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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name LATIN AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIRECTORATE, NSC:
RECORDS

Withdrawer

KML 9/29/2011

File Folder BOLIVIA (SAFE 1) 10/05/1984-04/29/1985

FOIA

M10-353/1

Box Number 1

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ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
119995	PAPER	RE BOLIVIA: LABOR'S POLITICAL IMPACT	3	12/21/1984	B1 B3
119996	COVER SHEET	RE BOLIVIA	1	3/9/1985	B1 B3
119997	PAPER	RE BOLIVIA	1	ND	B1 B3
119998	CABLE	LA PAZ 01805	2	3/8/1985	B1
119999	CABLE	LA PAZ 02131 R 5/18/2015 M353/1	3	3/19/1985	B1
120000	CABLE	LA PAZ 02165 R 5/18/2015 M353/1	2	3/20/1985	B1
120001	CABLE	LA PAZ 02169 R 5/18/2015 M353/1	6	3/20/1985	B1
120002	CABLE	LA PAZ 02168 R 5/18/2015 M353/1	2	3/20/1985	B1
120003	CABLE	LA PAZ 02170 R 5/18/2015 M353/1	1	3/20/1985	B1
120005	CABLE	212240Z MAR 85	2	3/21/1985	B1 B3

The above documents were not referred for declassification review at time of processing

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120006	CABLE	LA PAZ 02252 R 5/18/2015 M353/1	2	3/22/1985	B1
120008	CABLE	LA PAZ 02300 R 5/18/2015 M353/1	2	3/25/1985	B1
120009	CABLE	LA PAZ 02317 R 5/18/2015 M353/1	1	3/25/1985	B1
120011	CABLE	LA PAZ 02520 R 5/18/2015 M353/1	2	3/29/1985	B1
120012	CABLE	011322Z APR 85	1	4/1/1985	B1 B3
120014	CABLE	081252Z APR 85	2	4/8/1985	B1 B3
120016	CABLE	101910Z APR 85	1	4/10/1985	B1 B3
120017	CABLE	102047Z APR 85	1	4/10/1985	B1 B3
120019	CABLE	110228Z APR 85	1	4/11/1985	B1 B3
120020	CABLE	LA PAZ 02847	4	4/11/1985	B1 B3

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120023	CABLE	LA PAZ 02905 R 5/18/2015 M353/1	1	4/12/1985	B1
120025	CABLE	LA PAZ 02940 R 5/18/2015 M353/1	2	4/15/1985	B1
120026	CABLE	180109Z APR 85	1	4/18/1985	B1 B3
120028	CABLE	231514Z APR 85	1	4/23/1985	B1 B3
120029	PAPER	RE BOLIVIA	1	ND	B1 B3

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119995	PAPER	3	12/21/1984	B1
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119996	COVER SHEET RE BOLIVIA	1	3/9/1985	B1 B3

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	Document Description			
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	RE BOLIVIA			B3

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119998	CABLE	2	3/8/1985	B1
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FBIS 081 (SEE 073)

BOLIVIA: STRIKE HITS AIRPORTS, INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS CANCELED

PY081900 PARIS AFP IN SPANISH 1833 GMT 8 MAR 85

(TEXT) LA PAZ, 8 MAR (AFP) -- THE GENERAL STRIKE WHICH THE BOLIVIAN LABOR CONFEDERATION (COB) ORDERED LAST NIGHT HAS BEGAN TO AFFECT THE AIRPORTS OF THE NATION. IN VIEW OF THIS, INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS TO AND FROM BOLIVIA HAVE BEEN CANCELED, ACCORDING TO INFORMATION RELEASED IN THIS CAPITAL TODAY.

THIS PIECE OF NEWS WAS CONFIRMED BY COB LEADERS, WHO EXPLAINED THAT THE EMPLOYEES OF THE AUXILIARY AIR NAVIGATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (AASANA) HAVE JOINED THE STRIKE.

8 MAR 2035Z CLB

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R 11111) LZOTZSABYL

STAM-STRIKE

BOLIVIAN UNIONS HIT HARD AT GOVERNMENT WITH GENERAL STRIKE
BUENOS AIRES, MARCH 8, REUTER - BOLIVIA'S TRADE UNIONS PLUNGED
THE COUNTRY INTO A FRESH CRISIS TODAY BY LAUNCHING AN
INDEFINITE GENERAL STRIKE TO PRESS DEMANDS FOR ACTION TO OFFSET
THE COUNTRY'S RUNAWAY INFLATION.

TELEPHONE AND TELEX LINES TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD WERE CUT AND A
LEADER OF THE LABOR FEDERATION WAS QUOTED AS SAYING ALL
NON-ESSENTIAL FUEL SUPPLIES HAD BEEN STOPPED.

JOSE JUSTICIANO, SPEAKING IN A LA PAZ RADIO BROADCAST
MONITORED IN LONDON, LISTED EMERGENCY SERVICES WHICH THE UNIONS
PLEGGED TO MAINTAIN AND SAID BANKS WOULD REOPEN FOR 12 HOURS
TUESDAY SO THAT WORKERS COULD COLLECT THEIR WAGES.

INFORMATION MINISTER MARIO RUEDA WAS QUOTED BY A RADIO STATION
IN NEIGHBORING PERU AS DENYING THAT HE HAD MET THE LABOR
FEDERATION'S HEAD, JUAN LECHIN, TO ARRANGE THE REMOVAL OF
PRESIDENT HERNAN SILES ZUAZO.

THE GOVERNMENT WARNED BEFORE THE STRIKE BEGAN THAT IT COULD
CALL IN THE ARMY AND DECLARE A STATE OF SIEGE.

THE UNIONS ARE DEMANDING PRICE CONTROLS, IMPROVED FOOD
SUPPLIES AND SALARY RISES TO OFFSET INFLATION NOW RUNNING AT
NEARLY 2,200 PER CENT A YEAR.

REUTER 2241

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DIA FOR IR BRANCH; USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: ELAB, PGOV, PINS, CASC, SNAR, BL
SUBJECT: SITREP NO. 19; SITUATION IN LA PAZ AT 1100 HRS.
- MARCH 19

REF: LA PAZ 2097

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT

2. IN A LONG, IMPASSIONED MEETING ON MONDAY NIGHT THE BOLIVIAN WORKERS CENTRAL (COB) DECIDED TO REJECT THE GOVERNMENT'S OFFER FOR A 70 PERCENT INCREASE IN THE MINIMUM WAGE AS WELL AS THE PROPOSAL FOR "CO-GOVERNMENT" (REFTEL) AND INSTEAD VOWED TO "RADICALIZE" AND INTENSIFY THE INDEFINITE GENERAL STRIKE. DURING A FIVE-HOUR DEBATE WHICH FOLLOWED A FAIRLY CLOSE VOTE ON WHETHER TO ACCEPT THE GOB PROPOSAL FOR A THREE MILLION PESO MINIMUM WAGE, THE BOLIVIAN COMMUNIST PARTY (PCB) SPOKESMEN GRADUALLY REVERSED THEIR PARTY'S POSITION OF CAMPAIGNING FOR CO-GOVERNMENT AND JOINED THE CALL TO SUPPORT THE STRIKE "UNTIL THE BITTER END" UNTIL AN INFLATION-INDEXED MINIMUM WAGE IS WON. MODERATES WHO TRIED TO POINT OUT THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD CONCEDED ALL IT COULD WERE BOOED AND ATTACKED AS "PETTY-BOURGEOIS." PRESIDENT SILES' INVITATION TO SHARE POWER IN HIS ADMINISTRATION WAS REJECTED UNANIMOUSLY AS A "TRICK" TO GIVE LABOR MORE "TOKEN MINISTRIES." COB EXECUTIVE SECRETARY JUAN LECHIN, WHO HAD THE LAST WORD, SAID THAT BASED ON THE NEW PRICE ADJUSTMENTS, THE MINIMUM WAGE SHOULD BE 14 MILLION BOLIVIAN PESOS. "THERE IS NO OTHER ROAD TO

COME TO POWER OTHER THAN ARMED STRUGGLE," WHICH HE SAID WILL "DESTROY THE ARMY" AND "CONVERT THE PARLIAMENT INTO A SOUNDING BOARD FOR THE POPULAR SECTORS."

3. THIS MORNING THE COB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IS MEETING TO DECIDE WHAT MEASURES TO TAKE TO INTENSIFY THE STRIKE. THEY WILL SEND A LETTER TO PRESIDENT SILES ANSWERING HIS OFFER TO ACCEPT THE 70 PERCENT INCREASE AND JOIN THE GOVERNMENT. AFTER A 24-HOUR PERIOD, MORE HARD-LINE TACTICS WHICH COULD INCLUDE SELECT CUTOFFS OF WATER AND POWER OR OTHER EMERGENCY SERVICES ARE EXPECTED TO BEGIN. LEADERS OF JUAN LECHIN'S MINISCULE REVOLUTIONARY INDEPENDENT NATIONALIST (PRIN) PARTY HAVE BEGUN A HUNGER STRIKE. ONE THOUSAND HOUSEWIVES WHO JUST ARRIVED FROM SAN JOSE AND CATAVI HAVE THREATENED TO FOLLOW SUIT. MORE CAMPESINOS ARE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE FROM ORURO, WHILE RED-HOT STRIKING MINERS DECLARED IN THEIR MEETING YESTERDAY MORNING THAT 5000 MORE MINeworkERS WILL BE IN LA PAZ BY WEDNESDAY "WHETHER THE STRIKE COMMITTEE WANTS THEM OR NOT." CAMPESINO LEADER VICTOR MORALES HAS SAID THAT ROAD BLOCKADES WILL BE MOUNTED AROUND THE COUNTRY IN "LIGHTNING" FASHION IN ORDER TO KEEP THE ARMY OFF GUARD. BLOCKADES AND MARCHES, COMBINED WITH THE FAMILIAR SOUND OF DYNAMITE BLASTS, ARE NOW RESUMING IN LA PAZ. THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION DECLARED THAT PRIVATE AS WELL AS PUBLIC SCHOOLS ARE TO SUSPEND CLASSES UNTIL THE STRIKE SITUATION IS RELIEVED.

4. ON MONDAY MORNING ARMY COMMANDER GENERAL LOPEZ LEYTON CALLED THE AMBASSADOR TO EXPRESS HIS DEEP

CONCERN OVER THE CHAOTIC SITUATION CAUSED BY THE INDEFINITE STRIKE AND ESPECIALLY OVER THE POSSIBILITY OF THE COB ENTERING THE GOVERNMENT, WHICH HE SAID THE ARMED FORCES WOULD NOT PERMIT. HE SAID THAT ARMED FORCES COMMANDER SIMON SEJAS IS IN AGREEMENT WITH THIS POSITION, AND IS THUS AT ODDS WITH COL. NESTOR RUIZ OF THE MAX TOLEDO REGIMENT AND COL FERNANDO ORTIZ DURAN OF THE MILITARY POLICE REGIMENT WHO ARE FLIRTING WITH COB LEADERS. THE AMBASSADOR REITERATED U.S. INTERESTS IN ASSURING THAT THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESS BE MAINTAINED, AND SUGGESTED THAT THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNICATE THAT INSTITUTION'S CONCERNS TO BT

Bolivia

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NLRR M353/1 # 119999

BY RW NARA DATE 5/18/05

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DIA FOR IR BRANCH; USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: ELAB, PGOV, PINS, CASC, SNAR, BL
SUBJECT: SITREP NO. 19; SITUATION IN LA PAZ AT 1100 HRS.

THE PRESIDENT.

