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USSOUTHCOM QUARRY HTS PN IMMEDIATE OOOO  
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AMCONSUL CURACAO IMMEDIATE  
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TAGS: SOPN  
SUBJECT: ARA GUIDANCES/BRIEFING NOVEMBER 29, 1983

1. GUIDANCES PREPARED FOR DEPT. NOON PRESS BRIEFING  
NOVEMBER 29:

ANNOUNCEMENT: AVAILABILITY OF TEXT OF DEPUTY SECRETARY  
DAM SPEECH --

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC

REVIEWED by JEB  
 RELEASE  DECLASSIFY  
 EXCISE  DECLASSIFY  
 DENY  Non-response  
FOI, EO or PA exemptions \_\_\_\_\_

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CLASSIFY as \_\_\_\_\_  
 DOWNGRADE TS to  S or \_\_\_\_\_

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AVAILABLE IN THE PRESS OFFICE IS THE PREPARED TEXT OF THE SPEECH TO BE GIVEN BY DEPUTY SECRETARY KENNETH DAM TODAY IN NEW ORLEANS. THE SUBJECT IS THE CARIBBEAN BASIN INITIATIVE AND CENTRAL AMERICA. THE TEXT IS EMBARGOED UNTIL DELIVERY AT 1:30 P.M. EST.

-- GUATEMALA: US DELAYING SPARE PARTS SALE? --

Q: THERE IS AN AP REPORT THIS MORNING SUGGESTING THAT THE US IS "DELAYING" THE SALE OF HELICOPTER SPARE PARTS TO GUATEMALA, BECAUSE IT IS UPSET ABOUT INCREASING HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THAT COUNTRY, INCLUDING MURDERS AND KIDNAPPINGS OF EMPLOYEES OF A US-SPONSORED BILINGUAL EDUCATION PROJECT. CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT?

A: NO CHANGE IN COMMITMENT. THE ADMINISTRATION DID APPROVE IN JANUARY THE CASH SALE OF CERTAIN PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED ITEMS INCLUDING A LIMITED QUANTITY OF AIRCRAFT SPARE PARTS AND SAFETY-OF-FLIGHT EQUIPMENT. IT IS A FACT, HOWEVER, THAT NO DELIVERIES HAVE BEEN MADE PURSUANT TO THE OFFER.

Q: BUT IS THE US DELIBERATELY DELAYING THOSE DELIVERIES TO INDICATE ITS DISPLEASURE WITH THE GUATEMALAN UNCLASSIFIED.  
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GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE TOWARD HUMAN RIGHTS?

A: I'M NOT GOING TO GO BEYOND WHAT I'VE ALREADY SAID ON THE SUBJECT.

-- EL SALVADOR: US CONSIDERING "CONCRETE STEPS" IN REACTION TO DEATH SQUADS? --

Q: THERE IS A PRESS REPORT THIS MORNING (RTIMBERG, BALTIMORE SUN) SUGGESTING THAT US OFFICIALS ARE THINKING OF MORE CONCRETE STEPS TO DISPLAY THEIR FRUSTRATION WITH THE HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD OF THE SALVADORAN GOVERNMENT. IS THAT TRUE, AND CAN YOU TELL US WHAT THOSE STEPS MIGHT BE?

A: I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING NEW ON THAT SUBJECT FOR YOU. WE'VE EXPRESSED OUR SERIOUS CONCERNS ABOUT THE POLITICAL VIOLENCE IN EL SALVADOR BOTH PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY, MOST RECENTLY THROUGH AMBASSADOR PICKERING'S SPEECH IN SAN SALVADOR LAST FRIDAY. AS THE AMBASSADOR SAID, EXTREMIST TERROR OF WHATEVER IDEOLOGY REMAINS THE "ESSENTIAL STUMBLING BLOCK TO DEMOCRACY" IN EL SALVADOR, AND THE RESURGENCE OF THAT TERROR IN RECENT MONTHS IS OF MAJOR CONCERN TO US, SINCE IT CAN UNDO ALL THE PROGRESS WHICH HAS BEEN MADE IN THAT COUNTRY.

Q: BUT IS THE U.S. CONSIDERING CONCRETE STEPS, INCLUDING

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POSSIBLY CUTTING MILITARY AID, TO EXPRESS ITS DISPLEASURE WITH THE GOES' LACK OF PROSECUTION OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE VIOLENCE?

A: I'M NOT GOING TO GET INTO OPTIONS WE MIGHT OR MIGHT NOT TAKE IN A GIVEN SITUATION.

