

CONFIDENTIAL

GRS 228

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FM WASHINGTON 171730Z FEB 82  
TO IMMEDIATE F C O  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 518 OF 17 FEBRUARY  
INFO PRIORITY TEGUCIGALPA, SAN JOSE.

YOUR TELNO 286: OBSERVERS FOR EL SALVADOR

1. ACCOMPANYING THE PUS ON A CALL ON EAGLEBURGER TODAY, I HANDED OVER YOUR MESSAGE ASKING THAT IT SHOULD BE DELIVERED IMMEDIATELY TO HAIG.

2. EAGLEBURGER SAID THAT THE NEWS WOULD BE EXTREMELY WELL RECEIVED. IT COULD HELP WITH OTHER COUNTRIES WHOM THE AMERICANS WERE URGING TO SEND OBSERVERS. HAIG WAS ABOUT TO SEE THE BELGIAN PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN SECRETARY TO TRY TO TWIST THEIR ARMS.

3. I TOLD EAGLEBURGER OF THE CONSIDERABLE POLITICAL DIFFICULTY AT HOME INVOLVED IN COMING TO THIS DECISION. NEVERTHELESS IT WAS DONE IN THE LIGHT OF OUR GENERAL ALLIANCE SOLIDARITY AND OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE NEED TO SHOW THE AMERICANS SUPPORT ON A MATTER OF GREAT SENSITIVITY. THE PUS AND I BOTH EMPHASISED THE POLITICAL PROBLEM AT HOME. EAGLEBURGER AGAIN SPOKE OF THE U.S. GRATITUDE FOR THIS MOVE, IN KEEPING WITH WHAT THEY TRADITIONALLY RECEIVED FROM THE BRITISH WHEN THE GOING WAS DIFFICULT.

HENDERSON

[REPETITION TO TEGUCIGALPA REFERRED FOR DEPARTMENTAL DECISION,  
REPEATED AS REQUESTED TO OTHER POST]

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EL SALVADOR STANDARD

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