5. THE COB'S DECLARATION OF WARFARE CAUGHT MANY OF ITS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS BY SURPRISE. THE MINERS' MASS MEETING ON MONDAY MORNING SPLIT NEARLY DOWN THE MIDDLE ON WHETHER OR NOT TO ACCEPT THE GOVERNMENT OFFER FOR A THREE MILLION PESO MINIMUM WAGE. BEFORE LAST WEEKEND THE GENERAL STRIKE, WHICH HAD HUGE DEFECTIONS FROM CAMPESINOS AND OTHER SECTORS ESPECIALLY OUTSIDE OF LA PAZ, SEEMED TO BE GRINDING TO A HALT. PRESIDENT SILES' OFFER OF CO-GOVERNMENT AND HIS TELE-VISED SUBMISSION TO DAYS OF BROW-BEATING BY HYSTERICAL, ULTRA-LEFTIST "HOUSEWIVES" AND WORKER SPOKESMEN OPENED CRACKS IN THE GOVERNMENT WHICH THE RADICALS RUSHED TO FILL. GIVEN THESE DYNAMICS, THE SITUATION HAS DEFINITELY TAKEN A TURN FOR THE WORSE. ONE POSITIVE NOTE IS THAT THE LONG TELECOMMUNICATIONS STRIKE HAS BEEN PARTIALLY LIFTED, BUT ONLY FOR MARCH 19, FATHERS' DAY. ANOTHER IS THAT THE WORKERS OF MANACO IN COCHABAMBA, WHICH IS BOLIVIA'S LARGEST FACTORY WITH ONE OF THE MOST MILITANT LOCAL UNIONS, ANNOUNCED THEY WERE GOING BACK TO WORK IN OPEN DEFIANCE OF THE "POLITICAL" GENERAL STRIKE. (DRAFTED BY CHARLOTTE ROE)
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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

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CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 02 LA PAZ 02165

DIA FOR IR BRANCH; USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: ELAB, PGOV, PINS, EASC, SNAR, BL
SUBJECT: SITREP NO. 22; SITUATION IN LA PAZ AT 1200 HRS.
- MARCH 20

REF: (A) LA PAZ 2131 (B) LA PAZ 2152

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT

2. THE EARLY MORNING POSITIONING OF ARMY TROOPS IN LA PAZ HAS REOPENED TRAFFIC AND BROUGHT A JITTERY SENSE OF RELIEF TO THE CAPITAL. GROUPS OF SOLDIERS ARE COVERING MAJOR THOROUGHFARES, WHILE SMALL TANKS ARE STATIONED IN THE PLAZA MURILLO AND OTHER STRATEGIC LOCATIONS. AIR FORCE UNITS ARE KEEPING THE AIRPORT UNDER GUARD. MOVEMENTS OF ARMORED PERSONNEL VEHICLES IN THE PRADO AND OVERFLIGHTS SERVE AS REGULAR REMINDERS OF THE ARMY'S STRONG PRESENCE. ON MARCH 19 DEFENSE MINISTER CARDENAS MALLO ANNOUNCED THAT MORE TRUCKLOADS OF MINERS AND CAMPESINOS WOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO ARRIVE IN LA PAZ. IN TODAY'S RADIO BROADCAST PRESIDENT SILES APPEALED FOR CALM AND SAID THAT THE BOLIVIAN WORKERS CENTRAL (COB) SHOULD END ITS 13-DAY GENERAL STRIKE THROUGH A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OR RISK BEING EXPOSED AS AN "ENEMY OF DEMOCRACY" (SEPTEL).

3. COB PERMANENT SECRETARY NOEL VASQUEZ TOLD LABATT THIS MORNING THAT THE LABOR CONFEDERATION LEADERSHIP HAD FORWARNING OF THE ARMY OCCUPATION, WHICH THEY REALIZED WAS "NOT A POLITICAL BUT A MILITARY ACTION,"

AND WAS APPEALING TO WORKERS TO AVOID TROUBLE. VASQUEZ SAID THAT THE MINERS WOULD NOT GO INTO THE STREETS, A PREDICTION WHICH WAS CONFIRMED BY SOURCES IN THE ARM INTELLIGENCE. HOWEVER AT MID-MORNING POLICE UNITS USING TEARGAS PREVENTED MINERS FROM ENTERING THE OPEN AIR THEATRE FOR AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING ON THE STRIKE. SHOTS HAVE BEEN HEARD AROUND TOWN AS POLICE BREAK UP SMALL DEMONSTRATIONS USING RUBBER BULLETS. AT 9:30 A.M. A MOB SACKED A GAS STATION IN CALACOTO BUT POLICE THINK THAT VANDALS, NOT STRIKERS, WERE RESPONSIBLE.

4. ALTHOUGH THE CAMPESINO FEDERATION ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY IT WOULD STEP UP "SURPRISE" BLOCKADES, ONLY SUCRE WAS COMPLETELY CUT OFF BY ROADBLOCKS. IN THE NEARBY TOWN OF TARABUCO PEASANTS USING STONES AND DYNAMITE AGAINST ARMY TROOPS WERE QUICKLY REPULSED BY TEARGAS. A BLOCKADE BY CAMPESINOS IN POTOSI WAS LIFTED AFTER MEETINGS WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND UNION LEADERS CONVINCED THEM TO ALLOW TRUCKS CARRYING FOOD TO PROCEED. THE RAILROAD WORKERS OF ORURO DECIDED TO ACCEPT THE GOVERNMENT'S OFFER FOR A 70 PERCENT MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE AND ASKED THE COB TO END THE GENERAL STRIKE WHICH IT SAID IS DESTROYING "THE ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND SOCIAL FABRIC OF BOLIVIA." THE COB'S INSTRUCTIONS TO THE PETROLEUM WORKERS TO STOP SELLING GASOLINE ARE NOT BEING HEEDED; IN A CONVERSATION TODAY THE CONFEDERATION'S SECRETARY OF RELATIONS ADMITTED THAT THE LOCAL UNIONS OF LA PAZ, SUCRE, COCHABAMBA AND ORURO HAVE DECIDED INSTEAD TO "RATION" GAS SALES TO MOTORISTS. LAST NIGHT THE MINERS' FEDERATION (FSTMB) RESUMED TALKS WITH PRESIDENT SILES. FSTMB GENERAL SECRETARY VICTOR

LOPEZ, WHO TRIED TO SLIP INTO THE GOVERNMENT PALACE, ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE FEDERATION IS CONSIDERING DROPPING ITS "UNNEGOTIABLE" DEMAND FOR AN INFLATION-INDEXED MINIMUM WAGE.

5. AT 11:00 THIS MORNING THE SECRETARY GENERALS OF THE COB BEGAN MEETING TO ANALYZE THE MILITARY AND STRIKE SITUATIONS AND ADJUST THEIR STRATEGY ACCORDINGLY. LAST NIGHT COB EXECUTIVE SECRETARY JUAN LECHIN MET UNTIL MIDNIGHT WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF 18 ULTRA-LEFTIST POLITICAL PARTIES AND SPLINTER GROUPS (REF A). THEY EMERGED WITH A STATEMENT ANNOUNCING THE FORMATION OF A "UNIFIED COMMAND" TO "OFFER A REVOLUTIONARY

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BY RW NARA DATE 5/18/15

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ALTERNATIVE TO THE PROGRAM OF THE OLIGARCHS AND
~~IMPERIALISTS.~~ THE PARTIES BASED THEIR ACCORD ON
THE 17-POINT STRIKE DOCUMENT OF THE COB (REF A).

6. THE MILITARY PRESENCE IS WELCOMED BY MOST PACENOS,
AND EVEN SOME LABOR LEADERS NOTE THAT AS LONG AS THE
ARMY IS RESTRAINED, ITS TROOPS MIGHT IMPROVE THE
CLIMATE FOR A SETTLEMENT. THE GROWING TREND OF
STRIKE DEFECTIONS AND THE ARMY'S DECISION TO STOP
MINERS AT THE PASS HAVE SHIFTED THE BALANCE OF POWER
BACK TO THE GOVERNMENT. THE NEW CONFIGURATION WILL
MAKE EXTREMIST GROUPS MORE DETERMINED TO SEEK
CONFRONTATIONS, BUT THEIR REVOLUTIONARY RHETORIC IS
USUALLY WORSE THAN THEIR EXECUTION. (DRAFTED BY
CHARLOTTE ROE) CORR
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SECRET SECTION 01 OF 06 LA PAZ 02169

DIA FOR IR BRANCH; USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: MASS, MARR, AMGT, SNAR, BL
SUBJECT: ANNUAL INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT OF SECURITY
- ASSISTANCE - BOLIVIA

REF: (A) STATE 014331 (B) 84 LA PAZ 1847
- (C) 84 STATE 341701

1. (U) WHAT FOLLOWS IS ANNUAL INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT
OF SECURITY ASSISTANCE (AIASA) FOR BOLIVIA. PARAGRAPHS
BELOW FOLLOW REF (A) GUIDANCE ON REPORTING FORMAT.

2. (S) USG INTERESTS:

(A) THE PRIMARY USG INTERESTS IN BOLIVIA ARE THE MAINTENANCE OF A COOPERATIVE, LEGITIMATE AND DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT AND THE FOSTERING OF A HEALTHY AND GROWING ECONOMY THAT CAN PROVIDE AN ELEMENT OF STABILITY IN A COUNTRY TOO OFTEN TORN BY ENDEMIC POLITICAL AND SOCIAL INSTABILITY. ANOTHER IMPORTANT DIRECT USG INTEREST -- WITH ANY BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENT -- IS THE CONTINUING NEED TO PURSUE AN EFFECTIVE CAMPAIGN AGAINST NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING.

(B) THE BOLIVIAN MILITARY CONTINUES TO BE A MAJOR FORCE IN LOCAL SOCIETY, ESPECIALLY AND MOST OBVIOUSLY IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS. ITS ROLE IS FUNDAMENTAL AND OF INCREASING IMPORTANCE AS THE DOMESTIC POLITICAL SITUATION DETERIORATES. USG

INTERESTS, THEN, MUST FOCUS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BOLIVIAN ARMED FORCES IN TWO RELATED AREAS. FIRST, THE DEVELOPMENT OF A STABLE AND EFFECTIVE DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM REQUIRES THAT THE BOLIVIAN ARMED FORCES (BAF) REMAIN, AS AN INSTITUTION, WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF CONSTITUTIONALITY. THIS THEY HAVE DONE, DESPITE A WIDESPREAD BAF PERCEPTION THAT THE SILES REGIME HAS DRIFTED LEFTWARD AND HAS MANIPULATED COMMAND ASSIGNMENTS ON THE BASIS OF LEFTIST POLITICAL RELIABILITY INSTEAD OF PROFESSIONAL MILITARY CRITERIA. ANY INFLUENCE THE USG CAN BRING TO BEAR VIA SECURITY ASSISTANCE WILL SERVE TO INCREASE OUR LEVERAGE WITH A CRUCIAL INSTITUTION AT A CRITICAL MOMENT. (IN THE LAST YEAR THIS LEVERAGE HAS BEEN CRUCIAL ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS.)

