

VIA AIR POUCH  
PRIORITY

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FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

715.022  
XR 615.163 12-953  
615.173

FROM : EMBASSY, TEGUCIGALPA  
TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.  
REF : Embdes 234, December 2, 1953.

251  
DESP. NO.

December 9, 1953.  
DATE

24 For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	DEPT.
	REC'D	OTHER
	01-30 12/14	DC/R-2 ARA-4

SUBJECT: Information on Honduran Boundaries.

There is enclosed a translation of Note 30569 A.G. dated December 5, 1953 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in response to the Embassy's inquiry for information on the Honduran-Salvadoran boundary.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been good enough to transmit an official Honduran Government map showing the boundary between Honduras and El Salvador duly marked in accordance with Honduran official interpretation. Other material furnished by the Ministry is listed below as enclosures. It will be noted that the Ministry's reply has incorporated considerable reference to the Honduran-Nicaraguan border, which area was not discussed or mentioned by the Embassy.

*John D. Erwin*  
John D. Erwin

Enclosures:

encl. in  
file &  
map case

- 1/ Translation of Note 30569 A.G.
- 2/ Copies of map showing boundary with El Salvador
- 3/ Copies of Boundary Agreements of 1861 and 1869
- 4/ Copies of Foro Hondureño

C 304-23  
84698

CC MID

ARRandolph:ms  
REPORTER

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TRANSLATION:

SECRETARIAT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF HONDURAS

MEMORANDUM

No. 30569 A.G.

In reply to your Memorandum No. 57 dated October 28, 1953, I transcribe the note which reads:

"HONDURAN COMMITTEE FOR TERRITORIAL STUDIES.- Tegucigalpa, D. C., December 3, 1953.- Note No. 98.- Mr. Minister: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your kind note No. 29902 of December 4, wherein you have transcribed Memorandum No. 57 from the American Embassy in this city of October 28; it is stated therein that the Special Assistant for Maps of the Department of State wishes information available on the status of each segment of the boundary between Honduras and El Salvador, since said Special Assistant wishes an interpretation of the competent authority of the Government of Honduras insofar as the current status of each of said segments and that any official publication or copies of recently published documents available relative to said boundary would be helpful. There has also been received as an attachment a map of Honduras and El Salvador compiled in 1946. In reply I am pleased to state to you that this Study Committee has taken note of the contents of the Memorandum of the American Embassy transcribed in the mentioned note and from a careful study it was decided to reply that of the three borders of Honduras with Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua, the first and the third are completely defined in conformity with Awards of Washington of January 23, 1933 and of the King of Spain of December 23, 1906, respectively, the same not being true in the case of El Salvador with which country diplomatic negotiations are pending for establishment of bases for the study and demarcation of the boundary line. In accordance with the Committee for Territorial Studies, I am pleased to state that from the study made of the map forwarded by the American Embassy compiled in 1946, it is concluded that the dividing line with the Republic of Nicaragua appearing therein is correct, that is to say, in conformity with the Minutes of the Mixed Boundary Committee of 1900 and 1901, and with the Arbitral Award of the King of Spain of December 23, 1906. With regard to the nomenclature contained in the Memorandum classifying boundary segments of the map with the denominations "demarcated", "delimited", and "in dispute", I wish to state to the Secretariat, in behalf of this Committee, that the map only shows the word "indefinite" twice along the length of the indicated boundary and that on said boundary there are certain old markings and portions disputed and undisputed. Since the American Embassy states in the final part of its Memorandum that any official publications or copies of recent documents available relative to said boundary would be most helpful, I am pleased to transmit with this reply, in accordance with instructions of the Study Committee, a map and ten heliographic copies of same,

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Encl. No. 1

Desp. No. 251

From Tegucigalpa

*El Salvador  
Honduras*

wherein the boundary with El Salvador appears duly marked. I also attach two copies of two Boundary Agreements entered into by representatives of both countries in 1861 and 1869, as well as five copies of Foro Hondureño recently published, containing a sketch of this Republic and also a valuable ruling by the late famous United States internationalist John Hasset Moore, showing the full validity of the Award of the King of Spain issued on December 23, 1906, in resolving the boundary dispute with Nicaragua and the lack of any invalidity of same. To said pamphlet there is added a biographic copy of the famed internationalist. With every consideration, I have the honor to remain, Mr. Minister, Very truly yours.- Salvador Zelaya.- President of the Honduran Committee for Territorial Studies.- To the Minister for Foreign Affairs."

This Secretariat transmits with this note the attachments mentioned in the above transcription.

(initialed)

Tegucigalpa, D. C., December 5, 1953.

Translated by: ms

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**AIR POUCH**  
PRIORITY

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**FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH**

FROM : AMEMBASSY, TEGUCIGALPA

234  
DESP. NO.

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

December 2, 1953  
DATE

REF : Dept's A-20 of October 23, 1953

24 For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	DEPT.
	011-30	DC/R-2 ARA-4
	REC'D	F OTHER
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SUBJECT: Department's Request for Information on Boundaries.

In conformity with the request for information regarding the status of segments of the Honduras-El Salvador boundary desired by the Department's Special Assistant for Maps, the Embassy has brought the inquiry to the attention of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Embassy's request for information was embodied in a Memorandum No. 57 dated October 28, 1953 to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Should a response not be received from the Honduran authorities after a reasonable lapse of time, the Embassy will advance further inquiries.

*John D. Erwin*  
John D. Erwin

cc: MID

ARRandolph/jmm  
REPORTER

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