TO:

DIRECTOR CASEY

FROM:

AMBASSADOR NEGROPONTE

SUBJECT:

PROPOSED INVITATION TO PRESIDENT REAGAN TO VISIT HONDURAS

REF:

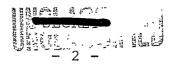
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1. I invite your attention to reference telegram reporting a suggestion by the GOH that President Reagan consider a one-day trip to Honduras as a symbolic way of launching the Caribbean Basin Initiative. The Honduran rationale is interesting.

- 2. Regional Chiefs of State such as the other member countries of the Central American Democratic Community (Salvador, Costa Rica, Honduras) could be invited; and meetings could stress themes which put our Central American policies in the best light, i.e., promotion of democracy and economic development.
- 3. Hondurans believe that additional aspect worthy of consideration would be fact that such a meeting would be way of President Reagan showing concern for Spanish-speaking Americas in wake of Falklands crisis. Also, if such a meeting were held in Honduras it would be way of highlighting fact of Honduras' recent return to democracy, a model we wish to see followed elsewhere in
- 4. I recognize this idea is a bit of a long shot; but it strikes me as a pretty good bet. Both President Suazo and Carlos Flores are extremely keen on the idea and specifically asked that I bring it to your attention.

Dept of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir. (V) Release () Excise () Deny (C) Declassify Date 6/2/98 Exemption \_\_\_\_\_





5. Believe that such a one-day visit could be safely conducted here. Perhaps ideal location would be one of the cities on the North Coast such as Ceiba or San Pedro to balance Caribbean with Central American aspect of initiative.

Amb.Negfoponte:kjl