(C) SECONDLY, THE BAF REPRESENT THE PRINCIPAL BULWARK AGAINST COMMUNIST PENETRATION OR TAKEOVER, AND A CHECK AGAINST ARMED REBELLION OR VIOLENT CIVIL DISORDER. SUCH A SCENARIO MAY NOT BE IMMINENT, BUT NEITHER IS IT BEYOND THE BOUNDS OF POSSIBILITY AS THE LAST YEAR HAS WITNESSED EVER INCREASING PRESSURE ON THE SILES GOVERNMENT FROM THE RADICAL LEFT. GIVEN THE ENDEMIC INSTABILITY OF BOLIVIAN POLITICS AND ALMOST UNPRECEDENTED PRESSURE FROM THE RADICAL LEFT, A BOLIVIAN MILITARY INFLUENCED BY AND FRIENDLY TO THE UNITED STATES COULD BE OF CRITICAL IMPORTANCE. U.S. INTERESTS IN PROVIDING SECURITY ASSISTANCE TO THE BAF ARE, IN LIGHT OF ALL OF THE ABOVE, AT A DELICATE STAGE. WE MUST ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE BAF TO CONTINUE TO ABIDE BY CONSTITUTIONAL RULE, YET ALSO ENSURE THAT THEY REMAIN STRONG ENOUGH TO COUNTER POSSIBLE INTERNAL SUBVERSION.

(D) IN SUM, OUR INTEREST IN MAINTAINING A FRIENDLY DEMOCRATIC REGIME IN BOLIVIA CANNOT OBSCURE THE EQUAL NECESSITY OF MAINTAINING AND INFLUENCING THE ONLY INSTITUTION THAT COULD COUNTER AN INTERNAL THREAT TO A COOPERATIVE REGIME.

3. (S) ASSESSMENT OF EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL THREATS:

(A) THE ONLY POTENTIAL EXTERNAL THREAT TO BOLIVIAN SECURITY WOULD RESULT FROM LONGSTANDING BUT RELATIVELY DORMANT TERRITORIAL DISPUTES WITH ITS NEIGHBORS, BY

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DIA FOR IR BRANCH; USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

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ESPECIALLY CHILE AND PARAGUAY. BOLIVIA LOST ITS OUTLET TO THE SEA IN A WAR WITH CHILE (1879-1884) AND A LARGE AMOUNT OF TERRITORY TO PARAGUAY DURING THE CHACO WAR OF THE 1930'S. FOR THESE REASONS, THE BAF IS OBLIGED TO MAINTAIN A VISIBLE PRESENCE ON BOLIVIA'S BORDERS, AWARE AS THEY ARE OF THE NATION'S RELATIVE MILITARY WEAKNESS. THE BAF RECOGNIZE THAT A UNILATERAL SOLUTION OF FORCE BY BOLIVIA IS IMPOSSIBLE; THE MILITARY STRENGTH IS SIMPLY NOT THERE. THE BIGGEST DANGER COULD COME FROM A SUDDEN BORDER INCIDENT OR MISPERCEPTION BY ONE SIDE OR ANOTHER.

(B) A GREATER THREAT IS THE POSSIBILITY OF INTERNAL SUBVERSION, PERHAPS ABETTED BY HOSTILE FOREIGN POWERS. CERTAIN ELEMENTS IN BOLIVIAN SOCIETY, INCLUDING SOME MILITARY OFFICERS, BELIEVE THAT THE SILES GOVERNMENT IS ALREADY "COMMUNIST CONTROLLED" AND THAT ARMED CIVILIANS ARE BEING READIED FOR THE DAY OF AN OPEN COMMUNIST TAKEOVER IN CONJUNCTION WITH CUBAN AND NICARAGUAN AID. THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT THE POTENTIAL THREAT EXISTS BUT THAT THESE FEARS ARE EXAGGERATED AND, FOR THE MOMENT, THE MILITARY WOULD BE ABLE TO CONTAIN OPEN ARMED SUBVERSION, AT LEAST IN ITS INITIAL STAGES, NOR DOES THE EMBASSY VIEW SILES AS BUT A CAT'S PAW FOR COMMUNIST INFILTRATION. THE PRESIDENT DOES LEAD A LEFT-OF-CENTER GOVERNMENT, BUT IT IS NOW WEAKER THAN EVER AND BARELY HOLDING ON TO

POWER, IN FACT, THE FAR LEFT IS NOW ATTACKING THE SILES REGIME MORE VEHEMENTLY THAN EVER

(C) THE INTERNAL THREAT TO BOLIVIA IS REALLY ONE OF PERCEPTION AND MUTUAL SUSPICION. THE RADICALS DISTRUST THE MILITARY AND BELIEVE THEY MUST ARM THEMSELVES AND THE "MASSES" IN ORDER TO DEFEND "DEMOCRACY." SMALL QUANTITIES OF ARMS HAVE BEEN SIPHONED OFF TO SUCH CIVILIAN GROUPS, AND WHILE NOT AN IMMEDIATE THREAT TO THE NATION, SUCH ARMED GROUPS COULD FORM THE CORE OF A MARXIST "LIBERATION ARMY." THE MILITARY, FOR ITS PART, HARBORS DEEP SUSPICIONS OVER THE COURSE AND CONDUCT OF THE SILES GOVERNMENT. THE POSSIBILITIES OF INTERNAL CONFLICT ARE NOT TO BE MINIMIZED. INTERNAL DISORDER, PERHAPS OPEN FIGHTING BETWEEN A GENERALLY CONSERVATIVE MILITARY AND ARMED CIVILIAN LEFTISTS, REMAINS A FAR GREATER POSSIBILITY THAN BOLIVIAN AGGRESSION AGAINST ANY OF HER NEIGHBORS. THE INTERNAL THREAT IS REAL; THE EXTERNAL ONE VAGUE AND HIGHLY UNLIKELY.

(D) A THIRD FACTOR IS THE PRESENCE OF WELL-ARMED NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS. LARGE AREAS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE BENI, PORTIONS OF THE CHAPARE AND OF THE YUNGAS, ARE TRANSITED AND OCCUPIED ON AN UNRESTRICTED BASIS BY NARCOTICS SMUGGLERS. CIVILIAN LEFTISTS AND THE MILITARY ACCUSE EACH OTHER OF INVOLVEMENT WITH SUCH TRAFFICKERS, AND THERE IS SOME TRUTH IN THEIR MUTUAL ACCUSATIONS. THUS, APART FROM THE FRICTION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT, DOMESTIC RADICALS AND ELEMENTS OF THE MILITARY, THE INTERNAL POWER OF THE NARCOTICS BARONS LOOMS AS ANOTHER THREAT TO INTERNAL SECURITY. THE GOB HAS FINALLY BEGUN TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS, BUT THE STRUGGLE WILL BE LONG-TERM AND BETTER CARRIED OUT BY A STRONGER GOVERNMENT WITH THE COOPERATION OF THE ARMED FORCES.

4. (S) MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT - REQUIREMENTS AND CAPABILITIES:

(A) THE BAF'S ABILITY TO SUSTAIN A MODERN FIGHTING
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DIA FOR IR BRANCH; USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

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FORCE HAS BEEN WEAKENED IN RECENT YEARS; THIS SITUATION RESULTED IN PART FROM A CUTOFF OF USG SECURITY ASSISTANCE FROM THE JULY 1980 GARCIA MEZA COUP UNTIL MAY OF 1983. ALSO, THE GENERAL ECONOMIC CRISIS OF THE PAST FEW YEARS HAS SERIOUSLY AFFECTED ALL BOLIVIAN INSTITUTIONS, MILITARY AND CIVILIAN.

(B) IN GENERAL, BAF CAPABILITIES ARE BASED ON 1950'S TECHNOLOGY, AND THEY ARE IN STEADY DECLINE. SPARE PARTS ARE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN AND CANNIBILIZATION IS BOTH NECESSARY AND COMMON. NAVAL CRAFT ARE IN SERIOUS DISREPAIR; TRUCKS PURCHASED FROM BRAZIL ARE RAPIDLY BREAKING DOWN; HELICOPTERS AND HELICOPTER PARTS ARE DETERIORATING; SMALL CONSUMABLE ITEMS (SPARK PLUGS, PARACHUTE CORDS, ETC.) ARE IN SHORT SUPPLY. COMBAT READINESS IS SERIOUSLY IMPAIRED, EVEN THOUGH THE MILITARY'S TRADITIONAL SLANT HAS BEEN TOWARD LESS TECHNOLOGICALLY SOPHISTICATED LIGHT INFANTRY UNITS. IN THE AIR FORCE, COMBAT CAPABILITY IS AT A MINIMUM; THE AIR FORCE'S MAIN VALUE NOW LIES IN ITS TRANSPORT CAPABILITIES, AND THESE ARE STRAINED. THE LIGHT ARMOR UNITS POSTED IN AND AROUND THE CAPITAL ARE IN BETTER CONDITION, BUT ALSO FEELING THE LACK OF SPARE PARTS AND MECHANICAL SUPPORT.

(C) BOLIVIA'S GEOGRAPHY AND THE TRADITIONAL NEEDS OF THE MILITARY REQUIRE A MOBILE AND MODERN MILITARY

FORCE -- HELICOPTERS, LIGHT PATROL BOATS, LIGHT ARMORED UNITS. THE REASONING BEHIND SUCH MOBILITY IS DEFENSIVE, RAPID REACTION TO EITHER EXTERNAL THREATS OR INTERNAL SUBVERSION. MUCH MODERNIZATION WILL BE REQUIRED BEFORE THIS IDEAL CAN BE APPROACHED; FOR THE MOMENT EVEN DEFENSIVE CAPABILITIES ARE STRAINED AND COMBAT READINESS IS LOW.

5. (C) ECONOMIC IMPACT:

(A) BOLIVIA HAS BEEN SUFFERING FROM A SEVERE ECONOMIC RECESSION CAUSED BY A SOFT MARKET FOR TRADITIONAL MINERALS EXPORTS, NATURAL DISASTERS, POOR ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT AND AN UNCERTAIN INVESTMENT CLIMATE. THE COUNTRY EXPERIENCED NEGATIVE GDP GROWTH IN BOTH 1982 AND 1983 AND SIMILAR DECLINES ARE PROJECTED FOR 1984.

(B) THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF DEFENSE EXPENDITURES ON THE BUDGET IS DIFFICULT TO MEASURE AS THERE WAS NO OFFICIAL BUDGET FOR 1981, 1982 OR 1983. PRIOR TO THIS, A SERIES OF DE FACTO GOVERNMENTS OPERATED ON PATCHWORK BUDGETS. IT IS CERTAIN, NEVERTHELESS, THAT THE ITEMS PROJECTED FOR PURCHASE IN PARAGRAPH EIGHT ARE BEYOND THE CASH PAYMENT CAPABILITY OF THE GOB, HENCE THE REQUEST FOR MAP CREDITS FOR ALMOST ALL OF THE ITEMS SO LISTED. ANY CASH PURCHASES WOULD STRAIN AN ALREADY WEAK ECONOMY. FOR THIS REASON, RECENT PURCHASES HAVE FOCUSED ON SMALLER ITEMS LIKE SPARE PARTS AND AMMUNITION, THE LATTER STILL IN SHORT SUPPLY. AGAIN, AS NOTED ABOVE, BOLIVIA'S FINANCIAL STRAITS HAVE PRECLUDED EVEN THE PURCHASE OF SUFFICIENT SPARE PARTS. IN SHORT, FINANCIAL RESTRICTIONS HAVE SERIOUSLY CUT INTO THE ABILITY OF THE BAF TO MAINTAIN EVEN THE SEMBLANCE OF MODERN MILITARY CAPABILITY. FUTURE PURCHASES WILL OF COURSE PLACE AN ADDITIONAL BURDEN ON THE ECONOMY, BUT THE LACK OF SUCH PURCHASES WILL ALSO REDUCE THE MILITARY TO AN UNACCEPTABLY LOW LEVEL OF EFFICIENCY.

