

*****CONFIDENTIAL*****

DATE 02/15/80
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WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

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WHSR COMMENT:

(ZB) AAR HUNT DOD VP
EOB: BLOOM, THORN, GREGG

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MESSAGE:

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACI IMMEDIATE 4135

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ BUENOS AIRES 1068

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E.O. 12068: XDS-1 2/5/80 (CASTRO, RAUL H.) OR-M
TAGS: SHUM OCON AR
SUBJ: (C) HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, UN; GOA'S POSITION
REF: STATE 030925

1. (C) ENTIRE TEXT.
2. PURSUANT REFTEL CONTACTED DEPUTY FONMIN CAVANDOLI THIS MORNING TODAY (FEB. 5) BY PHONE. FONMIN IS ON VACATION.
3. DUE TO DEPT'S HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT ON GOA BEING MADE PUBLIC TODAY, CAVANDOLI SUGGESTED I NOT BE SEEN AT FONOFF BY MEDIA AS THIS WOULD LEAD TO MULTIPLE FALLACIOUS AND DAMAGING CONCLUSIONS. I MET WITH DEP FONMIN YESTERDAY EVENING WHEN I FURNISHED HIM WITH COPY OF HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT. AS ANTICIPATED, MEDIA HAD A FIELD DAY WITH OCCASION OF MY VISIT TO FONOFF.
4. JUDGING BY MY CONVERSATION WITH CAVANDOLI ON PHONE TODAY, IT CAN BE SAID HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT HAS TAKEN ITS TOLL. HE WAS CURT AND MADE CLEAR TO ME THEY (GOA) WAS UNHAPPY WITH HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT.
5. AFTER GIVING CAVANDOLI SUGGESTIONS OUTLINED IN REFTEL, I EXPLAINED TO HIM USG COULD NOT SUPPORT GOA'S REQUEST THAT ARGENTINA'S CASE BE KEPT UNDER REVIEW. I ALSO EXPLAINED TO HIM WE HOPED GOA WOULD NOT OPPOSE PROPOSED GENERAL RESOLUTION OF SUBCOMMISSION ON DISCRIMINATION AND MINORITIES BE GIVEN AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH A SPECIAL

~~Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/SRP~~
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MESSAGE (CONTINUED):

GROUP OF EXPERTS TO MAKE CONTACT WITH GOVT AND FAMILIES TO ASSIST IN LOCATING OF MISSION AND DISAPPEARED PERSONS. I AGAIN MADE CLEAR USG NOT INTERESTED IN SEEKING SUPPORT OF RESOLUTION THAT BOUGHT PUBLIC CENSURE OF ARGENTINA AND THAT WE WISHED TO RESPECT ARGENTINA'S INTEREST IN CONFIDENTIALITY OF PROCEDURES.

6. AT THIS POINT, CAVANDOLI BROKE IN AND SAID GOA COMPLETELY OPPOSED TO USG VIEWS ON MATTER. HE REPEATED SEVERAL TIMES GOODPASTER MISSION HAD STATED USG WOULD RESPECT AND HONOR RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY UN COMMITTEE OF FIVE EXPERTS. HE SAYS FIVE EXPERTS HAVE NOW RECOMMENDED THAT GOA FURNISH MORE INFORMATION ON DISAPPEARED. CAVANDOLI STATES GOA WILL ACCEPT FINDING OF FIVE EXPERTS, EVEN THOUGH ITS NOT WHAT THEY WANT. HE STATES HE IS CONFUSED ON HOW USG CAN NOW RENEGE ON THEIR AGREEMENT TO ABIDE BY RECOMMENDATION MADE BY COMMITTEE OF FIVE EXPERTS TO REQUEST MORE INFO ON DISAPPEARED.

7. DEP FONMIN MADE IT CLEAR GOA NOT IN ACCORD TO FORMATION OF NEW COMMISSION AS FACT-FINDING UNIT AS THIS TENDS TO SINGLE OUT ARGENTINA AND INSTITUTIONALIZES ARGENTINA AS A SPECIFIC CASE. THEY PREFER ARGENTINA BE DEALT WITH IN GENERAL TERMS.

8. WHEN I SAW CAVANDOLI LAST NIGHT (FEB. 4) HE MUTTERED AUSTRALIA WAS MAKING A STRONG EFFORT TO UPSET THEIR APPLE CART, BUT THEY WOULD FIGHT IT TO THE LAST DITCH. HE HAD UNKIND WORDS FOR AUSTRALIA.

9. DEPT REQUESTED PASS GENEVA IF APPROPRIATE.
CASTRO

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