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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
MESSAGE CENTER

Guatemala

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EOB269 AN010911 TOR: 007/0204Z CSN: HCE386

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DE RUEHGT #0132 0062357
O 062356Z JAN 83
FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2715

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INFO AMEMBASSY BELIZE 2936
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BY Amf, NANA, DATE 1/24/06

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EXDIS
E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: BEGT, PCAT, GT
SUBJECT: (C) FMS CASH SALES TO GUATEMALA
REFS: (A) STATE 003022, (B) STATE 2945 (NOTAL),
- (C) STATE 3030 (NOTAL)

1. ~~1~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. AMBASSADOR CARRIED OUT INSTRUCTIONS REF A JANUARY 6 AT 3:30 (LOCAL HOUR) 4:30 P.M. E. S. T. AMBASSADOR READ FROM TEXT OF ANNOUNCEMENT REFTEL B AND INTERPOLATED INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED REFTEL A AT APPROPRIATE POINTS. AMBASSADOR EMPHASIZED THE EXTRAORDINARY AMOUNT OF CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS, AND THE FACT THAT THIS WAS A CASH SALE AND NOT A CREDIT SALE. AMBASSADOR EXPANDED ON SECOND PART OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT WITH REGARD TO THE FORTHCOMING \$10 MILLION ESF LOAN SCHEDULED TO BE SIGNED JANUARY 13 BY REFERRING TO THE \$37.6 MILLION WORTH OF CCC GUARANTEES OF COMMERCIAL LOANS FOR THE PURCHASE OF U.S. AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS BY GUATEMALAN IMPORTERS DURING FISCAL YEAR 1983 UNDER THE CCC'S GSM-102 PROGRAM WHICH EMBASSY IS INFORMED WILL SOON BE ANNOUNCED OFFICIALLY BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND THE POSSIBILITY OF THE CONCLUSION OF A FY-83 PL-480 TITLE I PROGRAM FOR WHEAT AND VEGETABLE OIL IN RESPONSE TO THE GOG REQUEST OF LAST YEAR. AMBASSADOR ALSO TOUCHED IN GENERAL ON THE MATTER OF PLANNING FIGURES FOR FY-84. ALL THE USUAL CAVEATS WERE INCLUDED. PRESIDENT RIOS MONTT WAS APPROPRIATELY IMPRESSED BY THE POTENTIAL U.S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE.

3. AMBASSADOR STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF PROGRESS ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES AND SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED A RESPONSE WITH REGARD TO PRESIDENT

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RIOS MONTT'S EARLIER PROMISE TO INVESTIGATE THE ALLEGED INCIDENT AT ESTANCIA DE LA VIRGIN (NONPAPER WAS LEFT WITH PRESIDENT RIOS MONTT BY AMBASSADOR WHEN EXTENDING PRESIDENT REAGAN'S INVITATION TO RIOS MONTT TO MEET WITH HIM IN HONDURAS). PRESIDENT RIOS MONTT SAID THAT HE HAD DETERMINED THAT NOTHING HAD OCCURRED BUT HE PROMISED TO PROVIDE THE EMBASSY ASAP WITH A WRITTEN COMMUNICATION GIVING THE RESULTS OF HIS INVESTIGATION. AMBASSADOR FOLLOWED UP WITH ANOTHER NONPAPER DESCRIBING THE EVENTS WHICH ALLEGEDLY OCCURRED AT DOS R'S PURSUANT TO REFTEL C AND MADE POINTS IN REFTEL. PRESIDENT RIOS MONTT SAID HE WAS VERY HAPPY TO RECEIVE THIS KIND OF INFORMATION FROM THE EMBASSY SINCE HIS MINISTERS SIMPLY INFORMED HIM THAT TEN OR TWELVE MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES WERE KILLED AT SUCH AND SUCH A PLACE ON SUCH AND SUCH A DATE, BUT GAVE HIM NO DETAILS CONCERNING THE ACTION WHICH TOOK PLACE. HE PROMISED TO INVESTIGATE THE INCIDENT FORTHWITH.

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4. THE MEETING WAS VERY POSITIVE AND RIOS MONTT EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR THE OPENING OF THE OFFICIAL DOOR, SAYING THAT HE HAD BEEN CONVINCED THAT THE USG HAD NEVER ABANDONED GUATEMALA. HE COMMENTED THAT THE GUERRILLAS IN COUNTRY AND ITS PROPOGANDA MACHINE ABROAD WOULD NOW LAUNCH CONCERTED ATTACKS ON BOTH GOVERNMENTS AND HE DID NOT EXCLUDE TERRORIST ACTIONS AGAINST THE AMBASSADOR AND MEMBERS OF THE EMBASSY STAFF. I WOULD HAVE SOUGHT HIS VIEWS ON BELIZE, BUT ALL THE CABINET MINISTERS HAD ARRIVED FOR A MEETING AND WERE AWAITING THE PRESIDENT TO BEGIN THE REGULAR WEEKLY SESSION.
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