6. (C) ARMS CONTROL CONSIDERATIONS:
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CHANGE, BUT NOT ALL THAT MUCH. ONE RESULT OF THE GARCIA MEZA COUP OF 1980 WAS TO JOLT THE MILITARY INTO REALIZING THAT WIDESPREAD HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS ARE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE TO ITS OWN INTERESTS AND THE INTERESTS OF THE NATION. IN ANY CASE, ALMOST EVERY COUP SCENARIO INCLUDES THE CALLING OF FREE ELECTIONS AND THE GUARANTEE OF MOST CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS.

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-- MINIMAL. AS NOTED IN PARAGRAPH 3, BOLIVIAN MILITARY NEEDS TEND TO BE DEFENSIVE IN NATURE. ALTHOUGH BOLIVIA STILL DEMANDS AN OUTLET TO THE SEA VIA CHILE, IT HAS BEEN PURSUING DIPLOMATIC MEANS TO ACHIEVE THIS OBJECTIVE. ARMS SALES OF GENERALLY DEFENSE CAPABILITIES WOULD NOT SERIOUSLY IMPAIR REGIONAL STABILITY. THE BAF FULLY RECOGNIZE THAT THEY ARE QUITE INCAPABLE OF AN OFFENSIVE WAR AGAINST THEIR STRONGER NEIGHBORS AND WOULD NOT ATTEMPT SUCH AN ACTION. INCREASED MAP SALES TO BOLIVIA, HOWEVER, WOULD LIKELY LEAD PARAGUAY TO ASK FOR INCREASED ASSISTANCE. NEVERTHELESS, THE EMBASSY DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT MAP SALES TO BOLIVIA, IN VIEW OF THE DEFENSIVE NEEDS AND LIMITED CAPABILITIES OF THE BAF, WOULD RESULT IN ARMS CONTROL PROBLEMS OR REGIONAL INSTABILITY.

7. (C) HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS:

-- INCREASED SECURITY ASSISTANCE IS NOT LIKELY TO AFFECT THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION. THE CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT OF PRESIDENT SILES DOES A VERY EFFECTIVE JOB OF PROTECTING BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE MILITARY HAS PURGED ITSELF OF OFFICERS WHO, UNDER PREVIOUS MILITARY GOVERNMENTS, VIOLATED BASIC RIGHTS. SHOULD THE MILITARY DESPOSE SILES THIS SITUATION WOULD

8. (C) PROJECTED PURCHASES AND SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS.

FY 87

DEFENSE ARTICLES	QTY	METHOD	VALID	COST
UNIFORMS/BOOTS/FIELD JACKETS (A) 40,000	MAP	YES	-	
M-16 (B) 10,000	MAP	YES	-	
M-60 MG 5,000	MAP	YES	-	
WHEELED VEHICLES JEEP 25	MAP	YES	-	
AMMUNITION (B) -	MAP	YES	2 MIL	
V-100 ARMORED CAR SPARES -	MAP	YES	500000	
MAINTENANCE REPAIR SHOP TOOLS/SPRES (C) -	MAP	YES	1 MIL	
WHEELED VEHICLES 3/4 TON TRUCK 20	MAP	YES	-	
WHEELED VEHICLES 2/2 TON/5 TON TRK 10	MAP	YES	-	
AMBULANCE 5	MAP	YES	-	
MEDICAL SUPPLY SUPPORT -	MAP	YES	2 MIL	
AIRCRAFT SPARE PARTS -	MAP	YES	500000	
UH-1H HELICOPTERS 2	MAP	YES	-	
RIVERINE PATROL BOATS 5	MAP	YES	500000	

-- (A) UNIFORMS FOR ARMY, NAVY, AND AIR FORCE
-- (B) AMMUNITION/M-16S FOR ARMY AND NAVY

-- (C) MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT FOR ARMY, NAVY AND AIR FORCE. REPAIR SHOP CAPABILITIES EXTREMELY LIMITED FROM LACK OF SMALL TOOLS, TEST EQUIPMENT AND LOGISTICAL SUPPORT.

FY 88

DEFENSE ARTICLES	QTY	METHOD	VALID	COST
AMMUNITION -	MAP	YES	750000	
BT				

~~SECRET~~

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~~SECRET~~ SECTION 05 OF 06 LA PAZ 02169

DIA FOR IR BRANCH; USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: MASS, MARR, AMGT, SNAR, BL

SUBJECT: ANNUAL INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT OF SECURITY

UNIFORMS/BOOTS/FIELD GEAR	30,000	MAP	YES	-
WHEELED VEHICLES JEEP	25	MAP	YES	-
WHEELED VEHICLES 3/4 TON	20	MAP	YES	-
WHEELED VEHICLES 2 1/2 TON/5 TON TRK	10	MAP	YES	-
AMBULANCE	5	MAP	YES	-
MAINTENANCE REPAIR SHOP TOOLS/SPARES	-	MAP	YES	1 MIL
V-100 ARMORED CAR SPARES	-	MAP	YES	500000
MEDICAL SUPPLY SUPPORT	-	MAP	YES	500000
AIRCRAFT SPARE PARTS	-	MAP	YES	200000
UH-1H HELICOPTERS	2	MAP	YES	-
RIVERINE PATROL BOATS	5	MAP	YES	500000
105 HOWITZER (A)	6	MAP	YES	-
COMPUTER SYSTEM (B)	3	MAP	YES	-

-- (A) HOWITZERS TO REPLACE BRITISH CANNON-1920S.
-- (B) THERE IS NO METHOD OF TRACKING LOGISTICAL
- SUPPORT, PERSONNEL, OR OPERATIONS AT THIS TIME
- FOR THE ARMY, NAVY, OR AIR FORCE.
--

FY 89

DEFENSE ARTICLES	QTY	METHOD	VALID	COST
WHEELED VEHICLES JEEP	25	MAP	YES	-
WHEELED VEHICLES 3/4 TON TRUCK	20	MAP	YES	-
WHEELED VEHICLES 2 1/2 TON/5 TON TRK10	MAP	YES	-	-

AMBULANCE	5	MAP	YES	-
MEDICAL SUPPLY SUPPORT	-	MAP	YES	500000
AIRCRAFT SPARE PARTS	-	MAP	YES	200000
UH-1H HELICOPTERS	2	MAP	YES	-
RIVERINE PATROL BOATS	5	MAP	YES	500000
105 HOWITZER	6	FMS CR	YES	-
AMMUNITION	-	FMS CR	YES	750000
A-37/F-5 AIRCRAFT	6	FMS CR	YES	-
C-130 AIRCRAFT	1	FMS CR	YES	-

FY 90

DEFENSE ARTICLES	QTY	METHOD	VALID	COST
WHEELED VEHICLES JEEP	25	MAP	YES	-
WHEELED VEHICLES 3/4 TON TRUCK	20	MAP	YES	-
AMBULANCE	5	MAP	YES	-
MEDICAL SUPPLY SUPPORT	-	MAP	YES	500000
AIRCRAFT SPARE PARTS	-	MAP	YES	200000
UH-1H HELICOPTERS	2	MAP	YES	-
RIVERINE PATROL BOATS	5	MAP	YES	500000
105 HOWITZER	6	FMS CR	YES	-
AMMUNITION	-	FMS CR	YES	750000
A-37/F-5 AIRCRAFT	6	FMS CR	YES	-
C-130 AIRCRAFT	1	FMS CR	YES	-

9. (C) THE ABOVE LIST OF PURCHASES WOULD GREATLY IMPROVE BAF MILITARY CAPABILITY. THE BOLIVIAN MILITARY IS CURRENTLY STAGNANT, LACKING BASIC MATERIAL, LOGISTICAL SUPPORT AND TRAINING. THE MATERIALS REQUESTED WOULD SUPPLY THE INDIVIDUAL SOLDIER WITH HIS MOST BASIC NEEDS -- UNIFORMS, BOOTS AND FIELD GEAR. THE SPARES AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES WILL ALLOW THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A LOGISTICAL AND MEDICAL PROGRAM SUITED TO THE MILITARY'S CIVIC ACTION RESPONSIBILITIES. THE HELICOPTERS AND RIVERINE PATROL BOATS CAN PROVIDE THE BAF WITH AN INTERNAL REACTION CAPABILITY AND AUXILIARY NARCOTICS CONTROL THAT IT CURRENTLY DOES NOT POSSESS. THE AIRMOBILE CAPABILITY IS NECESSARY BECAUSE OF THE PRECARIOUS HIGHWAY/RAILROAD TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM; THE PATROL BOATS GIVE THE NAVY A VIABLE MEANS OF PATROLLING THE EASTERN AND NORTHERN RIVER BORDERS

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~~SECRET~~ SECTION 06 OF 06 LA PAZ 02169

DIA FOR IR BRANCH; USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: MASS, MARR, AMGT, SNAR, BL
SUBJECT: ANNUAL INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT OF SECURITY

AGAINST NARCOTICS SMUGGLERS. IMPORTANT OVER THIS FOUR-YEAR PROGRAM IS CONTINUED LOGISTICAL SUPPORT IN LIEU OF EXCESSIVE PURCHASES OF NEW ARMS. THAT IS, THE IMPORTANCE LIES IN THE MAP PROGRAM BEING USED TO REVITALIZE EQUIPMENT ON HAND AND AUGMENTATION OF CURRENT ARMS INVENTORY WITH HARD REQUIREMENTS, NOT THE PURCHASE OF EXOTIC WEAPONS SYSTEMS ILL-SUITED TO BOLIVIA'S INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL SECURITY PROBLEMS. AS FOR THE PURCHASE OF A-37/F-5 AIRCRAFT, THE MISSION BELIEVES THAT AT SOME POINT IN THE FUTURE THE BOLIVIAN AIR FORCE WILL NEED AT LEAST ONE SQUADRON OF MODERN AIRCRAFT; NEVERTHELESS, A PURCHASE OF THIS MAGNITUDE SHOULD AWAIT RESOLUTION OF THE ECONOMIC CRISIS, A GOOD THREE-TO-FIVE YEARS OFF.

10. (C) PER GUIDANCE, USG INTERESTS IN PROVIDING SECURITY ASSISTANCE HAVE BEEN OUTLINED IN PARAGRAPHS TWO AND THREE. BARRING USG ASSISTANCE, THE BAF ARE LIKELY TO CONTINUE SPOT PURCHASES ON THE WORLD MARKET, BUT VERY LITTLE BECAUSE OF THE SEVERE ECONOMIC CRISIS. SINCE LATE 1982 BOTH THE FRENCH AND THE SOVIETS HAVE MADE OFFERS OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE, THE SOVIET OFFER INCLUDING A GENEROUS STIPEND FOR THE BAF SHOULD THEY SEND A MILITARY ATTACHE TO MOSCOW. NO CONCRETE DEALS, HOWEVER, HAVE BEEN MADE AND THE BAF HAS YET TO ACCREDIT AN ATTACHE TO MOSCOW. THE FRENCH, IN

APRIL 1984, SENT A SHIPMENT OF RADIOS AND MACHINE-PISTOLS TO THE GOB, APPARENTLY INTENDED FOR THE POLICE. THE MILITARY, HOWEVER, SEIZED THIS SHIPMENT AND STILL HOLDS IT.

