

NOFORN NOCONTRACT WNWTEL

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BODY

SUBJECT: LATIN AMERICA BRIEF [REDACTED] FOR 20 FEBRUARY 1988

1. MEXICO: FOREIGN POLICY PLATFORM

RULING-PARTY PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE CARLOS SALINAS'S FIRST

[REDACTED]

MAJOR FOREIGN POLICY SPEECH EARLIER THIS MONTH CALLED FOR A MORE LIMITED MEXICAN ROLE IN WORLD AFFAIRS, REFLECTING AN INCLINATION TO FOCUS ON DOMESTIC ISSUES AND AN INTENT TO KEEP FRICTION WITH WASHINGTON TO A MINIMUM AFTER HE TAKES OFFICE. [REDACTED]

SALINAS CONTENDED MEXICO CITY SHOULD SERVE POPULAR INTERESTS IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND BE NEITHER 'ACTIVIST NOR ADVENTUROUS.' [REDACTED] SALINAS BELIEVES MEXICO'S ROLE IN THE CONTADORA PROCESS WAS THE KIND OF ADVENTURE THAT DID NOT HELP MEXICO. [REDACTED]

SALINAS PLEDGED CONTINUED COOPERATION WITH THE US [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] IN AN EARLIER CAMPAIGN SPEECH, SALINAS SAID NATIONAL PRIORITIES TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER EXTERNAL DEBT PAYMENTS BUT TEMPERED THE COMMENT WITH A REMINDER THAT THE LOANS FINANCED NECESSARY PROJECTS. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SALINAS WILL NOT ABANDON THE BASIC TENETS OF MEXICAN FOREIGN POLICY--SELF-DETERMINATION AND NONINTERVENTION--BUT HE

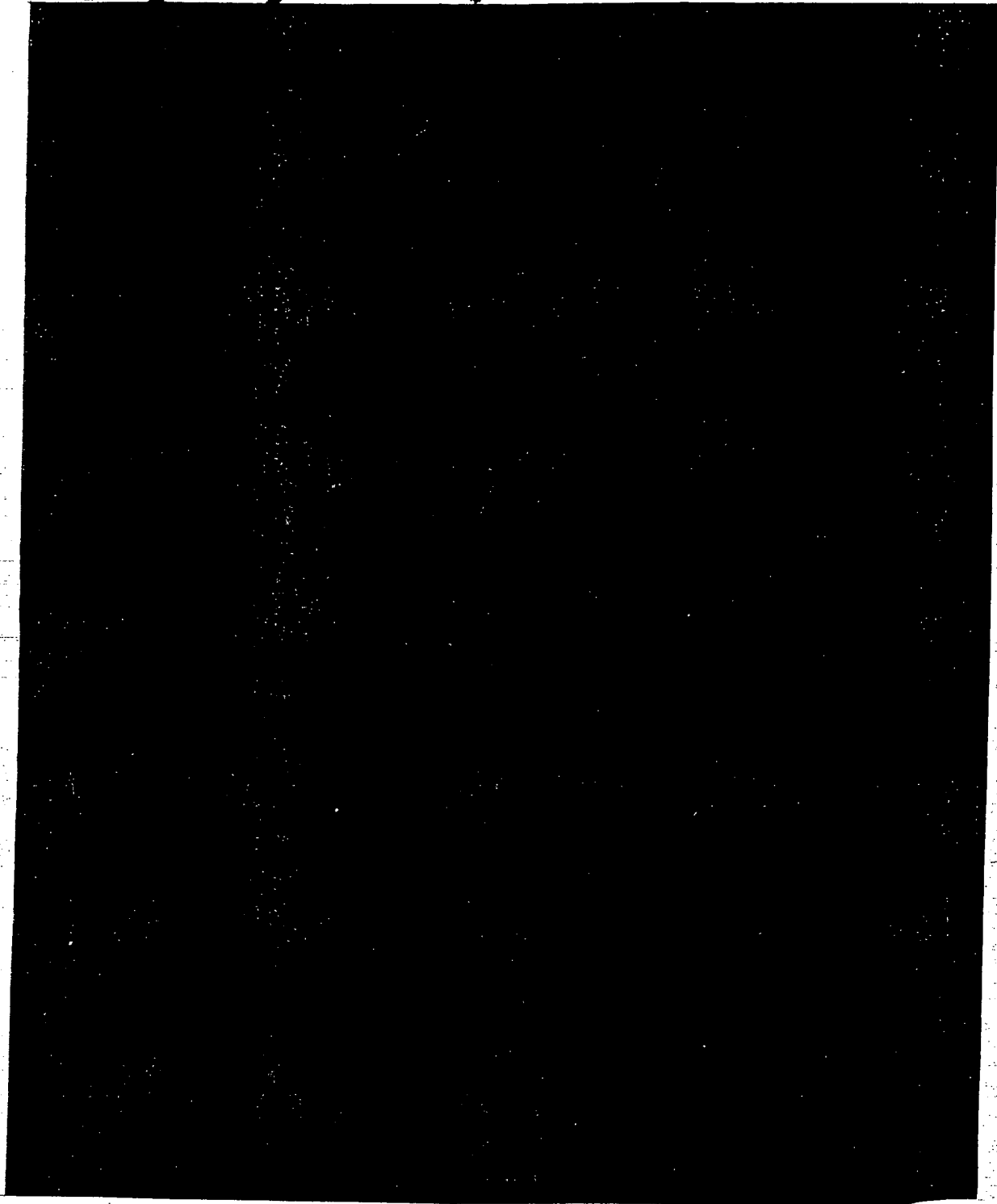
[REDACTED] APPEARS READY TO BACK AWAY FROM WHAT HE SEES AS UNPRODUCTIVE FORAYS INTO THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA, LIKE CONTADORA. [REDACTED]

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