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OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

File
OAS

PAGE 01 STATE 309986
ORIGIN ARA-16

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STATE 309986

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-01 INR-10
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SALVADORAN MINISTER CHAVEZ MENA. CONCERNED POSTS WILL RECEIVE REPORTING CABLES. BECAUSE OF TIME PROBLEMS, ARGENTINE BILATERAL HAS BEEN RE-SCHEDULED FOR MORNING OF SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, WHEN SECRETARY ALSO SCHEDULED TO SEE COLOMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER URIBE.

DRAFTED BY USOAS: F R STARRS/MAB
APPROVED BY ARA: JABUSHNELL
USOAS: H B THOMPSON

5. SECRETARY ATTENDED FIRST INFORMAL DIALOGUE SESSION LATE AFTERNOON NOVEMBER 19, AT WHICH BASES OF FINANCING WAS PRIMARY TOPIC. DURING GENERAL DISCUSSION MEXICAN HEAD OF DELEGATION, PERMREP DE LA COLINA, MADE POINT THAT SOLUTION TO FINANCING ISSUE REQUIRED POLITICAL DECISION BY MEMBERS. ARGENTINE FORMIN PASTOR SUGGESTED ONLY POSSIBLE WAY TO DEAL WITH ISSUE AT THIS GA WOULD BE DEFERRAL OF ANY DECISION FOR ONE MORE YEAR. EXTENSIVE DEBATE ON SUBJECT WILL SURELY TAKE PLACE IN COMING DAYS.

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TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY
XMT AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

6. SECRETARY MADE REMARKS CARRIED BY USICA WIRELESS FILE AT THIS INFORMAL DIALOGUE SESSION.

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E.O. 12865: N/A

TAGS: OAS

7. A SECOND INFORMAL DIALOGUE SESSION OF MINISTERS, ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR 9:30 A.M. NOVEMBER 20, HAS BEEN TWICE POSTPONED AND IS NOW SCHEDULED FOR 10:00 A.M. NOVEMBER 21.

SUBJECT: OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY - NOVEMBER 19

8. ADDITIONAL REPORTS ON OAS SESSIONS WILL FOLLOW. MUSKIE

1. INAUGURAL SESSION OF TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY TOOK PLACE WEDNESDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 19, WITH BARBADOS FOREIGN MINISTER HENRY FORDE (SELECTED BY LOT) SERVING AS TEMPORARY PRESIDENT. FORDE INTRODUCED PRESIDENT CARTER, WHO CAME TO OAS ACCOMPANIED BY MRS. CARTER. FORDE WELL-CRAFTED INTRODUCTION STRESSING PRESIDENT CARTER'S SUPPORT FOR OAS AND HIS HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY SET TONE FOR PRESIDENT'S OWN ADDRESS OF WELCOME. (TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S REMARKS HAS BEEN CARRIED BY USICA WIRELESS FILE.) VENEZUELAN FOREIGN MINISTER ZAMBRANO REPLIED TO PRESIDENT'S REMARKS. PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS, DEALING WITH PEACEKEEPING (HONDURAS-EL SALVADOR) AND PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES (PANAMA CANAL TREATIES) AND EMPHASIZING RATIONALE FOR US HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY WAS EXTREMELY WELL RECEIVED AND RESULTED IN STANDING OVATION.

2. FIRST PLENARY SESSION ELECTED VENEZUELAN FOREIGN MINISTER ZAMBRANO AS PRESIDENT OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND HEARD REPORT OF SECRETARY GENERAL ORFILA. IT ALSO APPROVED AGENDA BY ROLL CALL VOTE, AFTER SIDETRACKING BOLIVIAN EFFORTS TO GET AGENDA ITEM ON BOLIVIA REMOVED FROM AGENDA. CHILE PUT ON RECORD ITS RESERVATIONS ABOUT INCLUSION ON AGENDA OF ITEM 13

ON MARITIME PROBLEM OF BOLIVIA. CHILEAN POSITION THAT OAS LACKED COMPETENCE TO DEAL WITH THIS ITEM WAS ANTICIPATED. PLENARY ALSO APPROVED TWO TOPICS FOR INFORMAL TALKS AMONG HEADS OF DELEGATION: FIRST, COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT; AND SECOND, BASES OF FINANCING OF ORGANIZATION.

3. FOLLOWING PERSONS WERE ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION TO FOUR SPECIAL COMMITTEES, WHICH, TOGETHER WITH GENERAL COMMITTEE PRESIDED OVER BY ZAMBRANO, WILL CONSIDER AGENDA TOPICS: FIRST COMMITTEE, JURIDICAL-POLITICAL, RAUL FALCONI, ECUADOR PERMREP; SECOND COMMITTEE, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL, COLOMBIAN PERMREP CARLOS BERNAL; THIRD COMMITTEE, EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL, DR. EDUARDO CABEZON CONTRERAS, CHILEAN DELEGATION; AND FOURTH COMMITTEE, ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY, PANAMANIAN ALTERNATE REP ELIA GUERRA. ALL COMMITTEES HAVE AS OF MORNING NOVEMBER 20 HELD THEIR FIRST MEETINGS, AND WILL CONTINUE MEETING ON AGENDA ITEMS THROUGHOUT ASSEMBLY.

