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Honduras: U.S. Embassy Staff Threatened With Eviction Unless Adequate Payments In U.S. Dollars Made

by Deborah Tyroler

Category/Department: General

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On June 20, Jaime Mondragon, partner in a real estate company in Tegucigalpa, told Notimex that the company has informed the US embassy staff it will be evicted unless adequate rent payments are made in US dollars. The embassy's contract with the real estate company specifies payments in lempiras. However, under a verbal agreement, the embassy had been paying rent in US dollars, said Mondragon. In March, the government devalued the lempira from two to four per US dollar. Subsequent to the devaluation, said Mondragon, the embassy reduced its rental payments. The real estate company has placed several paid ads in Honduran newspapers criticizing the embassy. The company recently purchased a full-page ad in a Guatemalan daily newspaper timed to coincide with a visit by Secretary of State James Baker to Guatemala. (Basic data from Notimex, 06/20/90)

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