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INDICATE COLLECT CHARGE TO



FROM

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

CN: 5571

E.O. MXXXX

TAGS: SUBJECT:

DECL: 12356: OADR

PREL, PBTS, OAS, UNSC, HO, ES, XK

GENERAL GORMAN MEETING WITH DOCTOR SUAZO

ACTION:

SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO:

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA AMEMBASSY CARACAS AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA AMEMBASSY MANAGUA AMEMBASSY MEXICO AMEMBASSY PANAMA AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR USMISSION USUN NY

> 5571 TEGUCIGALPA

USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PN

ENTIRE TEXT

New USCINCSO, General Paul Gorman, accompanied by Ambassador, called on President Suazo afternoon May thirty-one.

AMB DCM POL-2 DAO MILGP

- Suazo gave Gorman his characteristic rundown of situation in Central America as he sees it. Nicaragua is the "concierge" of the Soviet Union in Central America; they want to provoke Honduras into a war; but "we won't fall into their trap".
- On El Salvador, Suazo repeated criticism that El Salvadorans not tough enough on Nicaraguans. Honduras still feels it is carrying the main burden of calling Nicaragua's transgressions

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Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir. (*) Release (/) Excise () Deny (Declassify 9K Exemption

said GOH was now laying a lot on the line and agreeing to host regional military center. There was domestic political cost involved for Hondurans but they were prepared to do what was necessary in defense of democracy in the region. In exchange Suazo felt Salvadorans should formally denounce Nicaragua at OAS. Honduras would be prepared to join with El Salvador in such an exercise. Perhaps they could

co-sponsor some such denunciation together.

- 5. Another area, Suazo said, was desirability of rapid progress on border issue. Accelerating border progress would make cooperation on Regional Military Training Center easier to explain to Honduran people. This is an "urgent and fundamental" issue, Suazo said. In reply to question, Suazo said he would be prepared to meet with Magana to review border matters. "I will wait for him at the Air Base in Tegucigalpa anytime. He should bring his Defense Minister along with him. General Alvarez and I will sit down with them and reach political decision to resolve the matter once and for all within a specified time frame", Suazo added. General Gorman noted that we were prepared to do what ever we could on technical side in assisting the completion of a proper border survey.
- 6. On U.S./Honduran relations, Suazo reaffirmed his strong commitment to friendship between our two countries



and on common perception of the situation in the region.

He congratulated General Gorman on his new responsibilities
and noted the importance of his mission.

7. COMMENT: Suazo's willingness to meet with Magana on border question fits in with Foreign Minister Paz Barnica's recommendation to us of last week (see TEGUCIGALPA 5551.)

His idea of Honduras and El Salvador taking some sort of OAS initiative vis-a-vis Nicaragua would also appear to merit exploration. It may also be reflection of Presidency Minister's idea on the subject reported TEGUCIGALPA 5167 (NOTAL).

NEGROPONTE

