COLLECT CHARGE TO

FROM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA CLASSIFICATION STORES فَيْ فَا لَيْهِا لَمِهِ لِمَا فَاعِدَا فَعِيدًا فَهِا مَا رَا

ON: 2109

**<u> 2283kk</u>**.O.3 TAGS:

GDS 2/15/88 (NEGROPONTE, John D.) OR-M 12065:

SREF, SHUM, HO, UNHCR

SUBJECT:

UNHCR'S IMPLEMENTING AGENCY IN HONDURAS

ACTION:

SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO:

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR USMISSION GENEVA USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TEGUCIGALPA 2109

REF:

(A) GENEVA 2936, (B) STATE 66567

- ENTIRE TEXT

In reply to reftels, Embassy officer is now visiting refugee camps along Salvadoran border and expected back morning March 17. Expect to have fuller report at that time. Meanwhile, following interim reply is provided.

AME DCM POL-2 ECON AID ICA CONS DAO MILGP

We are inclined to support Bazoche proposal to accept INAMEN GOH requirement of working with CEDEN. politically loaded question relating to strong, and we believe justified, opinion of various GOH agencies that at least some former CEDEN field personnel were diverting relief supplies to Salvadoran guerrillas. It is this judgment

DRAFTED BY:

AMB: JDNegroponte: kjl

DRAFTING DATE 3-15=82

TEL. EXT. 211 CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY:

AMB: JDNegroponte

CLEARANCES:

POL: DShaw

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

50153-101

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

Classification.

on part of GOH which caused it to support new, restructured CEDEN leadership.

- Our view is that as long as issue of implementing agency remains in slightest doubt, old CEDEN leadership will seize every opportunity to cast doubt on qualifications of its successors. It will also use such arguments as the potential loss of support from various PVO's in Europe and the United States with which it had close Once GOH decision is firmed up, however, and UNECR and ourselves show our support for new arrangement, then we believe the dust will settle and those genuinely interested in helping the refugees will get back to their humanitarian mission. Illustrative of this point is fact that in December when some of the more politically minded CEDEN relief workers walked off the job at the refugee site at La Virtud, those working in Colomoncagua said they intended to stay on the job and accept whatever arrangement furthered their humanitarian mission.
- 5. We believe UNHCR has become overly concerned with internal relief agency politics. This posture on their part runs risk of appearing to interfere in political question of great import to GOH in the name of preserving "efficiency". We believe UNHUR would be much better advised to show its support for GOH by falling in with new CEDEN leadership, forgetting about CODE and getting on with the humanitarian task at hand.

Classification