11. (C) MISSION BELIEVES THAT ESF FUNDING IS APPROPRIATE FOR SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN BOLIVIA. REF (A) NOTES THAT UNSOUND ECONOMIC POLICIES IN HOST COUNTRIES ARE NOW A PRIME CONSIDERATION IN THE DENIAL OF ESF FUNDS. TARGETS FOR CONDITIONALITY IN BOLIVIA WOULD CERTAINLY INCLUDE POLICIES OUTLINED IN REF (A), UNSUSTAINABLE BUDGET DEFICITS, CONSUMER SUBSIDIES AND AN OVER-VALUED EXCHANGE RATE. NEVERTHELESS, THE CURRENT BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENT IS ON ITS WAY OUT IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS AND IT HAS BEEN MISSION POLICY TO TRY TO INFLUENCE LIKELY SUCCESSOR GOVERNMENTS OF THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH THE USG VIEWS SUCH POLICIES. ALSO, THE GOVERNMENT LIKELY TO COME TO POWER THIS YEAR WILL NOT BE GIVEN TO POPULIST SOLUTIONS TO ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. WITH ELECTIONS DUE THIS YEAR, THEN, MISSION WOULD BE HARD-PRESSED TO JUDGE IF BOLIVIA MAY TAKE PART IN PARIS CLUB DEBT RESCHEDULING IN FY 87.
(DRAFTED BY V. MARTINEZ) CORR
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N2B BRNG IN THEATER	5 MTTs	B	125,000
N2C TRNG IN THEATER	4 MTTs	B	40,000
N2D TRNG IN THEATER	2 MTTs	A	40,000
N2G TRNG IN THEATER	1 MTT	C	5,000
TRAINING AIDS/DEVICES/PUBS		C	100,000
	TOTAL		\$565,000

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DIA FOR IR BRANCH; USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: MASS, MARR, AMGT, SNAR, BL
SUBJECT: SECURITY ASSISTANCE REPORTING - TRAINING AIASAREF: (A) STATE 014331 (B) STATE 341701
- (C) 84 LA PAZ 1847

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT

2. AS REQUIRED BY GUIDANCE (REFS A AND B) EMBASSY IS
SUBMITTING SECURITY ASSISTANCE - TRAINING AIASA
MESSAGE BY THIS SEPARATE CABLE. REGULAR ANNUAL
INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT BEING SENT SEPTEL.3. PER GUIDANCE, MISSION IS SUBMITTING TRAINING PRO-
JECTIONS FOR FY 87 AND FY 88 ONLY, USING FORMAT
REF (B):
--

TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR FY87 - IMET

GENERIC CATEGORY	NUMBER	PRIORITY	DOLLARS
N1C COMM/ELECTRONICS TRNG	5 CONUS	A	\$ 15,000
N1D MAINTENANCE TRNG	14 CONUS	A	45,000
N1G LOGISTICS TRNG	4 CONUS	A	20,000
N1F ADMINISTRATIVE TRNG	3 CONUS	A	5,000
N1U PROFESSIONAL/SPECIAL	2 CONUS	B	40,000
N1B OPERATIONS TRNG	20 CONUS	A	100,000

EXPLANATION/JUSTIFICATION:

- A. COMM/ELECTRONICS: TO TRAIN TECHNICIANS THAT WILL
IN TURN UPDATE MAP EQUIPMENT PURCHASES FROM THE U.S.
IN YEARS 70-79.
- B. MAINTENANCE TRAINING: TO ESTABLISH MAINTENANCE
DEPOTS AT BATTALION LEVEL. TECHNICIANS ARE DESPERATELY
NEEDED FOR WHEELED VEHICLES, RADIO EQUIPMENT AND
WEAPONS.
- C. LOGISTICS TRAINING: TO ESTABLISH A LOGISTICAL SYSTEM
CAPABLE OF MAINTAINING LOGS, PROPERTY BOOKS AND
ACCOUNTABILITY OF EXISTING STOCKS.
- D. ADMINISTRATIVE TRAINING: TO MANAGE THE ESTABLISHMENT
AND OPERATION OF A COMPUTER SYSTEM BEING PURCHASED
WITH EITHER MAP OR FMS CREDITS FUNDS.
- E. PROFESSIONAL/SPECIALIZED TRAINING: TO TRAIN AND
EXPOSE HIGH RANKING OFFICIALS TO TRAINING NOT AVAILABLE
IN NORMAL CHANNELS.
- F. OPERATIONS TRAINING: TO TRAIN NEWLY COMMISSIONED
OFFICERS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF PERSONNEL AND MATERIAL
RESOURCES. TO PROVIDE YOUNGER OFFICERS THE SKILLS
NECESSARY TO OPERATE IN A FIELD ENVIRONMENT. TO
DEVELOP AN NCO CORPS CAPABLE OF TRAINING THEIR OWN
SUBORDINATES.
- G. TRAINING IN THEATER: TO TRAIN TRAINERS THAT CAN
IN TURN TRAIN THEIR OWN PERSONNEL IN A VARIETY OF

SPECIALTIES. UTILIZING MTTs WOULD BE THE MOST
EFFECTIVE WAY OF TRAINING ALL TECHNICIANS AND COMBAT
TROOPS BECAUSE ALL TRAINING CAN BE CONDUCTED ON
THEIR OWN BASES, WITH THEIR OWN EQUIPMENT WITH
MAXIMUM PARTICIPATION.

H. TRAINING AIDS/DEVICES/PUBLICATIONS: TO PROVIDE
THE MEANS BY WHICH HOST COUNTRY TRAINERS COULD PRESENT
EFFECTIVE INSTRUCTION TO THEIR SUBORDINATES. AT
PRESENT TRAINING AIDS/DEVICES AND SPANISH PUBLICATIONS
ARE ALMOST NON-EXISTENT WHICH CAUSES THE TROOPS TO BE
ONLY marginally TRAINED.

BT

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BY

RW

NARA DATE 5/18/15

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IMPACT, HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS, ETC., HAVE BEEN
COVERED IN MORE COMPREHENSIVE AIASA SEPTIL, AS REQUIRED
BY GUIDANCE. (DRAFTED BY V. MARTINEZ) CORF
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DIA FOR IR BRANCH; USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: MASS, MARR, AMGT, SNAR, BL
SUBJECT: SECURITY ASSISTANCE REPORTING - TRAINING AIASA

TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR FY88 - IMET

TRAINING FOR FY88 SHOULD BE AN EXACT REPLICIA OF FY87
WITH THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONS.

GENERIC CATEGORY	NUMBER	PRIORITY	DOLLARS
N1A	1 CONUS	B	\$ 70,000
N1B	2 CONUS	B	2,000
N1C	2 CONUS	B	10,000
N1D	4 CONUS	B	20,000
N1E	2 CONUS	B	3,000
N1G	12 CONUS	A	220,000
N1P	2 CONUS	B	5,000
N1Q	6 CONUS	A	22,000
-	TOTAL		\$352,000

4. MAP FUNDS HAVE YET TO BE USED FOR TRAINING BECAUSE
OF THE SERIOUS NEED FOR BASIC EQUIPMENT AND MATERIAL
ON THE PART OF THE BOLIVIAN ARMED FORCES (BAF). IMET,
THEN, REPRESENTS JUST ABOUT THE SUM TOTAL OF
TRAINING FUNDS AVAILABLE. BOLIVIA DOES NOT NOW
PARTICIPATE IN A FMS PROGRAM; ITS ECONOMY CANNOT,
FOR THE MOMENT, SUSTAIN THE COSTS.

5. SHORT DESCRIPTIONS OF USG INTERESTS, ARMS CONTROL

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DIA FOR IR BRANCH; USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: ELAB, PGOV, PINS, EASC, SNAR, BL
SUBJECT: SITREP NO. 23; SITUATION IN LA PAZ AT 1800 HRS.

REF: LA PAZ 2165

1. THE STREETS OF LA PAZ ARE STILL RELATIVELY CALM THIS AFTERNOON. THE MILITARY PRESENCE HAS SO FAR PRODUCED NO CLASHES EXCEPT FOR THE INCIDENT REPORTED IN REFTEL. HELICOPTERS HAVE CONTINUED MAKING INSPECTION FLIGHTS OVER THE GOVERNMENT PALACE, AND FIGHTER PLANES HAVE MADE SEVERAL LOW PASSES OVER THE CITY. ARMY UNITS HAVE BEEN POSITIONED IN OBRAJES AND MIRAFLORES, WHILE MILITARY POLICE AND UNITS OF THE TARAPACA REGIMENT ARE PATROLLING THE CENTER CITY TO KEEP STREETS OPEN. POLICE AND ARMY BRIGADES HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO TRY TO PERSUADE ANY DEMONSTRATORS TO DISPERSE, USING FORCE ONLY AS A LAST RESORT.

2. ACCORDING TO DEFENSE MINISTER CARDENAS MALLO THE ARMY MOBILIZATION IS BEING CARRIED OUT THROUGHOUT BOLIVIA, WITH A FOCUS ON THE ROADS LEADING TO LA PAZ FROM MINING DISTRICTS. THE BOLIVIAN WORKERS' CENTRAL (COB) REPORTS THAT TWO TRUCKS FULL OF MINERS DESTINED FOR LA PAZ WERE ALREADY TURNED BACK BY THE ARMED FORCES. INFORMATION MINISTER MARIO RUEDA PENA EXPLAINED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD NOT DECLARED A STATE OF SIEGE BECAUSE IT WANTS TO AVOID INTERFERING WITH THE ELECTIONS AS SCHEDULED. HE SAID THAT PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATIONS WHICH DO NOT INTERFERE WITH THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS WILL BE PERMITTED BY THE ARMED FORCES AND POLICE.

3. AT MIDDAY COB EXECUTIVE SECRETARY JUAN LECHIN BROADCAST AN APPEAL, REPEATED LATER IN AN OFFICIAL COB COMMUNIQUE, FOR WORKERS TO AVOID CONFRONTATIONS WITH THE MILITARY AND ITS TANKS ON THE STREETS OF LA PAZ. "WE CANNOT AND WE SHOULD NOT RESPOND TO GOVERNMENT PROVOCATION", HE SAID. THE COB HAS PROTESTED THE GOVERNMENT'S ALLEGED CUTOFF OF POWER TO RADIO CONTINENTAL, THE MINERS' AND FACTORY WORKERS' NETWORK. THIS MORNING'S MEETING OF THE COB STRIKE COMMITTEE DETERMINED TO CALL AN EMERGENCY MEETING TO ADOPT RESPONSES TO THE ARMY OCCUPATION AND OTHER GOVERNMENT ACTIONS.

4. THE CATHOLIC CHURCH HAS REPORTEDLY OFFERED TO MEDIATE THE CONFLICT, AND THE EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED UNCONFIRMED REPORTS THAT A QUIET MEETING BETWEEN TOP COB AND GOVERNMENT LEADERS WOULD TAKE PLACE THIS AFTERNOON AT THE ARCHDIOCESE.

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BY RW NARA DATE 5/18/15

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DIA FOR IR BRANCH; USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: ELAB, PGOV, PINS, CASC, SNAR, BL
SUBJECT: SITREP NO. 25; SITUATION IN LA PAZ AT 1200 HRS.
- MARCH 22

REF: LA PAZ 2195

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT

2. AT 9:30 THIS MORNING REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE BOLIVIAN WORKERS CENTRAL (COB) ARE MEETING UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH TO SEEK A SOLUTION TO THE 15-DAY GENERAL STRIKE THAT BROUGHT THE TROOPS INTO THE STREETS AND BOLIVIA TO THE VERGE OF VIOLENT CONFRONTATION. MSGR. ALEJANDRO MESTRE, PERMANENT SECRETARY OF THE EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE, MET YESTERDAY WITH FOREIGN MINISTER EDGAR CAMACHO AND PLANNING MINISTER FREDDY JUSTINIANO TO ESTABLISH GROUND RULES FOR THE DISCUSSION. HE FOLLOWED UP BY MEETING WITH THE COB NEGOTIATING COMMISSION AT 9:00 A.M. ON FRIDAY. IN A STATEMENT TO THE PRESS HE NOTED THAT BOTH LABOR AND GOVERNMENT SEEM "WELL DISPOSED" TO ENDING THE CONFLICT.

