

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Department of State

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

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ORIGIN ARA-16

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STATE 317212

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 HA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAC-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-01 INR-10
L-03 PA-01 SPRS-02 SP-02 SS-15 /063 R

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TAGS: OAS

SUBJECT: OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY - THE LONGEST
DAY

1. GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONCLUDED AT FIFTEEN MINUTES
PAST NOON NOVEMBER 27, AFTER LITERAL MARATHON SESSION
- TWENTY SIX STRAIGHT HOURS INSTEAD OF TWENTY SIX
MILES.

2. HUMAN RIGHTS. PLENARY APPROVED RESOLUTION PREPARED
BY FIRST COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP AND ADOPTED BY
CONSENSUS IN FIRST COMMITTEE ON ANNUAL REPORT AND
SPECIAL REPORTS OF IAHRG. WORKING GROUP LABORED
FOR ALMOST EIGHTEEN HOURS ON TEXT, WITHIN GROUP
AND IN SIDE DISCUSSIONS IN WHICH U.S., MEXICO, AND
ARGENTINA WERE PRINCIPALS, WITH PERU PLAYING A GO-
BETWEEN ROLE. FIRST COMMITTEE SESSION IN EARLY
MORNING HOURS AGREED TO COMPROMISE LANGUAGE WITH
MANY DELEGATIONS BOTH ON PRO-IAHRG SIDE AND OPPONENTS

OF THE IAHRG ACTION EXPRESSING NUMEROUS RESERVATIONS
ABOUT LANGUAGE OF FINAL RESOLUTION BUT AGREEING
TO ITS ADOPTION. ENGLISH TEXT OF FINAL RESOLUTION
IS BEING RE-TRANSLATED TO CONFORM TO SPANISH VERSION
AND WILL BE FORWARDED IN SEPTEL WHEN AVAILABLE.
(SECRETARY GENERAL DECLARED HOLIDAYS FOR CONFERENCE
STAFF FOR FRIDAY NOVEMBER 28 AND MONDAY DECEMBER

3. COMMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION. IN U.S.
VIEW, WE ACHIEVED OUR MAJOR OBJECTIVES. COMPROMISE
RESOLUTION STRONGLY ENDORSED IAHRG; SPECIFICALLY
NAMED COUNTRIES, INCLUDING ARGENTINA, WHICH HAD
BEEN SUBJECTS OF CRITICAL REPORTING BY THE COMMISSION;
AND CALLED UPON COUNTRIES WHICH HAD NOT YET DONE
SO TO CORRECT REMAINING VIOLATIONS. AT SAME TIME,
BY BEING AS CONCILIATORY TO GOA AS WAS POSSIBLE,
RESOLUTION AVOIDED WITHDRAWAL BY ARGENTINA AND OTHER
SOUTHERN CONE COUNTRIES WHICH REMAINED A POSSIBILITY
ALMOST UNTIL THE LAST MOMENT. END COMMENT.

4. IN OTHER ACTIONS IN POLITICAL FIELD, PLENARY
APPROVED STRONG RESOLUTION (PREVIOUSLY REPORTED)
EMERGING FROM FIRST COMMITTEE DEBATE THAT ENDORSED
PERMANENT COUNCIL RESOLUTION OF JULY 25 DEPLORING
MILITARY COUP IN BOLIVIA AND THAT REPEATED REQUEST
TO IAHRG TO PREPARE REPORT ON SITUATION OF HUMAN
RIGHTS IN BOLIVIA IN SHORTEST TIME POSSIBLE. ARGENTINA,
BOLIVIA, CHILE AND URUGUAY ABSENTED THEMSELVES FROM
FIRST COMMITTEE BEFORE VOTE WAS TAKEN, AND ARE SHOWN

AS "NON-PARTICIPATING". ON BELIZE, ASSEMBLY PASSED
A RESOLUTION ENDORSING UNGA RESOLUTION ON BELIZE.
IT ALSO APPROVED A POSITIVE RESOLUTION ON IMPLEMENTATION
OF PANAMA CANAL TREATIES, AFTER U.S. WAS SUCCESSFUL,
THANKS TO HELP FROM EMBASSY PANAMA, IN WORKING OUT
WITH PANAMANIAN DELEGATION AMENDMENTS TO THEIR ORIGINAL
RESOLUTION.

APPROVED RESOLUTION EMERGING FROM FOURTH COMMITTEE
THAT PROVIDES FIFTEEN PERCENT SALARY INCREASE FOR
OAS STAFF MEMBERS. U.S. ABSTAINED. ON SO-CALLED
DEBT ISSUE, IT APPROVED SETTLEMENT OF OUTSTANDING
CLAIMS BY EMPLOYEES FOR SALARY ADJUSTMENTS FOR 1976-
78 PERIOD; WHEN ORGANIZATION HAD RECOGNIZED-PARITY

WITH UN SALARIES AS BEING IN EFFECT. U.S. VOTED
FOR THIS RESOLUTION, BUT WITH EXPLANATION THAT U.S.
PAYMENT FOR ITS SHARE OF THIS OBLIGATION MUST AWAIT
LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL THAT CANNOT COME BEFORE FY
1982. U.S. ABSTAINED ON PLENARY VOTE ON ASSESSED
BUDGET AS A WHOLE, MAKING SIMILAR EXPLANATION OF
ABSTENTION. U.S. ALSO VOTED FOR A RESOLUTION, WHICH
WE HEARTILY ENDORSE, THAT PROVIDES FOR A NEW SALARY
POLICY FOR THE OAS COMPLETELY DISTINCT FROM UN SYSTEM.

6. PLENARY ALSO VOTED TO ACCEPT OFFER BY ST. LUCIA
TO HOST NEXT OASGA.

7. ADDITIONAL REPORTS ON KEY GA ISSUES AND MORE
DETAILED APPRAISAL OF ASSEMBLY WILL BE FORTHCOMING. MUSKIE

DS

Declassified Case:
87080 Date:
05-08-2013