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TEGUCIGALPA 6803

AS28

LB
 VZCZCTGI *
 RR RUEHC RUESMG RUEHSN RUEOZHA RUEKJCS
 RUEADWW
 DE RUEHTG #6803 180 **
 ZNY SSSSS ZZH
 R 292100Z JUN 83
 FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
 TO RUEHC / SECSTATE WASHDC 5470
 INFO RUESMG / AMEMBASSY MANAGUA 5120
 RUEHSN / AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR 9321
 RUEOZHA / USCINGSO QUARRY HTS PN
 RUEKJCS / SECDEF WASHDC
 RUEKJCS / JCS WASHDC
 RUEADWW / WHITEHOUSE WASHDC
 BT
 S E C R E T TEGUCIGALPA 06803

CLASS: SECRET
 CHRGE: PROG 6/29/83
 APPRV: AMB:JDNEGROPONTE
 CRFTD: AMB:JDNEGROPONTE
 CLEAR: NONE
 DISTR: AMB DCM POL-2
 MILGP DAO

R

E.O. 12356: OADR
 TAGS: PREL, MARR, MASS, PINS
 SUBJECT: GENERAL GORMAN MEETING WITH GENERAL ALVAREZ

1. ~~SECRET~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. GENERALS GORMAN AND ALVAREZ MET FOR TWO HOURS MORNING JUNE TWENTY-EIGHT AT HONDURAN MILITARY HEADQUARTERS. ALSO IN ATTENDANCE WERE AMBASSADOR NEGROPONTE, ACTING MILGRP COMMANDER PADRON, AND GORMAN'S AIDE MAJOR FREEMAN. ON HONDURAN SIDE, AIR FORCE COMMANDER COLONEL WALTER LOPEZ AND ARMED FORCES CHIEF OF STAFF COLONEL BUESO ALSO PARTICIPATED.
3. AMONG SUBJECTS DISCUSSED WERE POSSIBLE UPCOMING EXERCISES, POSSIBLE VISIT TO RMTG BY GENERAL VESSEY AND VIDES CASANOVA IN JULY, AND HONDURAN MILITARY EQUIPMENT NEEDS.
4. TWO TOPICS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST CAME UP. FIRST, GENERAL ALVAREZ GAVE US LIST OF ARMED FORCES NEEDS FOR EIGHT C-130 CAPABLE AIRFIELDS. THESE FIELDS ARE NEEDED IN CONJUNCTION WITH HONDURAN REQUIREMENT TO UPGRADE THEIR FORCE MOBILITY AND ABILITY TO DEPLOY RAPIDLY TO ANY CRISIS POINT ON BORDERS WITH NICARAGUA, EL SALVADOR AND GUATEMALA. LOCATIONS MENTIONED BY ALVAREZ WERE SAN LORENZO, JAMAISTRAN VALLEY, AGUACATE, MARCALA, CUCUYAGA, PUERTO LEMPIRA, SANTA BARBARA AND COPAN. THE FIRST THREE FIELDS MENTIONED WERE IN ORDER OF PRIORITY. IN ADDITION, ALVAREZ ADDED, IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO EXTEND AGUACATE TO 6000 FEET SO THAT IT COULD BE USED FOR EMERGENCY LANDING OF A-37'S IN EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY WITH NICARAGUA.
5. THE OTHER POINT OF PARTICULAR INTEREST WAS THAT ALVAREZ VOLUNTEERED TO GENERAL GORMAN HONDURAN GOVERNMENT DECISION AS TO HOW IT PLANNED TO RESPOND TO CONTINUING INCIDENTS IN LAS TROJES/CIQUENTAS AREA. ALVAREZ NOTED THAT GOH DID NOT WANT TO FALL INTO NICARAGUAN TRAP OF BEING BAITED OR PROVOKED INTO SOME KIND OF CONVENTIONAL CONFRONTATION WITH NICARAGUA. AT THE SAME TIME, GOH MUST DEFEND ITS TERRITORY AND REOPEN THE SECTION OF ROAD WHICH

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IS BEING MINED, SHOT UP AND OTHERWISE HARRASSED BY THE SANDINISTAS.

6. GOH HAS THEREFORE DECIDED, ALVAREZ CONTINUED, TO SEND A BATTALION TO THE AFFECTED BORDER AREA WITH THE MISSION OF NEUTRALIZING SANDINISTA FIRE AND OPENING THE ROAD. ACCOMPANYING HONDURAN MORTARS WILL BE USED TO RESPOND TO SPECIFIC EPS ARTILLERY FIRE. IN ADDITION, HONDURAN SHARP-SHOOTERS ARE BEING SENT TO NEUTRALIZE SUCH ACTIVITIES AS SANDINISTA EMBLACEMENT OF MINES ON HONDURAN SECTION OF ROAD.

7. COMMENT: HONDURAN RESPONSE DOES NOT RPT NOT APPEAR TO BE IN SUPPORT OF NICARAGUAN INSURGENT ACTIVITIES IN JALAPA REGION. RATHER, IT APPEARS TO BE A MEASURED RESPONSE TO WHAT GOH CONSIDERS TO BE UNACCEPTABLE TRANSGRESSIONS OF ITS TERRITORY BY SANDINISTA FORCES.

8. THIS MESSAGE WAS PREPARED AFTER DEPARTURE OF GENERAL GORMAN FROM TEGUCIGALPA. NEGROPONTE
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