3. AFTER A LONG DEBATE ON THURSDAY AFTERNOON THE COB DECIDED NOT TO BEGIN THE THREATENED HUNGER STRIKE (REFTEL), BUT INSTEAD TO AUTHORIZE ITS STRIKE COMMITTEE TO JUDGE, ON THE PROGRESS OF NEGOTIATIONS, WHEN AND IF TO BEGIN THE "EXTREME MEASURE." THE CONFEDERATION OF RAILROAD WORKERS PRESENTED AN OPEN

LETTER SAYING THAT THE STRIKE SHOULD BE LIFTED AND THE GOVERNMENT ASKED TO ADD 100 PERCENT OF THE BONUS GRANTED IN FEBRUARY TO THE MINIMUM WAGE. (ANOTHER FORMULA BEING DISCUSSED IN LABOR CIRCLES WOULD ACCEPT THE GOVERNMENT'S OFFER OF A 70 PERCENT WAGE INCREASE AND MAKE THE NEW MONTHLY MINIMUM OF FOUR MILLION PESOS SUBJECT TO COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS, USING THE MARCH 1983 DECREE AND TEN MARKETBASKET ITEMS AS A GUIDE.) IN THE DEBATE COB GENERAL SECRETARY WALTER DELGADILLO, A MEMBER OF THE NEGOTIATING COMMISSION, ARGUED FOR GIVING THE COMMITTEE MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY TO REACH AN ACCORD.

4. ON THURSDAY INTERIOR MINISTER ALVAREZ PLATA ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE URGING PUBLIC EMPLOYEES TO RETURN TO WORK BY MONDAY OR FACE SANCTIONS INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF DISMISSAL FOR CONTINUING THE "ILLEGAL STRIKE." AT THE SAME TIME FINANCE MINISTER FRANCISCO BELMONTE ANNOUNCED THAT THE STATE COULDN'T MEET CIVIL SERVANTS' PAYROLL BECAUSE OF LOSSES CAUSED BY THE STRIKE WHICH ARE NOW ESTIMATED AT 150 MILLION DOLLARS. ELSEWHERE IN BOLIVIA IT IS INCREASINGLY CLEAR THAT THE STRIKE IS FALLING APART. THE PRESSURES BY FACTORY WORKERS, TEACHERS, BANKWORKERS AND OTHER GROUPS TO RETURN TO WORK ARE INCREASING IN SANTA CRUZ, SUCRE, TARIJA AND COCHABAMBA. IN POTOSI, BECAUSE OF A DYNAMITE ATTACK ON MARCH 21 WHICH DESTROYED 800 METERS OF RAIL, RAILROAD WORKERS WERE FORCED TO SUSPEND TRAINS CARRYING EMERGENCY FOOD SHIPMENTS.

5. MOST PACENOS GREETED THE ARMY'S ARRIVAL ON MARCH 20 WITH CONSIDERABLE RELIEF AS A SIGN THAT LAW AND ORDER WOULD BE REESTABLISHED AND THE COB PREVENTED FROM RUNNING THEIR LIVES. WITH ITS NEWFOUND AUTHORITY THE GOVERNMENT BEGAN SHOWING AN IRON FIST IN A VELVET GLOVE, HINTING THAT IT MIGHT GIVE A LITTLE MORE IN TALKS BUT TURNING BACK TRUCKLOADS OF MINERS AND TELLING THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES THEIR CARNIVAL DAYS ARE NUMBERED. COB LEADERS NOW ADMIT PRIVATELY THAT THE "BIG STRIKE" CAN'T BE SUSTAINED MORE THAN A MATTER OF DAYS, SINCE THE SHUTDOWN WILL SOON BE LIMITED TO PARTS OF LA PAZ AND THE MINING CENTERS OF THE ALTIPLANO. THE CHURCH'S TIMELY INTERVENTION SHOULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR BOTH SIDES TO ENGAGE IN ENOUGH FACE-SAVING TO BRING WHAT COLUMBIAN PAULOVICH, BOLIVIA'S ART BUCHWALD, HAS

Bolivia

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DIA FOR IR BRANCH; USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: ELAB, PGOV, PINS, CASC, SNAR, BL
SUBJECT: SITREP NO. 25; SITUATION IN LA PAZ AT 1200 HRS.

CALLED "THE MOST BORING SHOW IN TOWN" TO AN END.
(DRAFTED BY CHARLOTTE ROE) CORR
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 01 OF 02 LA PAZ 02300

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PGOV, PINS, SNAR, BL, US
SUBJECT: CALL ON PRESIDENT SILES FOR EXCHANGE PRIOR TO
- CHIEFS OF MISSION MEETING

1. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. THE AMBASSADOR REQUESTED A MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SILES PRIOR TO HIS MARCH 26 DEPARTURE FOR THE MIAMI COM CONFERENCE. WITHIN HOURS OF MAKING THE REQUEST, THE AMBASSADOR WAS TOLD THE PRESIDENT WOULD SEE HIM IMMEDIATELY. THE FORTY MINUTE MEETING TOOK PLACE LATE AFTERNOON OF MARCH 22; THE AMBASSADOR ACCOMPANIED BY THE DCM, AND PRESIDENT SILES JOINED BY HIS PRIVATE SECRETARY, MARIO ALARCON.

3. THE AMBASSADOR OPENED WITH CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PRESIDENT AND HIS GOVERNMENT FOR MAKING IT THROUGH THE TENSE AND DIFFICULT TWO WEEKS OF GENERAL STRIKE. HE THEN EXPLAINED THAT HE WOULD BE ATTENDING A LATIN AMERICAN CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE NEXT WEEK IN THE U.S., AND WANTED A FINAL EXCHANGE OF OPINIONS SO THAT HE COULD BETTER PRESENT THE BOLIVIAN SITUATION AT THE MEETING. THE AMBASSADOR OUTLINED THREE PRESSING U.S. CONCERNS:

-- NEED FOR ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENTS: THE USG UNDERSTANDS
- THAT THE GENERAL STRIKE AND MINERS IN THE STREETS
- DURING THE PAST TWO WEEKS MADE COMPLIANCE WITH THE
- GOVERNMENT'S REPEATED PROMISE FOR FOLLOW-ON ECONOMIC
- ADJUSTMENTS DIFFICULT. BUT NOW THAT THE SITUATION
- IS RETURNING TO NORMAL, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE
- REGIME STICK TO ITS GUNS AND PROMULGATE THE ADJUST-
- MENTS. OF GREATEST URGENCY, THE AMBASSADOR STRESSED,
- WILL BE THE NEED FOR A READJUSTMENT OF THE PESO-
- DOLLAR EXCHANGE RATE PRIOR TO THE REOPENING OF THE
- BANKS. IF AN ADJUSTMENT IS NOT MADE, THE AMBASSADOR
- WARNED, THE REOPENING OF THE BANKS AND THE PAYMENT
- OF WHATEVER STRIKE SETTLEMENT HAS BEEN AGREED UPON
- WILL SEND THE DOLLAR SKY-HIGH WHICH, IN TURN, WILL
- REKINDLE HYPERINFLATION, AND ROB THE WORKING MAN
- OF ANY GAINS REALIZED BY HIGHER WAGES.

-- NARCOTICS: THE AMBASSADOR ASKED FOR THE PRESIDENT'S
- GOOD OFFICES IN ENSURING GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATION IN

- THE DELAYED EMBASSY-GOB MEETING TO FINALIZE THE RE-
- SULTS OF THE MUTUAL EVALUATION OF OUR ANTI-NARCOTICS
- EFFORTS. THE AMBASSADOR ALSO OFFERED TO BRIEF AND
- OTHERWISE PREPARE THE PRESIDENT'S WIFE FOR HER UP-
- COMING PARTICIPATION IN THE FIRST LADIES NARCOTICS
- CONFERENCE.

-- ELECTORAL PROJECT: THE AMBASSADOR DESCRIBED A NUMBER
- OF DISTURBING INCIDENTS IN U.S. EFFORTS TO PROVIDE
- ASSISTANCE TO THE SUPREME ELECTORAL COURT AS IT GEARS
- UP FOR THE JULY 14 ELECTIONS. THE AMBASSADOR EMPHA-
- SIZED THAT THE USG DID NOT WANT TO BECOME ENMESHED
- IN PARTISAN BICKERING ON THE COURT, AND WAS ONLY
- WILLING TO GO AHEAD WITH THE PROJECT IF A CLEAR
- MAJORITY OF THE COURT WAS FOURSQUARE BEHIND IT.
- THE AMBASSADOR ASKED FOR THE PRESIDENT'S SUPPORT,
- PARTICULARLY WITH THE TWO COURT MEMBERS NOMINATED BY
- THE MNRI.

4. THE PRESIDENT RESPONDED, FIRST WITH HIS APPRECIATION FOR THE AMBASSADOR'S EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT DURING THE WORST MOMENTS OF THE GENERAL STRIKE. HE ADDED THAT HE DID NOT CONSIDER THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS OUT OF THE WOODS AS YET. THE SUPPORT OF THE ARMED FORCES HAD BEEN REASSURING, BUT THERE WAS STILL THE POSSIBILITY OF A MASSIVE HUNGER STRIKE. HE CONCLUDED THAT "WE WILL SURVIVE, BUT FACE DIFFICULT TIMES AHEAD".

5. SILES THEN REPLIED ON THE THREE ISSUES THE AMBASSADOR RAISED:

--
-- ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENTS: THE PRESIDENT EXPRESSED HIS
- CONCERN THAT A MAJOR DEVALUATION OF THE PESO AT THIS
- TIME WOULD PROVOKE A SERIOUS REACTION FROM THE COB.
- AFTER THE AMBASSADOR REPEATED HIS ARGUMENT OF WHAT
- WOULD ASSUREDLY OCCUR IN TERMS OF INFLATION SHOULD
- A DEVALUATION NOT BE ANNOUNCED, THE PRESIDENT AGREED
- TO DISCUSS THE MATTER IMMEDIATELY WITH HIS ECONOMIC
- TEAM.

-- NARCOTICS: SILES SIDESTEPED THE DOMESTIC NARCOTICS
- SITUATION BY REFERRING TO HIS EFFORTS IN CARACAS,
- AND AGAIN IN MONTEVIDEO, TO LAUNCH A REGIONAL EFFORT
- TO DEAL WITH THE ISSUE.

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BY RW NARA DATE 5/18/15

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E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PGOV, PINS, SNAR, BL, US
SUBJECT: CALL ON PRESIDENT SILES FOR EXCHANGE PRIOR TO

- ELECTORAL PROJECT: THE PRESIDENT SAID HE WOULD
- DISCUSS THE PROJECT AND ELECTORAL COURT PROBLEMS
- WITH THE TWO MNRI MEMBERS, AND GET BACK TO THE
- AMBASSADOR.

6. COMMENT: CONSIDERING WHAT HE HAS BEEN THROUGH DURING THE TENSIONS OF THE TWO WEEK OLD GENERAL STRIKE, INCLUDING SEVERAL MARATHON NEGOTIATING SESSIONS WITH LECHIN AND HIS FOLLOWERS THAT WENT TO TWO, THREE, FOUR A.M., THE PRESIDENT APPEARED IN REMARKABLY GOOD PHYSICAL AND MENTAL STATE.

