

TELEGRAM

INDICATE
 COLLECT
 CHARGE TO

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FROM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA CLASSIFICATION ~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

E.O. 11652X
TAGS:
SUBJECT:

12065: RDS 4/28/2002 (NEGROPONTE, John D.) OR-M
PTER, HO, PINS, EAIR
HONDURAN HIJACKING INCIDENT - MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SUAZO

CN: 3593

7

ACTION:
INFO

SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT/IMMEDIATE
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PN IMMEDIATE

~~SECRET~~ TEGUCIGALPA 3593

DECAPTIONED

EXDIS MILITARY ADDRESSEE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

REF: (A) (81) STATE 109769; (B) USCINCSO DTG 281900Z APR 82

1. ~~SECRET~~ - ENTIRE TEXT
2. President Suazo called me to his office at 1530 local time April 28 to discuss hijacking case. Also present in Suazo's office were Commander-in-Chief General Alvarez and Acting Foreign Minister Rosales Abella, among others. Alvarez said he wished to know our attitude towards incident since a number of U.S. citizens on board.
3. I read to assembled group excerpts from reftel A stressing our policy of firmness in rejecting substantive terrorist demands while also urging that GOH do its best to buy time.
4. Alvarez said GOH rejected all substantive demands and

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DRAFTED BY: AMB:JDNegroponte:kjl	DRAFTING DATE 4-28-82	TEL. EXT. 211	CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY: AMB:JDNegroponte
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CLEARANCES:

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

50153-101

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
() Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify
Date 6/1/98 Exemption _____

would try to resolve matter peacefully. But, as last
~~we~~ resort, GOH might have to use force. Alvarez wanted my
 view on that eventuality. I responded that in
~~the~~ last analysis, it was their
 call. Whereupon I mentioned that we might be able to
 offer some technical backstop help from outside of
 country (reftel B); but that I would need to consult
 with Washington and USCINCSO before being able to offer
 it definitively. Alvarez was interested but said he did
 not rpt not foresee calling on us for that kind of help
 until early morning April 29.

5. For his part, Dr. Suazo was outraged by entire
 situation and it was obvious he was in no mood to give
 in to demands. He said he was moving immediately to
 push a decree through Congress updating Honduras' inadequate
 penal code.

6. We agreed to stay in touch as situation unfolds.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: Request that SOUTHCOM two to
 five-man team stand by morning April 29 in event GOH
 requests our technical assistance. Believe best point of
 entry would be Comayagua airport.

~~HERE~~ NEGROPONTE