4. SECRETARY HELD BILATERAL WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ZAMBRANO MORNING OF NOVEMBER 19; IT WAS HIGHLY USEFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE MEETING. IN AFTERNOON NOVEMBER 19, SECRETARY MET WITH PERUVIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARIAS STELLA, AND WITH

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APPROVED BY USOAS:H B THOMPSON
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AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

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E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: OAS

SUBJECT: OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY - SECOND REPORT

1. OVERVIEW OF GA ACTIVITIES, NOVEMBER 20-22. COURSE OF GA TO DATE MARKED BY CONSIDERABLE POSTPONEMENTS, DELAYS AND DISARRAY. INFORMAL DIALOGUE OF MINISTERS, PLANNED TO CONCLUDE IN TWO SESSIONS, HAS NOW COMPLETED ITS FOURTH. DESIGNED TO DISCUSS BASES OF FINANCING AND COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT, IT BEGAN WITH FINANCING, BECAME SIDETRACKED ONTO LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF THE SALARY DEMANDS OF THE OAS STAFF, AND AS OF THE MORNING OF NOVEMBER 22 HAD ADDRESSED COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT ONLY IN PASSING.

2. STAFF SALARY PROBLEM, WHICH HAS BEEN BREWING FOR MANY MONTHS, IN SIMPLEST TERMS INVOLVES (1) CONTENTION OF EMPLOYEES THAT THEIR WAGES HAVE FALLEN BADLY BEHIND COST OF LIVING INCREASES AND (2) DECISION BY OAS ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL OVER A YEAR AGO THAT EMPLOYEES HAD ACQUIRED RIGHTS TO SALARY PARITY WITH EMPLOYEES OF THE UNITED NATIONS. BOTH 1978 (WASHINGTON) AND 1979 (LA PAZ) GA'S ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS THAT IN EFFECT DECLARED OAS DID NOT ACCEPT PARITY AS A CONCEPT. IN INFORMAL DIALOGUE, VENEZUELA CAME OUT FOUR SQUARE BEHIND EMPLOYEES POSITION, PROPOSING A RESOLUTION ON SALARIES THAT WOULD SETTLE SO-CALLED "PAST DEBT" FOR

SERVICES NOT REIMBURSED AT PARITY LEVELS, AND PROVIDE GENEROUS AUTOMATIC AND PERIODIC SALARY INCREASES AND OTHER FEATURES FOR WHICH COST ESTIMATE MIGHT RUN 12 TO 15 MILLION DOLLAR RANGE IN FIRST INCREMENT. VENEZUELA AND PARAGUAY, WHOSE PERMREP EARLIER ESPOUSED SIMILAR POSITION, HAVE BECOME HEROES TO THE STAFF, WITH PERU, COSTA RICA, PANAMA, BARBADOS, GRENADA, URUGUAY, PARAGUAY, GUATEMALA AND TRINIDAD-TOBAGO TAKING GENERALLY FAVORABLE POSITIONS. MEXICO AND BRAZIL HAVE ASKED THE HARD QUESTIONS AS TO WHERE MONEY WILL COME FROM. VENEZUELAN PROPOSAL NOW IN HANDS OF FOURTH (ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY) COMMITTEE. TO KEEP PRESSURE ON DELEGATIONS, STAFF HAS ORGANIZED SICK-OUTS, WALK-OUTS AND SERIES OF DEMONSTRATIONS BEGINNING ON NOVEMBER 19 AND RUNNING THROUGH MID-DAY SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, AT WHICH TIME ONLY A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF TRANSLATORS WERE AT WORK, PROVISION OF DOCUMENTS DELEGATIONS AND SO MANY EMPLOYEES WERE MASSES ON STEPS THAT SPOTTING ARE USING SIDE DOORS TO COME AND GO. PROSPECTS FOR A COMPROMISE ARE REASONABLY PROMISING BUT ITS EXACT TERMS ARE UNCLEAR.

3. ON QUOTA ISSUE, VENEZUELA, WHICH IN PAST FEW MONTHS HAS BEEN IN FOREFRONT OF WORKING GROUP EFFORTS TO FIND A

NEW FORMULA, IS NO LONGER ENDORSING ITS OWN PROPOSALS, BUT STATED IN INFORMAL DIALOGUE THAT IT WILL NOT ACCEPT ANY PROPOSAL FOR US REDUCTION OF PERCENTAGE FROM 65 TO 62 BUT WILL INSIST ON FRESH START AT FINDING NEW ALLOCATION SYSTEM THAT MAY OR MAY NOT INVOLVE REDUCTION FOR US. IN DIALOGUE, A NUMBER OF SPEAKERS FOLLOWED LANGUAGE ADVANCED BY BRAZIL THAT SO-CALLED US UNILATERAL REDUCTION, WHICH THEY DESCRIBE AS HAVING ALREADY BEEN DONE, IS UNACCEPTABLE AND A VIOLATION OF PRINCIPLE EMBODIED IN OAS CHARTER. US STATEMENTS ARE BEING HEARD BUT IGNORED.

