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INFO RUEHCR / AMEMBASSY BELIZE 1492
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CLASS: SECRET

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DRFTD: AMB: JUNEGROPONTE

CLEAR: NONE

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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: BH, UK, XX

SUBJECT: MEETING VITH BRITISH PARTIAMENTALIAN DONAID

THOMPSON

1. FINAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 26 AMBASSADOR MET WITH VISITING BRITISH PARLIAMENTARIAN DONALD THOMPSON. IN ADDITION TO GENERAL REVIEW OF HONDURAS SITUATION, QUESTION OF BRITISH MILITARY PRESENCE IN BELIZE WAS DISCUSSED. IN REPLY TO QUESTION, THOMPSON SAID HMG COMMITTED TO A CONTINUED MILITARY PRESENCE IN BELIZE AND APPRECIATED THE ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES A WITHDRAWAL COULD HAVE. THOMPSON SAID HE THOUGHT BRITISH PRESENCE IN AND OF ITSELF PROBABLY DETERRED CUBAN ADVENTURISM IN BELIZE, THOUGH ONE COULD NEVER BE CERTAIN IN SUCH MATTERS. HE ALSO SAID THAT MILITARY SERVICE IN BELIZE WAS QUITE POPULAR WITH THE TROOPS AND NOT CONTROVERSIAL POLITICALLY AT HOME. NEGROPONTE

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