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PERISCOPE

Ambassador Hinton Is Leaving El Salvador

U.S. Ambassador to El Salvador Deane Hinton will leave his post sometime this year, according to senior Reagan administration officials. Hinton, 60, is said to be exhausted after nearly two years of wrestling with the El Salvador crisis. The blunt, burly ambassador has been especially exasperated by the country's dubious judicial system. One candidate to succeed Hinton is Ambassador to Honduras John Negroponte. But Negroponte, who was posted to Vietnam and has been associated with covert operations against Nicaragua, may be too controversial for the job.