4. HUMAN RIGHTS. ISSUE WILL BE JOINED IN FIRST (POLITICAL-JURIDICAL) COMMITTEE, BEGINNING AFTERNOON NOVEMBER 22 AND CONTINUING THROUGH BALANCE OF ASSEMBLY. THERE HAS BEEN EXTENSIVE CORRIDOR DISCUSSION TO DATE CENTERING ON IAHR REPORT ON ARGENTINA, BUT NO REPEAT NO RESOLUTION HAS AS YET BEEN FORMALLY PROPOSED BY ANY DELEGATION. MOOD RE REPORT ON ARGENTINA, WHOSE DELEGATION HAS HAD MASSIVE LOBBYING EFFORT GOING, SEEMS TO BE MODERATE AND NON-CONFRONTATIONAL. WE ANTICIPATE CREATION OF A SPECIAL DRAFTING GROUP IN COMMITTEE 1 TO DEAL WITH RESOLUTIONS LIKELY TO EMERGE.

5. FOLLOWING ARE CAPSULE ACCOUNTS OF "GENERAL STATEMENTS" MADE AT SECOND AND THIRD PLENARY SESSION, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20:

A. ARGENTINA, FOREIGN MINISTER PASTOR, CRITICIZED OAS TENDENCY TO FOCUS ON CONFRONTATIONAL AND DIVISIVE ISSUES SUCH AS HUMAN RIGHTS AND WARNED THAT VIOLATION BY OAS OF ITS OWN FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES WOULD "COMPEL ARGENTINA TO RECONSIDER ITS ATTITUDE OF COOPERATION" WITH OAS. HE CITED HEMISPHERIC DIFFICULTIES IN INTERNATIONAL PAYMENTS, GRAVE IMBALANCES IN EXCHANGE MARKETS, AND DANGEROUS EXPANSION OF PROTECTIONISM BY DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, ADDING THAT INSUFFICIENT FOOD AND ENERGY RESOURCES WERE TWO OF LA'S MOST SERIOUS PROBLEMS. (FOLLOWING UP ON LATTER THEME, PASTOR INTRODUCED INTO CONFIDENTIAL INFORMAL DIALOGUE SESSION, IN ORDER "TO OBTAIN PRELIMINARY REACTION OF MINISTERS, "IDEA OF CREATING 100 MILLION DOLLAR SPECIAL FUND FOR EACH OF THREE YEARS BEGINNING IN JULY 1981, WITH STATEMENTS OF VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO BE MADE AT EXTRA-ORDINARY CIES MEETING SCHEDULED FOR CARACAS IN APRIL 1981. ONE HALF OF EACH YEAR'S CONTRIBUTION, HE PROPOSED, WOULD BE MADE BY US WITH OTHER 50 MILLION DOLLARS COMING FROM LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES. CONTRIBUTIONS COULD BE IN FORM OF SUPPLIES OF ENERGY OR FOOD OR SERVICES OR MONEY, DEPENDING ON INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES. AID WOULD NOT BE REPAYABLE AND WOULD BE IN ADDITION TO EXISTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS; IT WOULD BE DESTINED TO BENEFIT LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES OF REGION. OAS SECRETARIAT WOULD BE ASKED TO BEAR COSTS OF ADMINISTERING NEW FUND WITHIN ITS PRESENT BUDGETARY LIMITS BY RE-ASSESSING ITS WORK PROGRAMS. SINCE PROPOSAL WAS ADVANCED DURING AN INFORMAL DIALOGUE SESSION IN WHICH CONCENTRATION WAS ON OTHER THEMES, THERE WAS NO IMMEDIATE REACTION FROM OTHER MINISTERS, BUT SUBJECT SURE TO BE BROUGHT UP AGAIN AT LATER STAGE IN ASSEMBLY.)

B. COLOMBIA, FOREIGN MINISTER URIBE, ENDORSED STRENGTHENING OF IAHR BUT CAUTIONED THAT IAHR REPORTS SHOULD NOT BE USED AS CLUBS AGAINST ANY PARTICULAR COUNTRY. HE ADVANCED CONCEPT OF "COLLECTIVE ECONOMIC SECURITY" IN WHICH THE PARAMETERS OF HEMISPHERIC DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION WOULD BE CLEARLY FORMULATED. HE DESCRIBED OAS AS AN EXCELLENT FORUM FOR MULTILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH US ON ECONOMIC ISSUES. HE REITERATED COLOMBIA'S SUPPORT FOR THE "ZONE OF PEACE" AND URGED A DEMILITARIZED AND DENUCLEARIZED CARIBBEAN.

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C. ST. LUCIA, AMBASSADOR AUGUSTE, ENDORSED IDEA OF IDEOLOGICAL PLURALISM AND ADVOCATED THAT NO STATE BE ISOLATED FROM OAS ON BASIS OF IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES. HE OFFERED ST. LUCIA AS SITE FOR ELEVENTH GA.

