

DEC 23 17 02 '81

# TELEGRAM

INDICATE  
 COLLECT  
 CHARGE TO

A123

FROM Amembassy TEGUCIGALPA CLASSIFICATION [REDACTED] [REDACTED] R

E.O. 11652X  
TAGS:  
SUBJECT:

12065: XDS-3 12/23/81 (NEGROPONTE, John D.) OR-M  
PEPR, PINT? HO, VE, XK, CS, CO, ES  
CENTRAL AMERICA REGIONAL GROUPING

CN: 9491 7

ACTION: SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY

[REDACTED] TEGUCIGALPA 9491

REF: NODIS  
TEGUCIGALPA 9407 **DECAPTIONED**

1. [REDACTED] - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. I have not yet heard back from President Paz in regard to our conversation of December 18. I was thinking in terms of following up during the early part of next week.
3. On assumption that Paz responds favorably, what does Department envisage as next step? My suggestion would be that, if Paz is favorably disposed, I urge him to get in contact with counterparts in Salvador and Costa Rica. I would also advise him to get in touch with the Venezuelans. I recognize that this recommended course of action risks our losing some control over the process because, for example, Paz is likely to wish to raise matter

AMB  
DCM

DRAFTED BY: AMB:JDNegroponte:kjl	DRAFTING DATE 12-23-81	TEL. EXT. 211	CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY: AMB:JDNegroponte
CLEARANCES:			

[REDACTED]  
CLASSIFICATION

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 \_\_\_\_\_

with Guatemalans and possibly even Belize as well.

Counterbalancing this risk would be the possible benefit of having prompted Central Americans themselves to initiate some form of concerted regional action.

4. In short it seems to me that tactical judgment which Washington must make is whether we wish this exercise to be on a tightly controlled Washington leash or whether we wish to push the concept hard but entrust implementation and evolution of the details to the Central Americans themselves. From Tegucigalpa perspective, latter course of action would <sup>rpt not</sup> appear unduly risky.

NEGROPONTE