-- HONDURAS - GOH DELEGATION VISITS US? --

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Q: CAN THE DEPARTMENT CONFIRM THE RUMORS THAT AN OFFICIAL HONDURAN DELEGATION, INCLUDING GEN. ALVAREZ, WILL BE VISITING THE UNITED STATES? (NOTE TO BRIEFER:

NO PRESS REPORTS TO DATE ON THIS VISIT)

A: WE CAN CONFIRM THAT AN OFFICIAL DELEGATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF HONDURAS WILL BE VISITING THE UNITED STATES TO DISCUSS A WIDE RANGE OF ECONOMIC AND SECURITY CONCERNS.

THE DELEGATION WILL ARRIVE LATER TODAY AND DEPART SOMETIME ON DECEMBER 1.

THE DELEGATION INCLUDES HONDURAN FOREIGN MINISTER PAZ BARNICA; SECRETARY OF THE PRESIDENCY, CARLOS FLORES; AND MINISTER OF FINANCE ARTURO CORLETO.

THE GROUP WAS TO INCLUDE HONDURAN ARMED FORCES COMMANDER ALVAREZ, BUT ILLNESS HAS PREVENTED HIS ACCOMPANYING THE GROUP AND HE WILL BE REPLACED BY THE CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF JOSE BUENO ROSA.

Q: AT WHOSE REQUEST IS THE DELEGATION COMING AND WITH WHOM WILL THEY MEET?

A: THE VISIT WAS AT THE REQUEST OF THE GOVERNMENT OF HONDURAS. THE DELEGATION WILL BE MEETING WITH A NUMBER OF SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS INCLUDING THE VICE PRESIDENT. AT THE DEPARTMENT THEY WILL BE MEETING WITH THE DEPUTY SECRETARY AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

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-- GRENADA - BRITISH GRANT FOR POLICE FORCE DEVELOPMENT --

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Q: DOES THE DEPARTMENT HAVE ANY COMMENT ON PRESS REPORTS ON THE BRITISH ANNOUNCEMENT YESTERDAY OF AN IMMEDIATE GRANT OF \$1 MILLION TO GRENADA A "SUBSTANTIAL PORTION" OF WHICH WOULD REPORTEDLY BE ALLOCATED TO PURCHASING EQUIPMENT FOR A NEW GRENADIAN POLICE FORCE AND TO HELP TRAIN IT?  
--

A: WE WELCOME THE BRITISH ANNOUNCEMENT OF ASSISTANCE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW GRENADIAN POLICE FORCE, AS REQUESTED BY GRENADA'S GOVERNOR GENERAL, SIR PAUL SCOON.

2. SUMMARY OF NOON PRESS BRIEFING, NOV. 29, 198,  
(HUGHES):

SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED THE AVAILABILITY OF THE TEXT OF DEPUTY SECRETARY DAM'S SPEECH IN NEW ORLEANS TODAY ON THE CBI AND CENTRAL AMERICA, AND SAID THE SPEECH WOULD ALSO BE PIPED INTO THE PRESS ROOM FOR THOSE INTERESTED.

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ANYTHING ON THE VISA REQUEST BY NICARAGUAN INTERIOR MINISTER BORGE? SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE REQUEST HAD BEEN DENIED, AS HAS A REQUEST BY SALVADORAN CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT ROBERTO D'AUBUISSON. WHY? SPOKESMAN SAID HE HAD JUST LEARNED OF THE DECISION BEFORE THE BRIEFING BEGAN, AND HE WOULD HAVE TO POST AN EXPLANATION OF THE DECISION IN THE PRESS OFFICE LATER TODAY. ARE THE DENIALS LINKED? SPOKESMAN SAID THEY WERE NOT -- HE WAS SIMPLY RESPONDING TO THE CURIOSITY EXPRESSED ABOUT THE VISA REQUESTS OVER THE LAST FEW DAYS.

.....  
BY DENYING BORGE'S VISA, IS THIS AN EXPLICIT COMMENT ON WHAT THE ADMINISTRATION THINKS ABOUT RECENT NICARAGUAN MOVES, BY REFUSING TO SPEAK WITH A LEADING NICARAGUAN OFFICIAL? SPOKESMAN SAID WE HAVE A NUMBER OF WAYS TO UNCLASSIFIED.  
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LEARN WHAT THE NICARAGUANS ARE DOING AND THINKING. WE HAVE AN AMBASSADOR THERE. AND THE CONTADORA GROUP IS MEETING IN PANAMA ON DECEMBER 1 AND 2. THERE ARE PLENTY OF CHANNELS THROUGH WHICH TO PURSUE THESE ISSUES.