AS UNILATERAL REDUCTION OF THE LEVEL OF CONTRIBUTION BY MEMBERS.

7. ADDITIONAL REPORTING WILL FOLLOW.

D. PERU, FOREIGN MINISTER STELLA, OUTLINED PERU'S PROGRESS IN DEMOCRATIZATION, RECOMMENDED THAT OAS REMAIN

MUSKIE

ALERT TO HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AND IMPROVE ITS HR MECHANISMS. HE SUGGESTED STRENGTHENING REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL GROUPINGS TO PRESENT, INTER ALIA, A STRONGER LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN NEGOTIATING POSTURE VIS A VIS THE US AND OTHER INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, AND EXPRESSED SOLIDARITY WITH ECUADOR ON THE TUNA DISPUTE WITH THE US.

E. BOLIVIA, FOREIGN MINISTER CERRUTO, DEFENDED THE GOB'S HUMAN RIGHTS PERFORMANCE, AND EXPLAINED THAT RECENT INTERNAL MEASURES TAKEN TO ENSURE PEACE AND STABILITY WERE TEMPORARY AND WOULD LEAD TO A NEW BOLIVIAN DEMOCRACY. HE ASKED FOR SUPPORT FOR GOB POSITION ON ITS LANDLOCKED STATUS, REMINDING THE MINISTERS THAT LAST YEAR'S RESOLUTION ON ACCESS LACKED THE IMPLEMENTING MECHANISM NECESSARY TO PUT IT INTO EFFECT.

F. GUATEMALA, FOREIGN MINISTER CASTILLO VALDEZ, DESCRIBED GOG PROGRESS IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND URGED GREATER EFFORTS ON THE PART OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO AID STATES IN ACHIEVING THEIR DEVELOPMENT GOALS. GUATEMALA SUPPORTED THE PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS BUT BELIEVED IT INAPPROPRIATE FOR INTERNATIONAL BODIES TO MAKE CRITICAL JUDGMENTS OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF MEMBER NATIONS.

6. FOLLOWING SUMMARIZES INTERVENTIONS AT THIRD PLENARY SESSION.

A. ECUADOR, PERMREP FALCONI, REFERRED TO US FISHING BOAT SEIZURES AND DENOUNCED COERCIVE MEASURES BY US AGAINST A MEMBER STATE TRYING TO DEFEND ITS MARINE RESOURCES, IN VIOLATION OF ARTICLE 19 OF OAS CHARTER WHICH PROHIBITS ANY COERCIVE MEASURES OF AN ECONOMIC OR POLITICAL CHARACTER. HE INTRODUCED RESOLUTION TEXT ON THIS SUBJECT, WHICH WILL BE CONSIDERED BY SECOND COMMITTEE.

B. CHILE, FOREIGN MINISTER GALDAMES, CRITICIZED US HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY WITHOUT REFERRING TO US BY NAME, DEPLORED IMPOSITION OF COLLECTIVE ACTIONS WHICH AFFECT SOVEREIGNTY AND INDEPENDENCE OF OAS MEMBER COUNTRIES, AND STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERVENTION, WHICH HE SAID HAD BEEN VIOLATED UNDER PRETEXT OF MAINTAINING DEMOCRACY. HE REFERRED TO CHILE'S DEMOCRATIC HISTORY AND TO RESULTS OF SEPTEMBER PLEBISCITE, AND CONCLUDED WITH EXPRESSION OF HOPE THAT ELECTION OF A NEW US ADMINISTRATION PLEDGED TO TREAT FRIENDS AS FRIENDS WOULD MARK A NEW STAGE IN INTER-AMERICAN RELATIONS. HE ASSURED NEW ADMINISTRATION THAT CHILE WOULD ALWAYS BE ALLY AND FRIEND OF US.

C. BRAZIL, AMBASSADOR BAENA SOARES, CALLED FOR BETTER DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH IN WORLD AND CRITICIZED EFFECT OF INCREASED PROTECTIONISM ON PART OF INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES ON DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OF HEMISPHERE. HE STATED BRAZIL WILL CONTRIBUTE IN A CONSTRUCTIVE WAY TO COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT. HE SAID RESTRUCTURING OF OAS WAS NECESSARY, AS WAS CHANGE IN OAS SECRETARIAT AND NATIONAL OFFICES STRUCTURE. PROGRAMS OF LITTLE VALUE TO MEMBER COUNTRIES SHOULD BE ELIMINATED. HE SAID BRAZIL HAS ALWAYS ADVOCATED AN APPROPRIATE SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS THAT REFLECTS PRINCIPLES IN THE CHARTER AND DISAPPROVES OF ACTIONS SUCH

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E. O. 12065: RDS-4 11/17/00 (YOULE, JOHN J.) OR/M
TAGS: OAS, SHUM
SUBJECT: ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS POSITION AT OASGA

