CHARGE TO

FROM

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

CLASSIFICATION . . . . "

CN: 3686

E.O. XX65XX TAGS:

SUBJECT:

:41

12356: DECL: OADR

PREL, XK, HO

CONTAGORA INITIATIVE: HONDURAS ACCEPTS INVITATION TO

APRIL 20-21 MEETING IN PANAMA SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MEXICO NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO:/

ACTION:

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY MANAGUA IMMEDIATE

XAMENDAGGOX MEXICOX XVIXACIX XIMMADIXADEX

AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO IMMEDIATE USMISSION USUN NY IMMEDIATE

TEGUCIGALPA

MEXÍCO ALSO FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS IN SECRETARY'S PARTY

**AMB** DCM

POL 1 151

1.

ENTIRE TEXT

SUMMARY: Honduras plans to attend Wednesday-Thursday meeting between Central American Foreign Ministers and GOH intends to stick to regional approach. Contadora Group. They ask our renewed assistance in ensuring that Salvador and Costa Rica remain firm in their support for Honduran regional thesis. Hondurans would also like to see Dominicans

DRAFTED BY AMB: JDNegroponte: kjl DRAFTING DATE TEL. EXT. 4-17-83 211 CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY: AMB: JDNegroponte

CLEARANCES:

**OPTIONAL FORM 153** (Formerly FS-413) January 1975 Dept. of State

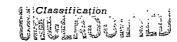
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Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir. (V) Release ( ) Excise ( ) Deny (V) Declassify Exemption

- 3. Foreign Minister Paz Barnica called Ambassador afternoon April 16 to advise that Contadora Group had extended invitation late previous evening to all Central American Foreign Ministers to participate in "consultations" in Panama on Wednesday-Thursday, April 20-21. Paz Barnica said that GOH had accepted invitation and he would be leading his country's delegation. Paz reiterated request for our assistance in influencing El Salvador and Costa Rica to remain firm in their support for the regional thesis. Paz also asked if there was any way in which we could help secure Dominican Republic attendance at the meeting. Ambassador informed Paz that we were already doing our best to stress importance of comprehensive and regional approach but that we would again convey his concern.
- 4. In morning meeting April 17 with Minister of Presidency Carlos Flores, Flores told Ambassador that GOH would adhere firmly to its regional approach. They were prepared for pressure to go into bilaterals but would insist that such issues as the military balance, foreign advisors, control of arms traffic, international verification and

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refugees could only be dealt with in regional context.

Principal GOH objective in meeting would be to secure creation of a continuing regional forum for negotiation of these issues. Flores stressed continuing aspect, because otherwise Nicaraguans and Mexicans could argue that one regional meeting had already been held and then they would merely lapse back into their insistence on bilateral formula.

- detail the content and tenor of Doctor Suazo's April 12 meeting with the Contadora Four. Much of the discussion, Flores said, had forussed on the issue of double standards. Why the fuss about fifty American advisors in Honduras when there are two-thousand Cuban military advisors in Nicaragua? Why the fuss about the anti-Sandinistas and such silence about Nicaragua's support for subversion in El Salvador? And so forth. In this connection Flores thought that pressing for internal negotiations between the FDN and the Sandinistas would be an especially good ploy on the part of the internal democracies.
- 6. As conversation ended, Doctor Suazo joined briefly.

  He seemed firm in his commitment to the regional approach.

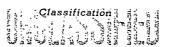
  He did, however, mention the prospect of Honduras'

  gradual isolation on this point. In this connection

  Ambassador suggested to Suazo that he might wish to



Classification



consider personal phone calls to Presidents Monge,

Magana and Herrera Campins prior to the Panama meeting.

NEGROPONTE

