

AIR POUCH

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PRIORITY

(Security Classification)

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

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FROM Amembassy GUATEMALA

609
DESP. NO.

TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

April 23 1957

REF CERP D-17

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GE-1

RG

For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	DEPT.	I N F O	OTHER
	REC'D			
	L-2	RIM/R-2 REP-2 ARA-4 E-4 ICA-10		
	4/29	CIA-12 CUMFIO INT-7 XMB-3		

SUBJECT: Guatemala-El Salvador Treaty on the Use of the Waters of Lake Guija
USIA-10 FPC-1 ARMY-5 NAVY-3 AIR-3

On April 15, 1957, Guatemala and El Salvador signed a treaty governing the use of the waters of Lake Guija lying between the two countries.

The treaty provides that:

1. Either party can erect installations within its own country for use of the lake's waters so long as such use does not produce fluctuations in the level of the lake exceeding a maximum of 436 meters 1/ and a minimum of 414 meters above sea level.
2. The country which uses the waters of the lake for electrification purposes will make available to the other country on a permanent basis and at an agreed frontier point, a maximum of 5,000 KW at the same price which it charges consumers in its own country. 2/
3. The aforementioned quantity will be available for use by the receiving country for a period of ten years. At the expiration of this period, the producing country's obligation will be limited to the quantity furnished as of that date, but in no case more than 5000 KW.
4. The energy exported under the terms of this agreement will be exempt from all production and consumption taxes.

1/ During the first four years of use of the waters of the lake, the maximum level will be 432 meters above sea level.

2/ Since El Salvador has already begun to construct facilities for utilizing the lake's waters for electrification purposes, it is understood that it would make available to Guatemala no later than March 15, 1960, the agreed quantity of energy at the price prevailing at the Salvadoran town of Metapan.

DHandler:du
REPORTER

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Retain in divisional files or destroy in accordance with security regulations.

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From **Guatemala**

5. The country using the lake's waters is responsible for taking measures to avoid the formation of swamps and other health hazards in the territory of the other party.

6. The country using the lake's waters will pay, in a lump sum, for all damages caused to owners of land situated in the territory of the other party.

Six copies of the treaty are enclosed herewith.

For the Ambassador:

David Handler

David Handler
First Secretary of Embassy

Enclosure:

Tratado Entre Las Republicas de
Guatemala y de El Salvador Para
El Aprovechamiento de las Aguas
del Lago de Gñija - six copies

cc sent to:

Amembassy SALVADOR

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