REF: STATE 204691

1. (CONFIDENTIAL-ENTIRE TEXT)
2. ALTHOUGH THIS EMBASSY WAS ONLY INFO ADDRESSEE FOR REFTEL, WEEK-END CONVERSATIONS PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY TO OBTAIN TWO CONTRASTING VIEWS ON DEGREE OF GOU SUPPORT FOR ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS POSITION AT OASGA.
3. NOVEMBER 15, A/DCM DISCUSSED RANGE OF GOU POSITIONS AT OASGA WITH ANTONIO CAMPS, THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. CAMPS INDICATED THAT THE GOU HOPED TO AVOID THE LIMELIGHT AT THIS OASGA, AND THUS ITS DELEGATION WOULD BE KEEPING A LOW PROFILE. GOU DOES NOT PLANT TO TAKE ANY POSITIONS ON EITHER THE BOLIVIAN OR ARGENTINE ISSUES WHICH COULD PROVOKE THE ANDEAN COUNTRIES AND REBOUND IN MORE NEGATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS ON URUGUAY'S OWN CASE. MOREOVER, ACCORDING TO CAMPS, ALTHOUGH THE GOU SYMPATHIZES WITH THE ARGENTINE ATTEMPTS TO AVOID NAMING SPECIFIC COUNTRIES IN HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTIONS, IT CONSIDERS THAT THIS POSITION HAS SCANT POSSIBILITIES OF SUCCESS. THEREFORE, THE URUGUAYAN DEL WILL BE ATTEMPTING TO KEEP A DISCRETE DISTANCE AND, TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, AVOIDING IDENTIFICATION WITH THE ARGENTINE POSITION.
4. DURING LUNCH THE SAME DAY ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR DE LA PLAZA VOICED A VERY DIFFERENT VIEW TO CHARGE, INDICATING THAT THE URUGUAYAN DELEGATION WAS "IN HIS POCKET" AND WOULD STRONGLY SUPPORT THE ARGENTINE POSITION ON HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTIONS. AMBASSADOR VOICED STRONG CONCERN ABOUT OASGA SESSION AND U.S. POSITION ON ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION.
5. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT THE FINAL POSITION OF THE URUGUAYAN DEL WILL FALL SOMEWHERE IN BETWEEN, NEITHER AS REMOVED AS CAMPS PREDICTS NOR AS TOTALLY SUPPORTIVE AS DE LA PLAZA EXPECTS. GIVEN THE GOA'S LEVERAGE WITH THE GOU, HOWEVER, THE URUGUAYANS WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO BACK UP THEIR NEIGHBOR MORE THAN THEY WOULD LIKE.
SMITH

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 6818

E.O. 12065: GDS 11/17/86 (MCNEIL, FRANCIS) OR-M
TAGS: OAS, SHUM, CS
SUBJECT: (C) ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS AT THE OASFA

REF: (A) STATE 304691, (B) BUSHNELL-MCNEIL TELCON 11/15/80

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. FOREIGN MINISTER NIEHAUS WILL WORK CLOSELY WITH US ON IAHRC REPORT ISSUE AT THE OASGA, BUT HE IS QUITE CONCERNED THAT ISSUE BE HANDLED IN SUCH A WAY SO AS NOT TO PRECIPITATE OAS CRISIS. WHEN I GAVE HIM NON-PAPER BASED ON REFTEL, NIEHAUS TOLD ME ARGENTINA HAD THREATENED TO LEAVE OAS IF THEY WERE SINGLED OUT FOR CONDEMNATION. HE SAID THAT COSTA RICA AGREED THAT WE HAD TO PRESERVE THE INTEGRITY OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION PROCESS, BUT THOUGHT THAT SEPARATE RESOLUTIONS ON EACH OF THE IAHRC ITEMS MIGHT PROVOKE AN ARGENTINE WALK-OUT. HOWEVER, WHEN I RAISED FALL-BACK POSITION IN REFTEL, NIEHAUS THOUGHT THAT MIGHT BE A USEFUL WAY TO PROCEED.

3. NIEHAUS SAID THAT COSTA RICA'S SECURITY (READ THEIR GROWING CONCERNS ABOUT NICARAGUA) DEPENDED ON A FUNCTIONING OAS AND RIO TREATY SYSTEM; ARGENTINA'S PULLING OUT OF THE OAS WOULD BE A SEVERE BLOW AND THEREFORE IT WAS NECESSARY TO FIND SOME KIND OF CONSENSUS APPROACH THAT WOULD PRESERVE BOTH THE INTEGRITY OF THE IAHRC PROCESS AND MEET ARGENTINA'S CONCERNS IN SUFFICIENT DEGREE.

4. INCIDENTIALLY, NIEHAUS INDICATED THAT IT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT THERE WAS AN OMNIBUS RESOLUTION LAST YEAR EVEN THOUGH PREVIOUS PRACTICE HAD BEEN TO PASS SEPARATE RESOLUTIONS ON COUNTRY REPORTS. MOREOVER, HE INDICATED THAT HE HAD CONVERSED WITH CHAIRMAN OF THE IAHRC WHO HAD INDICATED THE COMMISSION WAS NOT REPEAT NOT PUSHING FOR SEPARATE RESOLUTIONS.

