

Belize

CONFIDENTIAL

11183 - 2

GRS 443

CONFIDENTIAL

DESKBY 131430Z

FM FCO 131230Z MAR 81

TO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON

TELEGRAM NUMBER 425 OF 13 MARCH

INFO IMMEDIATE GUATEMALA CITY, BELMOPAN (PERSONAL), ROUTINE MEXICO CITY AND JKMS NEW YORK

MY TELNOS 51 TO GUATEMALA CITY AND GUIDANCE 31 AND YOUR TELNO 855:
BELIZE/GUATEMALA

1. I HAVE RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY HAIG. BEGINS. BEFORE LEAVING THE OFFICE LAST NIGHT FOR HOME, I RECEIVED THE NEWS OF YOUR ACHIEVING A BASIS FOR SETTLEMENT OF THE BELIZE PROBLEM. IT WAS A PERFECT WAY TO END A DAY WHICH BEGAN IN OTTAWA AND CONCLUDED WITH A VERY GOOD MEETING WITH YOUR COLLEAGUE, JOHN NOTT. YOUR PATIENCE, PERSEVERANCE AND STATESMANSHIP RESULTED IN FINALLY RESOLVING THIS EXTREMELY COMPLICATION ISSUE. PLEASE ACCEPT MY HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU AND ALL OF YOUR COLLEAGUES WHO WORKED SO HARD AND SO WELL. ENDS.

2. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE IN REPLY AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE OPPORTUNITY. BEGINS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS FOLLOWING THE SIGNING OF THE HEADS OF AGREEMENT WHICH PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR A SETTLEMENT OF OUR DISPUTE WITH GUATEMALA OVER BELIZE. THAT WE WERE ABLE TO REACH THIS POINT IS DUE TO THE IMAGINATION AND FLEXIBILITY SHOWN BY BOTH THE BELIZEANS AND THE GUATEMALANS DURING THE LATEST TALKS. WE ARE WELL AWARE THAT THE US ADMINISTRATION PLAYED NO SMALL PART IN CREATING THE ATMOSPHERE WHICH MADE THIS POSSIBLE. I SHOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY OF EXPRESSING MY GRATITUDE FOR YOUR HELP AND UNDERSTANDING.

3. THE HEADS OF AGREEMENT ARE A SIGNIFICANT BREAKTHROUGH. WE NOW FACE THE TASK OF NEGOTIATING THE DETAILED AGREEMENTS TO PUT THEM INTO EFFECT. I KNOW THAT WE CAN COUNT ON YOUR CONTINUING HELP THROUGH THE RELATIONSHIP WHICH YOU ARE DEVELOPING WITH GUATEMALA. I SHALL ENSURE THAT YOU ARE KEPT CLOSELY INFORMED OF

1

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

11183 - 2

PROGRESS AND HOPE THAT I MAY LET YOU KNOW IF THERE IS ANY OTHER ACTION WHICH WE THINK YOU COULD USEFULLY TAKE TO HELP THE PROCESS ALONG. ENDS.

4. AT THE SAME TIME AS DELIVERING THE MESSAGE YOU SHOULD LET THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAVE AT A HIGH LEVEL THE TEXT OF THE HEADS OF AGREEMENT CONTAINED IN MY TELNO 51. YOU SHOULD EMPHASISE THAT THESE ARE STRICTLY EMBARGOED UNTIL 1800Z ON 16 MARCH. WE ARE MOST CONCERNED THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO LEAK OF THE TEXT WHICH CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO US. IN HANDING OVER THE TEXT YOU SHOULD POINT OUT THAT THE BELIZEANS HAVE GIVEN A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT BY AGREEING TO GUATEMALA HAVING THE USE OF BOTH THE RANQUANA AND SAPODILLA CAYS. YOU SHOULD SAY THAT THE RIGHTS WILL HAVE TO BE CAREFULLY DEFINED IN THE AGREEMENT TO BE NEGOTIATED, BUT IT HAS BEEN ACCEPTED ON ALL SIDES THAT THERE IS NO QUESTION OF CESSION OF TERRITORY NOR OF ANY LEASING ARRANGEMENT.

CARRINGTON

[COPIES SENT TO NO 10 DOWNING STREET]

BELIZE/GUATEMALA LIMITED

M & C D
DEFENCE D
S AM D
NAD
UND
FUSD
PLANNING STAFF
LEGAL ADVISERS
CCD
NEWS D
INFORMATION D
PS

PS/LPS
PS/MR HURD
PS/MR RIDLEY
PS/PUS
SIR E YOUDE
MR DAY
SIR A ACLAND
MR P H MOBERLY
MR URE
LORD N G LENNOX
CABINET OFFICE

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION

BELIZE/GUATEMALA