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TAGS: SUBJECT: PINS, HO PRESIDENT SUAZO

FOR AMBASSADOR NEGROPONTE FROM UNDERSECRETARY ARMACOST

1. (8) - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. PER OUR DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON, YOU SHOULD SEE PRESIDENT SUAZO AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE SECURITY ISSUE ALONG LINES OF FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS:

--IN OUR CONVERSATIONS YOU HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN TO ME ABOUT VARIOUS POSSIBILITIES FOR EFFORTS BY ONE ELEMENT OR ANOTHER TO UNDERTAKE DESTABILIZING ACTS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST HONDURAS DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS.

--YOUR DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED COLLEAGUES IN OTHER CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES HAVE SIMILAR CONCERNS ABOUT THE SITUATIONS IN THEIR COUNTRIES.

--OUR AMBASSADORS ALSO HAVE SIMILAR CONCERNS ABOUT THE POTENTIAL THREAT TO THEM AND THEIR EMBASSIES FROM EITHER THE EXTREME LEFT OR THE EXTREME RIGHT. AND, AS YOU KNOW, OUR EMBASSIES ARE ON AN ADVANCED STATE OF ALERT.

PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE NEED FOR INCREASED CAUTION IN SEVERAL CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES DURING THIS PARTICULARLY TOLATILE PERIOD.

--WHILE WE ARE NOT PREDICTING ANY ATTEMPTS AGAINST DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND CHIEFS OF STATE, ALL CONCERNED US AGENCIES ARE ON ALERT FOR ANY HARD INFORMATION ON THREATS, WHICH WE WILL SHARE WITH YOU.

--IN THE MEANTIME, PRUDENCE IN THIS PARTICULARLY DANGEROUS PERIOD IS IN ORDER. WE WOULD LIKE TO ENSURE THAT EVERY POSSIBLE STEP HAS BEEN TAKEN TO ENSURE YOUR PERSONAL SECURITY.

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafelt
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