5. NIEHAUS LOOKS FORWARD TO WORKING CLOSELY WITH AMBASSADOR BOWDLER TO COME UP WITH A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION TO THIS IMPORTANT ISSUE.
MCNEIL

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EO 12065 GDS 11/15/86 (SHAW, DAVID G) OR-P
TAGS: SHUM, OAS, AR, HO
SUBJECT: ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT AT OASGA

REF: STATE 304691

1. (C-ENTIRE TEXT)

2. WE CAUGHT UP WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ELVIR, WHO WAS OUT OF TOWN MOST OF DAY, EVENING OF NOVEMBER 15 AND MADE PRESENTATION, INCLUDING STRONG STATEMENT OF US POSITION, AS INSTRUCTED REFTEL.

3. ELVIR COMMENTED THAT ARGENTINES HAD PREVIOUSLY MADE DEMARCH TO HIM HERE IN SUPPORT OF THEIR POSITION. HE WANTED US TO KNOW THAT, IN DOING SO, THEY HAD STATED THAT REPORT REPRESENTED "COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE INTERFERENCE" IN ARGENTINE AFFAIRS AND, IF ACCEPTED BY OASGA, THEY WOULD WITHDRAW FROM THE OAS.

4. DRAWING ON REFTEL, WE PRESSED IMPORTANCE OF DEFENDING INTEGRITY OF IAHRIC AND ITS WORK. ELVIR NOTED, SOMEWHAT UNCOMFORTABLY, THAT HE HAD ANTICIPATED STRONG US POSITION. HE CONCLUDED WITH HOPE THAT SOME SORT OF "DECENT COMPROMISE" COULD BE STRUCK. HOWEVER, HE DECLINED TO MAKE COMMITMENT TO ANY SPECIFIC SOLUTION UNTIL HE HAD PERSONALLY EXPLORED SITUATION ON THE SPOT.

5. COMMENT: ELVIR SEEMED TO BE REFLECTING CHARACTERISTIC GOH TENDENCY TO ASSUME LOW PROFILE AND SHY AWAY FROM CONTROVERSIAL OAS ISSUES. HE DID HOWEVER FREELY CONCEDE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING INTEGRITY OF IAHRIC, NOTING THAT HONDURAS HAS TRADITIONALLY SUPPORTED ITS ACTIVITIES. HIS WAFLING SUGGESTS THAT ELVIR WOULD FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE VOTING AGAINST THE COMMISSION AND WOULD BE SUSCEPTIBLE TO FURTHER APPROACHES FROM USDEL.
WALKER

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C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 10482

E. O. 12065
TAGS: GDS 11/15/86 (CORR, EDWIN G.) OR-M
SHUM, OAS, PE
SUBJECT: (C) ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS AT OASGA: PERUVIAN POSITION

REF: STATE 304691

1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT

2. WE LOCATED DIRECTOR FOR BILATERAL POLITICAL AFFAIRS AT PERUVIAN FORMIN (AMB. ALFONSO RAMOS). RAMOS, WHO EARLIER HAD ASKED US ABOUT USG POSITION ON ARGENTINE RESOLUTION, EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR, AND SYMPATHY WITH, OUR INTEREST IN SUPPORTING IAHRG THROUGH SERIES OF RESOLUTIONS. HE SAID THAT "IN PRINCIPLE" PERU AGREED WITH OUR POSTURE. HE WENT ON TO ADD, HOWEVER, THAT GOP HAD DECIDED TO FOLLOW PRECEDENT OF ABSTAINING WHICH IT SET DURING OASGA AT SANTIAGO ON CHILE RESOLUTION IN 1976. RAMOS SAID THAT ALTHOUGH PERU FELT STRONGLY ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE ROLE OF THE IAHRG, SENSITIVITIES OF NEARBY COUNTRIES WEIGHED HEAVILY IN ARRIVING AT ITS POSITION.

3. ALTHOUGH RAMOS APPEARS TO BE PLAYING AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN DEVELOPING GOP POSITIONS FOR THE OASGA (HE WILL BE TRAVELLING WITH FORMIN ARIAS ON TUESDAY NOV 18), HE REFLECTS THE RELUCTANCE OF PROFESSIONAL PERUVIAN DIPLOMATS THESE DAYS TO GET OUT FRONT.

4. WE ARE TRYING TO REACH FOREIGN MINISTER ARIAS STELLA TO RE-EMPHASIZE OUR CONCERNS ABOUT UNDERCUTTING THE IAHRG AND WILL PRESS FOR SUPPORT FOR AN OMNIBUS RESOLUTION WITH SPECIFIC PARAGRAPHS ON EACH COUNTRY IF HE IS UNWILLING TO BACK SEPARATE RESOLUTIONS.
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DRAFTED BY USOAS: H B THOMPSON/MAB
APPROVED BY ARA: J A BUSHNELL
ARA/SC: J WHITMAN
HA: R COHEN
S/S-O: SBUTCHER

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XMT AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 304691

E.O. 12065: GDS 11/14/86 (BUSHNELL, JOHN A.)

