INDICATE COLLECT CHARGE TO

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

寄すっ CLASSIFICATION

12356

E.O. 14652X

TAGS: SUBJECT:

DNG: CO 3/11/93

PREL, HO, XK

MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER

CN: 2398

ACTION:

DIST:

AMB

DCM

POL

CHRON

INFO:

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA AMEMBASSY CARACAS AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA AMEMBASSY MANAGUA AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY PANAMA AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMONGO

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR NAMES OF THE PARTY OF THE PARTY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK SECRET TEGUCIGALPA

DECAPTIONED

EXDIS

REF: (A) TEGUCIGALPA 2097 (B) SAN SALVADOR 1767

2398

S-ENTIRE TEXT.

- Ambassador accompanied by political counselor met with Foreign Minister Edgardo Paz Barnica March 11 to review diplomatic developments during Ambassador's consultations in Washington.
- Paz went over much of the same ground he had covered with DCM (ref A) concerning state of play on proposed Central American Foreign Ministers' meeting. He still had

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TEL. EXT.

CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY:

DCM: SCLOWMA

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 (V) Declassify Exemption

no rpt no indication that the Sandinistas would attend.
Paz made the following new points:

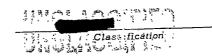
- The original Chavez Mena draft for a Central

 American Treaty of Peace and Cooperation was clearly
 unacceptable; "the Sandinistas would have signed it
 in a moment". The new draft which was produced by
 the three Honduran, Salvadoran and Costa Rican
 experts in a great improvement, but it still has
 deficiencies. (Comment: Ref B, which contains
 the draft treaty text provided by the GOES to
 San
 Embassy/Salvador, does not indicate whether it is
 the original text or the revised one. Considering
 the weaknesses that text contains, we hope it is
 Paziis, of course, unaware that we
 the original one. Example 12.
- have seen any text as that treaty. END COMMENT)
 The Mexican position towards the five-plus-five

 proposal was unclear. Sepulveda had been distinctly
 unenthusiastic when Paz discussed the subject with
 him in Cartagena, but Volio had informed him by
 phone that President de la Madrid had just written
 a letter to Monge which expressed support for
 the proposed meeting. Paz said he understood the
 letter had been published by the Mexico press.
- -- Paz noted another recent hopeful sign out of

 Mexico was a letter he had just received from

 Sepulveda offering Mexico's support for Honduras!



so far unsuccessful petition for Non-Aligned Movement observer status.

- was still not one hundred percent clear. Castillo told Paz the GOG would attend. But Rios Montt had earlier said otherwise and Castillo had commented to Honduran Foreign Ministry advisor Pineda Milla (who has made two trips recently to Guatemala) that President Rios Montt was not interested in participation inppeace foraaand other regional meetings because they all were too obviously managed by the U.S.
- -- The GOES' announcement to advance the date of their elections was very good news. Paz planned to make a favorable comment during his next press conference.
- -- News reports announcing the attendance of the Presidents of Venezuela and Costa Rica at a Peace Forum meeting in Honduras (Tegucigalpa 2368) were completely without basis.
- -- The Pope's visit to NAM Nicaragua had accomplished more inaa few hours in discrediting the Sandinistas than Honduras and its friends had been able to accomplish in a year and a half.
- -- Paz expressed some concern that left-leaning elements in Costa Rica were attempting to influence that



Classification 1

country's foreign policy toward the Contadora
line and were arguing that Honduras was discredited.
The close relationship between Honduras and Costa
Rica was of fundamental importance and Paz hoped
the U.S. could exert its influence to prevent this
disturbing trend from developing any further.

-- Paz plans to do a good deal of travelling, including an informal stop in Santo Domingo around Easter and a long-postponed visit to Taiwan in April.

The Panamanian and Venezuelan Foreign Ministers also are shheduled to visit during the next two months and visits by their Bolivian and Ecuadorian counterparts are possible.

NEGROPONTE