CAN YOU FIND OUT IF IT IS TRUE THAT AMBASSADOR QUINTON IN MANAGUA INDICATED TO NICARAGUAN OFFICIALS THAT BORGE WOULD GET A VISA? SPOKESMAN SAID HE DOUBTED WE WOULD GO INTO THE DETAILS OF THE AMBASSADOR'S CONVERSATIONS WITH NICARAGUAN OFFICIALS, BUT HE WOULD CHECK TO SEE IF THERE WAS ANYTHING WE COULD SAY ON THAT SUBJECT.

DOESN'T IT SEEM EXCEPTIONAL TO DENY A VISA TO THE MINISTER OF A GOVERNMENT WITH WHICH THE U.S. HAS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS? SPOKESMAN SAID BORGE'S VISA WOULD NECESSARILY REQUIRE A WAIVER, AND THE DECISION WAS MADE

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ON THE BASIS OF APPLICABLE LAW.

WHAT IS THE RELEVANCE OF CITING THE CONTADORA MEETING AS A CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATION WHEN THE U.S. ISN'T A PARTICIPANT? SPOKESMAN SAID IT WAS ONE FORUM IN WHICH THE ISSUES DEALING WITH CENTRAL AMERICA CAN BE ADDRESSED, AND EVEN THOUGH WE AREN'T A DIRECT PARTICIPANT, WE ARE AWARE OF THE DISCUSSIONS. IS THIS THE OPENING SHOT OF A NEW POLICY TO DENY ALL VISA REQUESTS FROM NICARAGUAN OFFICIALS? SPOKESMAN SAID EACH REQUEST IS DEALT WITH ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS. THIS WAS A CAREFULLY MADE DECISION.

IN MAY, D'AUBUISSON WAS GRANTED A VISA, AND DID NOT REQUIRE A WAIVER -- THAT NOW GIVES RISE TO SPECULATION THAT EITHER HE MUST HAVE DONE SOMETHING BETWEEN MAY AND THE PRESENT TO PROVOKE THE VISA REFUSAL, OR ELSE U.S. POLICY HAS CHANGED -- CAN YOU TELL US WHAT HE MIGHT HAVE

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DONE SINCE MAY FOR THIS TO HAPPEN? SPOKESMAN SAID THE

EXPLANATIONS FOR THE VISA DENIALS WOULD BE POSTED IN THE AFTERNOON. D'AUBUISSON HAS BEEN LINKED TO SALVADORAN EXILES IN THE U.S. -- IS THE U.S. TAKING ANY ACTION AGAINST THOSE PEOPLE, RUMORED TO BE INVOLVED WITH THE DEATH SQUADS? SPOKESMAN SAID HE WAS NOT TRYING TO LINK THAT ISSUE WITH D'AUBUISSON, BUT THAT WE ARE ALWAYS CONCERNED WITH THE ACTIVITIES OF RESIDENTS OF THE U.S. IF THEY ARE SHOWN TO BE AGAINST THE LAW.

IF NICARAGUA DECIDED TO RETALIATE BY DENYING ENTRANCE TO U.S. ENVOYS OR OFFICIALS, WHAT WOULD YOUR RESPONSE BE -- WOULDN'T THAT HURT U.S.-NICARAGUAN RELATIONS? SPOKESMAN REPEATED THAT HE HAD NOTHING MORE THAN THAT THE DECISION HAD BEEN MADE BASED ON APPLICABLE LAW. WHEN WAS THE DECISION MADE? SPOKESMAN SAID HE DIDN'T KNOW, BUT HAD JUST LEARNED OF IT MOMENTS BEFORE THE BRIEFING BEGAN.

YESTERDAY IN THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, THERE WAS AN ARTICLE BY DAN SOUTHERLAND, QUOTING ASST. SECY. FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ELLIOTT ABRAMS, WHO SEEMED TO BE SHIFTING U.S. POLICY -- HE SEEMED TO BE INDICATING THAT THERE SHOULD BE VERIFIABILITY OF SUCH ISSUES AS SANDINISTA PRESSURE ON THE CHURCH, ETC. DO HIS STATEMENTS IN THAT ARTICLE REFLECT U.S. POLICY, AND IF SO, COULD YOU MAKE CLEAR WHAT EXACTLY IS MEANT? SPOKESMAN SAID THAT ASST. SECY. ABRAMS REFLECTS U.S. POLICY WHEN HE SPEAKS, BUT SPOKESMAN WAS NOT AWARE OF WHAT MR. ABRAMS MIGHT HAVE SAID IN THAT PARTICULAR INTERVIEW.

ANYTHING ON SURINAME TODAY? SPOKESMAN SAID HE HAD NOTHING. SHULTZ

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