TAGS: OAS, SHUM

SUBJECT: ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS AT OASGA

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. OASGA WILL CONVENE NOVEMBER 19. ONE OF MOST-CONTROVER-
SIAL AND IMPORTANT ISSUES WILL BE IAHRG'S HUMAN RIGHTS
REPORT ON ARGENTINA.

3. GENERAL ASSEMBLIES HAVE ADOPTED SEPARATE RESOLUTIONS
FOR EACH SPECIAL COUNTRY REPORT PREPARED BY THE IAHRG AND
FOR ITS ANNUAL REPORT. THE US STRONGLY SUPPORTS THIS OAS
TRADITION AND PRACTICE AND IS OPPOSED TO MAKING EXCEPTIONS
THAT COULD UNDERMINE THE CREDIBILITY AND INTEGRITY OF THE
WORK OF THE OAS AND IAHRG. THE US, THEREFORE, SUPPORTS AT
THIS OASGA SEPARATE RESOLUTIONS ON THE REPORTS ON ARGENTINA
HAITI AND POLITICAL PRISONERS IN CUBA, AND ON THE ANNUAL
REPORT OF THE COMMISSION.

4. THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT IS OPPOSED TO A SEPARATE RESOLU-
TION ON ARGENTINA. IN RECENT WEEKS IT HAS BEEN SEEKING AN
OMNIBUS RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD COVER THE IAHRG'S THREE
SEPARATE COUNTRY REPORTS AND ITS ANNUAL REPORT IN ONE
RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD NOT NAME SPECIFIC COUNTRIES. WITHIN

THE LAST WEEK ARGENTINA HAS BECOME MORE ACTIVE HERE AND WE
BELIEVE IN OTHER CAPITALS IN SUPPORT OF ITS OMNIBUS RESOLU-
TION.

5. WE HAVE STATED OUR SUPPORT FOR SEPARATE RESOLUTIONS IN
KEEPING WITH PAST PRACTICE IN EXCHANGES WITH OTHER DELEGA-
TIONS AT OAS AS A MEANS TO PRESERVE THE INTEGRITY OF THE
IAHRG. THIS CONCERN IS SHARED BY A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF
THE MEMBER COUNTRIES' REPRESENTATIVES HERE. WE BELIEVE
THAT A DEMARCHE TO CAPITALS TO FORMALLY OUTLINE THE US
POSITION IS NECESSARY TO REINFORCE THIS COMMITMENT TO THE
IAHRG.

6. NOVEMBER 14 INTER-DEPARTMENTAL GROUP MEETING REVIEWED
THIS SITUATION WITH FOLLOWING RESULTS. ACTION POSTS ARE
REQUESTED TO SEEK TO CONTACT FOREIGN MINISTER IN ADVANCE
OF HIS DEPARTURE FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY, OR IN HIS ABSENCE
OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIAL, TO MAKE FOLLOWING APPROACH:

(A) EXPLAIN THAT THIS ISSUE WILL BE BEFORE GA. WE ARE
HOPEFUL OF A POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE OUTCOME AND ARE NOT
SEEKING CONDEMNATION OF ARGENTINA. OUR OBJECTIVE IS THE
PRESERVATION AND STRENGTHENING OF THE INTEGRITY OF THE
IAHRG FOR THAT PURPOSE WE BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT TO
ADHERE TO PAST PRACTICE AND PASS SEPARATE RESOLUTIONS TO
DEAL WITH THE INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY REPORTS AND THE ANNUAL
REPORT. WE HOPE THAT THE MINISTER WILL BE ABLE TO TAKE A
SIMILAR POSITION.

(B) ONLY IF YOU DETERMINE THAT THE MINISTER WILL NOT SUP-
PORT A SEPARATE RESOLUTION, YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO SEEK A
FIRM COMMITMENT TO AN OMNIBUS RESOLUTION THAT WILL CONTAIN
SEPARATE SECTIONS DEALING WITH THE SPECIFIC COUNTRY REPORTS
ON THE OAS AGENDA, INCLUDING REFERENCE TO THEIR RECOMMENDA-
TIONS, URGING THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED TO COMPLY WITH THEM,
AND REQUESTING THAT THE SITUATION CONTINUE TO BE MONITORED.
(FYI: PAST COUNTRY SPECIFIC RESOLUTIONS HAVE NOTED THE
RESPONSE OF THE GOVERNMENT IN QUESTION, NOTED IMPROVEMENTS,
NOTED THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE REPORT OF ACTIONS NECESSARY
FOR IMPROVEMENT, AND THANKED THE COMMISSION FOR ITS REPORT,
WITH THE REQUEST THAT IT CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE SITUATION.)

