduras because our programs focus on the economic development of the country. We have a very modest program of military aid in order for you (the Hondurans) to defend your territory, your territorial integrity, and your sovereignty."

Finally Mr. Negroponte said that his country has supported, supports, and will continue to support the Honduran peace initiative for the region "that was incorporated into the declaration of San Jose, Costa Rica." END TEXT.

~~XXXXHenceforthEmbassywillnotmakeanycommenton~~
~~substanceofNEWSWEEKarticle~~

3. We assume TIEMPO article is basis for Reuters item mentioned by ~~XXXX~~ Bosworth in ref telecon. Henceforth Embassy will not make any comment on substance of NEWSWEEK article.

NEGROPONTE

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