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DIA FOR IR BRANCH; USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, PGOV, PINS, CASC, SNAR, BL
SUBJECT: SITREP NO. 26: SITUATION IN LA PAZ AT 1000 HRS.
- MARCH 25

REF: LA PAZ 2252

1. THE 16-DAY GENERAL STRIKE BY THE BOLIVIAN WORKERS CENTRAL (COB) ENDED ON MARCH 24 AFTER SUCCESSFUL MEDIATION EFFORTS WHICH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH HAD BEGUN TWO DAYS EARLIER (REFTTEL). IN RETURN FOR THE COB LIFTING THE STRIKE, THE GOVERNMENT AGREED TO FOLD 100 PERCENT OF THE FEBRUARY BONUS INTO THE MINIMUM WAGE, BRINGING IT TO 4,035,000 PESOS OR ABOUT \$33.63 AT THE PARALLEL MARKET RATE. THE GOB NEGOTIATING TEAM, HEADED BY PLANNING MINISTER FREDDY JUSTINIANO, ALSO PROMISED TO RECONSTRUCT THE SALARY CURVE FOR EACH LABOR SECTOR, GRANT PERIODIC COST-OF-LIVING INCREASES BEGINNING IN APRIL, CONTROL THE PRICES OF FOOD STAPLES NOW IN STOCK, AND IMPROVE THE SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD PRODUCTS. THE DECREE IMPLEMENTING THE MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE IS EXPECTED TO BE ISSUED TODAY.

2. BY A MAJORITY VOTE, THE COB GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON MARCH 23 APPROVED THE ACCORD REACHED WITH THE GOVERNMENT. COB EXECUTIVE SECRETARY JUAN LECHIN, WHO BORE THE BRUNT OF CRITICISM BOTH FOR LETTING STRIKERS BE LED INTO A NO-WIN "POLITICAL ADVENTURE" AND FOR "SELLING OUT" TO PRO-IMF ECONOMIC POLICIES,

ADMITTED THAT THE LABOR MOVEMENT IS LEAVING THE STRIKE MORE DIVIDED THAN EVER. ON SUNDAY MARCH 24 THOUSANDS OF MINERS LEFT LA PAZ AFTER BEING GIVEN A ROUSING GOING-AWAY CEREMONY COMPLETE WITH BANDS AND REVOLUTIONARY SONGS IN THE AMPHITHEATER. LECHIN WAS NOT PRESENT.

3. LA PAZ IS NOW BACK TO NORMAL, WITH HUGE TRAFFIC JAMS PROVOKED BY TORRENTIAL RAINS. ALTHOUGH SOME MILITARY POLICE REMAIN IN THE CITY, THE TANKS AND TROOPS FROM THE TARAPACA REGIMENT ARE GONE. THIS ENDS SITREP SERIES. SEPTELS WILL ANALYZE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF WHAT HAS BEEN BILLED AS THE "LONGEST GENERAL STRIKE ON RECORD" IN BOLIVIA. (DRAFTED BY CHARLOTTE ROE) CORR
BT

Bolivia

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USIA FOR AR LEROY AND P/DS MCGUIRE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PGOV, SNAR, EAID, BI
SUBJECT: GOB DISPLEASURE WITH ALLEGED REMARKS OF
SENATOR HAWKINS ON BOLIVIA AND NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT

2. SUBSECRETARY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS JORGE CRESPO INFORMED THE CHARGE ON MARCH 29 THAT THE GOB, INCLUDING PRESIDENT SILES, IS "INCENSED" OVER THE ALLEGED DECLARATIONS OF SENATOR PAULA HAWKINS ON THE PROBLEM OF NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING IN BOLIVIA. CHARGE WAS VISITING CRESPO ON OTHER BUSINESS, INCLUDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR MRS. SILES' PARTICIPATION IN THE APRIL FIRST LADIES' CONFERENCE, WHEN THE SUBSECRETARY BROUGHT UP WIRE SERVICE STORIES CARRIED YESTERDAY/TODAY BY ALL MAJOR LA PAZ DAILIES ON SENATOR HAWKINS' REPORTED REMARKS.

3. CRESPO NOTED THAT THE WIRE SERVICE STORIES (AP AND THE GERMAN AGENCY DPA) CARRIED THE FOLLOWING:

-- SENATOR HAWKINS IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT BOLIVIA IS A "BAD INVESTMENT" BECAUSE "NO ONE IS IN CHARGE."

-- SENATOR DENNIS DECONCINI IS QUOTED IN THE DPA STORY AS SAYING THAT BOLIVIA'S CHIEF NARCOTICS CZARS MAINTAIN CLOSE RELATIONS WITH HIGH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

-- SENATOR HAWKINS IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE PROBLEM MUST BE TAKEN TO ITS SOURCE, BOLIVIA; AND THAT BOLIVIA MUST BE TOLD TO TAKE ACTION NOW OR SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES.

4. CRESPO SAID THE GOB INSISTS THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT, ON BEHALF OF THE ADMINISTRATION, ISSUE A FORMAL STATEMENT LETTING THE WORLD KNOW WHETHER THE ADMINISTRATION IS OR IS NOT IN AGREEMENT WITH THE SENATOR'S STATEMENT, SPECIFICALLY THAT OF BOLIVIA BEING "RUN BY CRIMINALS." THE SUBSECRETARY SAID THE GOB DOES NOT WANT A "CLARIFICATION" OF THE

CIRCUMSTANCES OF SENATOR HAWKINS' REMARKS OR A DESCRIPTION OF CONGRESSIONAL INDEPENDENCE. TO CLEAR THE AIR, THE GOB MUST HAVE A CLEAR AND UNEQUIVOCAL ANNOUNCEMENT AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THE ADMINISTRATION AGREES WITH THE REPUBLICAN SENATOR'S CHARACTERIZATION OF BOLIVIA'S RULERS, WHICH PRESUMABLY INCLUDES THE PRESIDENT, AS "CRIMINALS." CRESPO ADDED THAT IF SUCH A STATEMENT IS NOT FORTHCOMING, PRESIDENT SILES IS PRESENTLY OF A MIND THAT MRS. SILES SHOULD CANCEL HER PARTICIPATION IN MRS. REAGAN'S FIRST LADIES' CONFERENCE ON DRUG ABUSE, AS THE BOLIVIAN FIRST LADY COULD HARDLY SUBMIT HERSELF TO THE EMBARRASSMENT THAT WOULD LIKELY FLOW FROM SENATOR HAWKINS' ALLEGED STATEMENT.

5. CHARGE POINTED OUT TO CRESPO THAT THE BOLIVIAN CONGRESS REGULARLY RINGS WITH FALSE AND INSULTING CHARACTERIZATIONS OF THE USG AND ITS POLICIES, AND WE ACCEPT THESE AS THE CONSEQUENCE OF OPEN CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE, AND NOT STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL GOB ATTITUDE. CRESPO REPLIED THAT THIS CASE WAS DIFFERENT BECAUSE SENATOR HAWKINS IS FROM THE PARTY OF PRESIDENT REAGAN AND THE ADMINISTRATION, SUBJECT TO THE DISCIPLINE OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE PARTY. FOR THIS REASON, PRESIDENT SILES, HIS GOVERNMENT AND THE BOLIVIAN PEOPLE "HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW" IF HAWKINS WAS SPEAKING FOR THE ADMINISTRATION. CHARGE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT USG COULD, WITH EQUAL JUSTIFICATION, DEMAND A GOB PUBLIC PRONOUNCEMENT AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THE SILES REGIME AGREED OR DISAGREED WITH SUBSECRETARY OF INTERIOR GUSTAVO SANCHEZ SALAZAR WHEN HE MADE INFLAMMATORY AND ERRONEOUS ANTI-U.S. STATEMENTS IN A THIRTY MINUTE PRESS CONFERENCE THURSDAY EVENING (IN WHICH HE VILLIFIED SENATOR HAWKINS AND CLAIMED THE USG HAS GIVEN

VIRTUALLY NOTHING TO HELP BOLIVIA COMBAT THE DRUG TRADE). UNFORTUNATELY, CRESPO HAD NOT SEEN/HEARD SANCHEZ SALAZAR.

6. COMMENT: EMBASSY WILL NOT ISSUE ANY STATEMENT UNTIL DEPARTMENT CAN (1) PROVIDE US WITH AN ACCURATE ENGLISH TEXT OF SENATOR HAWKINS' REMARKS, AND (2) PROVIDE GUIDANCE ON WHAT POSITION DEPARTMENT WILL TAKE, IF ANY, VIS-A-VIS HAWKINS' STATEMENTS AND THE GOB'S REQUEST.

7. EMBASSY NOTES THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY JON THOMAS BT

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USIA FOR AR LEROY AND P/DS MCGUIRE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PGOV, SNAR, EAID, BL
SUBJECT: GOB DISPLEASURE WITH ALLEGED REMARKS OF

IS TENTATIVELY PROGRAMED FOR A USIA TELE-PRESS
CONFERENCE EARLY NEXT WEEK, VIA TELEPHONE HOOKUP,
WITH BOLIVIAN JOURNALISTS. SHOULD THE DEPARTMENT
WISH TO ISSUE A PUBLIC STATEMENT, THIS MAY WELL
BE AN APPROPRIATE FORUM. WE WOULD SUSPECT QUESTION
WILL COME UP WHETHER WE WANT IT TO OR NOT. SHOULD
ASSISTANT SECRETARY THOMAS NOT BE AVAILABLE POST
SUGGESTS DR. CARLTON TURNER AS A REASONABLE ALTERNA-
TIVE.

8. EMBASSY IS NOT CERTAIN THAT A PUBLIC REPLY PER
THE GOB REQUEST IS NECESSARY OR WARRANTED. AT THE
SAME TIME EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT A DECLARATION,
EITHER IN WASHINGTON AND/OR LA PAZ, WHICH CLARIFIES
FOR THE PUBLIC THE PERSONAL NATURE OF HAWKINS'
REMARKS, THE STATUS OF HER PROPOSED LEGISLATION,
THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH AND THE
EXTENT OF U.S. ASSISTANCE FOR NARCOTICS PROGRAMS
HERE, MIGHT BE HELPFUL. WALKER
BT

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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PGOV, PREL, EAIR, ETRD, BL
SUBJECT: EASTERN'S THREAT TO ABANDON BOLIVIA COULD OPEN
DOOR TO AEROFLOT
REFS: A) LA PAZ 2331; B) LA PAZ 1468; C) LA PAZ 2861
D) LA PAZ 2801

1. (S - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. EMBASSY IS GROWING INCREASINGLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BOLIVIA (GOB) GRANTING AEROFLOT LANDING RIGHTS, FOLLOWED SOON BY ACTUAL FLIGHTS. WHILE REFTELS A-C REPORT CONTINUED RESISTANCE BY SOME BOLIVIAN TO GRANTING AEROFLOT LANDING RIGHTS (ESPECIALLY IN THE MILITARY), THE EMBASSY NOW UNDERSTANDS THAT AN AEROFLOT REPRESENTATIVE IS ALREADY IN LA PAZ AND THAT HE HAS BEEN ALMOST COCKY IN HIS CONFIDENCE THAT LANDING RIGHTS (PROBABLY FOR SANTA CRUZ) WOULD BE ISSUED WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

