

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. 117/83

OPS

cc Madis
Subject - Belize : Disput
Pt 3

SECRET

10906 - 1

OO WASHINGTON
GRS 231
SECRET
FM FCO 111020Z AUG 83
TO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON
TELEGRAM NUMBER 1340 OF 11 AUGUST
INFO IMMEDIATE BELMOPAN
BELIZE

1. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PRIME MINISTER TO PRESIDENT REAGAN IN REPLY TO HIS LETTER OF 4 AUGUST (COPY SENT TO YOU BY BAG).
2. BEGINS: I WAS GLAD TO HAVE YOUR LETTER OF 4 AUGUST ABOUT BELIZE AND CENTRAL AMERICA AND I APPRECIATE YOUR SHARING YOUR THINKING WITH ME IN THIS WAY. GEOFFREY HOWE HAD OF COURSE TOLD ME OF WHAT YOU AND GEORGE SHULTZ HAD SAID TO HIM ABOUT OUR GARRISON WHEN HE WAS IN WASHINGTON LAST MONTH.
3. I SHARE YOUR IMPRESSION OF PRIME MINISTER PRICE. HE HAS GROWN IN STATURE WITH THE INCREASED RESPONSIBILITIES OF HIS JOB. THIS WEEK'S NEWS ABOUT THE OVERTHROW OF THE RIOS MONTT REGIME IS YET ANOTHER REMINDER OF THE VOLATILITY OF THAT PART OF THE WORLD. WE DO NOT YET KNOW WHAT EFFECT IT WILL HAVE ON RELATIONS BETWEEN GUATEMALA AND BELIZE.
4. AS YOU KNOW, I AM GREATLY LOOKING FORWARD TO HAVING A FULL DISCUSSION WITH YOU ABOUT THIS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS WHEN I COME TO WASHINGTON NEXT MONTH. I HOPE TO BE IN A POSITION THEM TO TELL YOU MORE ABOUT OUR INTENTIONS WITH REGARD TO THE GARRISON IN BELIZE, AND TO HEAR HOW YOU SEE THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA AS A WHOLE.
5. MEANWHILE, YOU MAY BE SURE THAT I HAVE TAKEN CAREFUL NOTE OF ALL YOU SAY AND THAT NO IRREVOCABLE STEPS WILL BE TAKEN AS REGARDS THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE GARRISON BEFORE WE MEET. ENDS
RAYSON

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BELIZE/GUATEMALA

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