

TELEGRAM

Aug 14 18 41 '82

INDICATE
 COLLECT
 CHARGE TO

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FROM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

CLASSIFICATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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6808

E.O. ~~XXXXX~~

12356: DECL: 8/14/88

TAGS:

PEPR, PDIP

SUBJECT:

PROPOSED INVITATION TO PRESIDENT REAGAN TO VISIT HONDURAS

ACTION:

SECSTATE WASHDC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ TEGUCIGALPA 6808

~~XXXXX~~ LIMDIS

1. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - ENTIRE TEXT

2. During course of meeting with Doctor Suazo and Minister of the Presidency Carlos Flores morning August 14, Flores recalled informal invitation extended by Doctor Suazo to President Reagan to visit Honduras extended during their July 14 meeting in Oval Room.

AMB

3. Flores went on to say that idea of possible Presidential visit still a subject of keen interest to GOH and he elaborated four reasons why such visit might be of mutual interest.

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4. First, President Reagan could use such a visit for a symbolic inaugural of the Caribbean Basin ~~XXXXX~~ Initiative. Second, it would be opportunity for the President to reaffirm U.S. support for and interest in the Spanish-

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DRAFTING DATE

8-14-82

TEL. EXT.

211

CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY:

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CLEARANCES:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CLASSIFICATION

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

50153-101

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
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speaking countries of the Hemisphere in aftermath of Falklands crisis. Third, it would be an opportunity to boost democracy in the region and perhaps such a one-day Presidential visit to Honduras could include the other Chiefs of State of the Central American Democratic Community. Finally, Flores said, such a visit by President Reagan would provide an opportunity for international opinion to focus on Central America in its most positive light, e.g., the promotion of democracy and economic development.

5. In reply I pointed out to Suazo and Flores that arranging for such a visit by President Reagan could prove to be ~~an~~ extremely difficult and I certainly didn't want them to get their hopes up. On the other hand, I acknowledged that the idea of some kind of presidential follow-up after passage of the CBI was indeed an extremely interesting one. I promised to report their suggestion to Washington and get back to them in due course.

6. As if anticipating the possibility that Costa Rica would be the alternative location for such a visit, Flores added the thought that President Reagan's visit to Honduras, possibly to one of the cities on the Caribbean coast rather than Tegucigalpa, would serve as an encouragement to a country which had just returned to the way of democracy.

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

NEGROPONTE

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(Formerly FS-413A)
January 1975
Dept. of State