3. THE GOB HAS ON THE WHOLE BEEN RELUCTANT TO GRANT AEROFLOT LANDING RIGHTS, AND THE EMBASSY HAS MADE IT VERY CLEAR THAT SUCH AN ACTION COULD NOT BE VIEWED FAVORABLY BY THE USG. NEVERTHELESS, THE RECENT PROBLEMS REGARDING PAYMENT BETWEEN THE GOB AND EASTERN AIRLINES (REF D) MAY HAVE AN EFFECT ON THE GOVERNMENT'S DELIBERATIONS. ALSO, SHOULD EASTERN PULL OUT OF BOLIVIA BECAUSE OF ITS PROBLEMS WITH THE GOB IN RECEIVING OVERDUE PAYMENTS, AND IN OBTAINING APPROVAL TO CHARGE FOR TICKETS AT THE PARALLEL RATE OF EXCHANGE, THE DOOR FOR AEROFLOT WOULD JUST SWING OPEN ALL THE EASIER. THE EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT THE DEPARTMENT CONTACT EASTERN, AT WHATEVER LEVEL NECESSARY, AND URGE IT NOT TO PULL OUT OF BOLIVIA; NOR THREATEN TO DO SO. TO DO SO NOW MIGHT VERY WELL DAMAGE USG INTERESTS. (DRAFTED BY VAL MARTINEZ) CORR
BT

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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PGOV, PREL, MASS, MARR, BL
SUBJECT: MILITARY EXERCISE, BOLUSA II, HITS A SNAG

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT

2. SUMMARY: BOLUSA II, A BOLIVIAN MILITARY EXERCISE TO BE CARRIED OUT WITH LOW-LEVEL USG TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, HAS RUN INTO TROUBLE. LEFTIST DEPUTIES SPREAD FALSE INFORMATION ON THE EXERCISE FOLLOWING AN APRIL 11 CLOSED SESSION OF CONGRESS AND MOST OF THE PRESS SPREAD THE DISINFORMATION THE FOLLOWING DAY. WHILE THE EMBASSY HAS MANAGED TO CLARIFY THE TRUE NATURE OF USG INVOLVEMENT, MUCH DAMAGE HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE. RESPONSIBLE CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS HAVE PROMISED TO GIVE PRESIDENT SILES A FREE HAND IN THE DECISION (WHICH HE HAS ANYWAY) BUT THEY HAVE YET TO ACT. THE BOLIVIAN ARMED FORCES -- ALL FACTIONS -- VERY MUCH WANT THE EXERCISE TO TAKE PLACE. THE PRESIDENT, UNDER A 1956 EXECUTIVE AGREEMENT NEVER RATIFIED BY ANY BOLIVIAN CONGRESS, HAS THE RIGHT TO AUTHORIZE SUCH EXERCISES BUT HE MAY HESITATE TO OPENLY REQUEST USG ASSISTANCE IN THE FACE OF LEFTIST PROPAGANDA AND A GENERALLY HEATED DOMESTIC POLITICAL SITUATION. THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT, GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE GOB MUST MAKE IT CLEAR, PUBLICLY, THAT IT WANTS USG PARTICIPATION. THE AMBASSADOR HAS MADE THIS POSITION CLEAR TO A NUMBER OF HIGH-LEVEL GOB OFFICIALS. END SUMMARY.

3. THE PLANNED BOLIVIAN MILITARY EXERCISE, BOLUSA II, TO BE CARRIED OUT WITH SMALL-SCALE USG ASSISTANCE, RAN INTO A SNAG ON APRIL 12 WHEN LEFTIST DEPUTIES LEAKED FALSE INFORMATION TO THE PRESS FOLLOWING A CLOSED AND SUPPOSEDLY SECRET CONGRESSIONAL SESSION THE PREVIOUS EVENING. DEPUTIES OF THE BOLIVIAN COMMUNIST PARTY (PCB) AND THE MARXIST SOCIALIST PARTY-ONE (PS-1) TOLD THE PRESS THAT 1,500 MARINES WERE COMING TO BOLIVIA AND THAT THE CONGRESS HAD "REJECTED" THE "JOINT EXERCISES." THIS FALSE VERSION

WAS PRINTED BY MOST MAJOR DAILIES ON APRIL 12, WITH RIGHT-WING "EL DIARIO" AND SENSATIONALIST TABLOID "MERIDIANO" CARRYING THE MOST DISTORTED VERSIONS.

4. THE MEDIA, MISGUIDED BY ITS PCB AND PS-1 INFORMANTS, TOTALLY IGNORED THE BASIC FACTS:

-- THE NUMBER OF USG PERSONNEL INVOLVED IS ONLY 108;
-- BOLUSA IS NOT A "JOINT EXERCISE," BUT RATHER A BOLIVIAN EXERCISE WITH U.S. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND OBSERVERS;
-- THE BOLIVIAN CONGRESS DID NOT "REJECT" BOLUSA II, BUT ONLY QUESTIONED ITS COMPETENCE TO DEAL WITH THE QUESTION.

5. THE QUESTION OF CONGRESSIONAL COMPETENCE AROSE BECAUSE BOLUSA II, LIKE MANY OTHER SIMILAR EXERCISES OVER THE YEARS, IS BASED ON A 1956 BOLIVIAN EXECUTIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE USG, AN ACCORD NEVER RATIFIED BY THE BOLIVIAN LEGISLATURE, BUT NEVER QUESTIONED BY IT EITHER. THE PRESENT CONGRESS IN ITS APRIL 11 CLOSED SESSION WAS ONLY DISCUSSING WHETHER OR NOT IT WAS CONSTITUTIONALLY COMPETENT TO ADDRESS BOLUSA II; IT CLEARLY DID NOT REJECT THE EXERCISE.

6. THE EMBASSY AND GOB OFFICIALS MANAGED TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT IN THE FRIDAY AFTERNOON "ULTIMA HORA" AND IN WEEKEND PRESS (APRIL 13-14), MAKING CLEAR THE LIMITED NATURE OF USG INVOLVEMENT AND THE DESIRE OF SOME GOB OFFICIALS AND MOST OF THE ARMED FORCES TO SEE THE EXERCISE THROUGH. CERTAIN CENTER-RIGHT DEPUTIES VOICED AGREEMENT; OTHER LEFTIST CONGRESSMEN CONTINUED TO OPPOSE THE EXERCISE.

7. THE AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH GOB CIVILIAN AND MILITARY LEADERS SINCE THE FALSE STORIES BROKE ON APRIL 12. ARMED FORCES COMMANDER GENERAL SIMON SEJAS TORDOYA BRIEFED THE AMBASSADOR EARLY ON APRIL 15 ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT. SEJAS SAID HE HAS SPOKEN WITH PRESIDENT SILES LATE ON APRIL 13, EXPLAINING THE EXERCISE TO THE PRESIDENT AND NOTING THE TECHNICAL ASPECT OF THE USG PRESENCE -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE, COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANCE, CIVIL ACTION PROGRAMS AND THE LIKE. SEJAS ALSO TOLD SILES THAT THE BOLIVIAN CONGRESS HAD NEVER HAD TO APPROVE MANY SIMILAR EXERCISES IN THE PAST AND THAT BOLUSA II BT

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TAGS: PGOV, PREL, MASS, HARR, BL
SUBJECT: MILITARY EXERCISE, BOLUSA II, HITS A SNAG

WOULD DO MUCH FOR THE SORELY-NEEDED FURTHER
PROFESSIONALIZATION OF THE ARMED FORCES.

8. SEJAS THEN TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT SILES BELIEVED IT NECESSARY TO AWAIT AN OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE CONGRESS BEFORE MAKING A DECISION, THIS DESPITE THE EXECUTIVE NATURE OF THE 1956 AGREEMENT. SENATE PRESIDENT JULIO GARRETT AYLLON TOLD THE AMBASSADOR ON APRIL 12 THAT CONGRESS WOULD SEND THIS OFFICIAL CLARIFICATION TO SILES. PRESIDENT VICTOR PAZ ESTENSORRO ALSO ASSURED THE AMBASSADOR THAT GARRETT WOULD SEND THE DESIRED LETTER. GARRETT INFORMED THE AMBASSADOR ON THE AFTERNOON OF APRIL 15 THAT THE LETTER HAD BEEN SENT.

9. AMBASSADOR ALSO TOOK ADVANTAGE OF CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER EDGAR CAMACHO OMISTE TO EXPLAIN THE NATURE OF THE BOLUSA EXERCISE, AND TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT, IN THE LIGHT OF ALL THIS CONTROVERSY, THE EMBASSY COULD NOT MOVE AHEAD WITH U.S. PARTICIPATION UNLESS THE GOB MAKES A PUBLIC STATEMENT WELCOMING OUR CONTRIBUTION. THE AMBASSADOR ALSO NOTED THE WIDESPREAD AND GROWING DISCONTENT IN THE ARMED FORCES AT THE PROSPECT OF U.S. WITHDRAWAL FROM BOLUSA.

10. ACCORDING TO GENERAL SEJAS, THE GOB WILL MAKE A DECISION ON WHETHER OR NOT TO PUBLICLY ACCEPT U.S. ASSISTANCE TO BOLUSA ON APRIL 15 OR 16. SEJAS TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT HE PLANNED TO SEE SILES ON APRIL 16 AND STRESS AGAIN TO THE PRESIDENT THE IMPORTANCE OF BOLUSA II TO THE BOLIVIAN ARMED FORCES.

11. COMMENT: THE LEFT, WITH A BIG ASSIST FROM THE MOST IRRESPONSIBLE ELEMENTS OF THE BOLIVIAN MEDIA, HAS HAD A FIELD DAY WITH THE BOLUSA PROPOSALS. NO AMOUNT OF RECTIFICATION AND CLARIFICATION CAN

TOTALLY UNDO THE DAMAGE DONE NOR ERASE THE FIRST NEGATIVE IMPRESSION CAUSED BY SENSATIONALIST REPORTS OF "1500 MARINES" ARRIVING IN BOLIVIA. (SHADES OF GRENADA!) THE RESENTMENT FELT BY THE ARMED FORCES, WHICH HAS BEEN PLANNING THIS EXERCISE FOR OVER A YEAR, WILL ALSO BE DIFFICULT TO OVERCOME. UNFORTUNATELY, ONE OF THE ARMED FORCES' BEST FRIENDS, DEFENSE MINISTER MANUEL CARDENAS MALLO, HANDLED THE WHOLE EPISODE BADLY. IN VIEW OF CONGRESS' FAILURE IN 1956 TO RATIFY THE U.S.-BOLIVIAN MILITARY COOPERATION AGREEMENT, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER NOT TO RAISE THE ISSUE IN CONGRESS AT ALL, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE APRIL 12 SESSION WAS THE FINAL MEETING OF THE PRESENT CONGRESS. IT WOULD HAVE BEEN FAR BETTER FOR THE ARMED FORCES TO CARRY OUT BOLUSA UNDER EXISTING AUTHORIZATION, WITH OR WITHOUT THE EXECUTIVE'S APPROVAL, AND FACE THE POSSIBILITY OF AN EX POST FACTOR CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY WHEN THE NEW PARLIAMENT CONVENES IN AUGUST. IN THE OVERHEATED PRE-ELECTORAL ENVIRONMENT CURRENTLY PREVAILING, WE ARE UNCERTAIN IF PRESIDENT SILES WILL MAKE THE KIND OF PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE OF U.S. PARTICIPATION IN BOLUSA THAT WE FEEL IS NECESSARY TO COUNTERACT ALL THE NEGATIVE PUBLICITY AND SAFEGUARD THE U.S. FLANK. IF HE FAILS TO DO SO, IT WILL THEN BE NECESSARY FOR BOTH THE BOLIVIAN ARMED FORCES AND THE U.S. EMBASSY TO WEIGH THE PROS AND CONS OF PROCEEDING WITHOUT EXECUTIVE APPROVAL. BECAUSE OF THE LOGISTICS INVOLVED IN ANY U.S. PARTICIPATION, TIME IS NOW OF THE ESSENCE. CORR
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