7. YOU SHOULD STRESS THROUGHOUT THAT KEY ISSUE HERE IS
NOT ARGENTINA BUT INTEGRITY OF HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERN AND
PROCESS IN OAS, ESPECIALLY ROLE OF IAHRG. ONLY IF ASSEMBLY
CONTINUES TO RECOGNIZE IN BRIEF THE SUMMARY FINDINGS
AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SERIOUS REPORTS OF IAHRG CAN WE
EXPECT TO RETAIN HIGH CALIBRE PERSONNEL AND SERIOUSNESS
OF OAS HUMAN RIGHTS WORK. FOR ITS PART US IS PREPARED
MAKE MAJOR STAND ON THIS ISSUE INCLUDING SUGGESTING
AMENDMENTS IN PLENARY. WE WOULD HOPE OF COURSE THAT
QUIET DIPLOMACY WILL RESULT IN A CONSENSUS OUTCOME. WE
HOPE A MAXIMUM NUMBER OF COUNTRIES WILL INDICATE TO US AND
TO ARGENTINES SUPPORT FOR RECOGNIZING IAHRG WORK ALONG
TRADITIONAL LINES TO FACILITATE A NON-CONFRONTATIONAL
OUTCOME.

8. PLEASE REPORT ASAP.

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OF IAIRC WHICH THEY CONSIDER MOST VITAL ELEMENT OF
OAS. VENEZUELA, COLOMBIA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND
COSTA RICA MADE IT CLEAR AT NOVEMBER 10 MEETING THAT
THEY CONSIDER IAIRC AS MUCH A LATIN PRESERVE AS A
US ONE AND ACCORDINGLY THEY HAVE FULL RESPONSIBILITY
FOR ASSURING THAT IT CONTINUES TO FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 303174

E.O. 12865: GDS 11/11/86 (BOWDLER, WILLIAM G.)

AGS: OAS, SHUM

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION AT OASGA

REF: BUENOS AIRES 8892

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. EMBASSY REPORTING ON THIS ISSUE IS MUCH APPRECIATED.

3. ECUADOREAN AMBASSADOR TO OAS CALLED INFORMAL MEETING
OF PRO-HUMAN RIGHTS BLOC EVENING OF NOVEMBER 10 TO
DISCUSS HANDLING OF ARGENTINE ISSUE. ATTENDING WERE
AMBASSADORS OF MEXICO, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, COLOMBIA,
VENEZUELA, PANAMA, NICARAGUA, PERU, PLUS REPRESENTATIVES
OF COSTA RICA AND US. DISCUSSION CENTERED ON ARGENTINE
MISSION "NON-PAPER" (COPY OF WHICH WAS GIVEN TO AMBASSA-
DOR SHLAUDEMAN BEFORE HE DEPARTED WASHINGTON LAST
MONTH). "NON-PAPER" WAS DISTRIBUTED TO MEXICO AND
SEVERAL OTHER MISSIONS LAST WEEK, APPARENTLY WITH
AUTHORIZATION OF QUIJANO.

4. ECUADOR, US, AND DOMINICAN REPUBLIC INDICATED
PREFERENCE FOR CONTINUATION OF PAST PRACTICE OF SEPARATE
OASGA RESOLUTIONS. MEXICO AND PERU ARGUED FOR "INTER-

MEDIATE" POSITION WHICH ESSENTIALLY INVOLVES SINGLE
RESOLUTION WITH SUFFICIENT SPECIFICITY TO PROTECT
INTEGRITY OF IAIRC. THE MEXICAN AMBASSADOR PRESENTED
QUITE DETAILED IDEA OF ORGANIZING OMNIBUS RESOLUTION
INTO COUNTRY SPECIFIC SUBSECTIONS, COMBINING THIS WITH
SEPARATE RESOLUTION OF PRAISE AND SUPPORT FOR WORK
OF IAIRC. VENEZUELA AND COLOMBIA WERE CONCERNED MAINLY
WITH THE NEED TO MAINTAIN THE INTEGRITY OF THE IAIRC.
PANAMA AND NICARAGUA MADE NO SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS,
PLEADING LACK OF INSTRUCTIONS.

5. COMMENTS OF MEXICAN AMBASSADOR DE LA COLINA SUGGEST
THAT HE INTENDS TO TAKE OVER AND GUIDE THIS ISSUE
AT OASGA. WE SUSPECT THAT HIS ROLE IS LINKED IN SOME
WAY TO POSSIBLE GESTURE FROM GOA ON ASYLEES IN MEXICAN
EMBASSY IN BUENOS AIRES.

6. WE THINK LINE YOU ARE TAKING WITH GOA IS EXACTLY
CORRECT. MOOD OF MEETING WAS DEFINITELY NOT (REPEAT
NOT) PUNITIVE TOWARDS ARGENTINA WITH PARTICIPANTS HOPING
THAT GOA ADOPTS FLEXIBLE STANCE. A POSITIVE AND CON-
STRUCTIVE RESOLUTION APPEARS TO BE WITHIN REACH.
IN THIS CONNECTION GOA SHOULD NOT UNDERESTIMATE DEPTH
OF CONCERN OF MODERATES ABOUT MAINTAINING INTEGRITY

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