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E.O. 12065: GDS 11/24/86 (EATON, SAMUEL)

TAGS: BINT PEPR AR

SUBJECT: (S) BILATERAL MEETING BETWEEN THE SECRETARY  
AND ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER PASTOR

- 1. (SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT)
- 2. THE SECRETARY MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER PASTOR AT 10:00 A.M. NOVEMBER 22. ALSO PRESENT FOR ARGENTINA WERE AMBASSADORS AJA ESPIL AND QUIJANO AND FOR THE UNITED STATES AMBASSADORS BOWDLER AND MCGEE AND DAS EATON. THE PRINCIPAL SUBJECTS WERE HUMAN RIGHTS, BOLIVIA, AND NUCLEAR RELATIONS.

3. PRELIMINARIES: THE SECRETARY WELCOMED PASTOR

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AND SAID HE WAS FOLLOWING OAS MATTERS CLOSELY EVEN THOUGH THE NEED TO GIVE DAILY ATTENTION TO THE IRANIAN HOSTAGE ISSUE LEFT LESS TIME FOR THE OAS THAN HE WOULD HAVE WISHED. PASTOR RESPONDED GRACIOUSLY TO THESE INITIAL REMARKS AND SAID THAT HE HAD NOTED A POSITIVE COMMON DESIRE THAT THE OAS BE A FORUM FOR COOPERATION, NOT CONFRONTATION.

4. HUMAN RIGHTS. THE SECRETARY NOTED THE CONTINUING PROBLEM OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ARGENTINA-U.S. RELATIONS BUT ASSURED PASTOR THAT THE PRESIDENT AND THE UNITED STATES WANTED TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH ARGENTINA.

5. PASTOR RESPONDED THAT ARGENTINA HAD GONE THROUGH A CIVIL WAR, THE WAR WAS NOW OVER, ARGENTINA AGREED FULLY WITH THE U.S. ON THE IMPORTANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY, AND ARGENTINA WOULD SUPPORT THOSE CONCEPTS BECAUSE OF ITS OWN HISTORY AND BASIC ORIENTATION RATHER THAN BECAUSE OF PRESSURES. HIS OWN MIDDLE NAME, WASHINGTON, WHICH WAS GIVEN TO HIM BECAUSE HE WAS BORN ON JULY 4, WAS SYMBOLIC OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE DEMOCRATIC IDEA IN ARGENTINE HISTORY. ARGENTINA DID NOT WANT CONFRONTATION, BUT RATHER

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UNDERSTANDING. FROM THIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY IT WANTED A GLOBAL RATHER THAN AN INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY RESOLUTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS BECAUSE THE CIVIL WAR IN ARGENTINA WAS OVER, THE IAIRC HAD VISITED ARGENTINA, ARGENTINA HAD RESPONDED TO ITS RECOMMENDATIONS, AND ARGENTINA WAS NOW ON ITS WAY TO FULL RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF DEMOCRACY. ARGENTINA WOULD NOT BE PRESSURED: IT HAD MADE A GOOD PROPOSAL (PASTOR LATER SAID HE WOULD SUBMIT A FORMAL PROPOSAL OF RESOLUTION THAT AFTERNOON IN COMMITTEE I); AND IT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE IF

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THERE WAS AN IMPASSE THAT WOULD LEAVE SERIOUS MISUNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE PRESENT UNITED STATES AND ARGENTINE GOVERNMENTS BEHIND FOR THE NEW GOVERNMENTS ABOUT TO COME TO OFFICE.

6. THE SECRETARY REITERATED THE U.S. DESIRE TO IMPROVE RELATIONS IN ALL RESPECTS, BUT SAID HUMAN RIGHTS STILL COLOR RELATIONS. IT WAS THEREFORE IMPORTANT THAT THE HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRATIC OBJECTIVES PASTOR HAD STATED BE REALIZED. ONE WAY TO ACHIEVE THIS WAS TO USE AND REINFORCE THE EXISTING OAS MACHINERY IN THE MONITORING OF HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRESS AND CLARIFYING THE RECORD OF THAT PROGRESS. THE U.S. HAD NO DESIRE FOR CONFRONTATION, BUT IT DID NOT WANT TO UNDERMINE THE IAIRC. WITH FLEXIBILITY ON BOTH SIDES WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO ARRIVE AT A RESOLUTION THAT WOULD (A) REFLECT THE FACTS, (B) STATE PROGRESS, (C) VALIDATE THE FUNCTIONS OF THE IAIRC.

7. PASTOR, HIS EMOTIONS RISING, SAID HE AGREED BUT THE IAIRC WAS A PREJUDICIAL GROUP THAT HAD WRITTEN ITS REPORT ON ARGENTINA BEFORE IT VISITED THAT COUNTRY

(AS EVIDENCED BY THE FACT IT HAD DISREGARDED MOST OF THE DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED BY THE GOA BY LEAVING IT BEHIND) AND WAS PEOPLED BY MEN LIKE AGUILAR WHO HAD BEEN ENGAGED IN REPRESSION IN VENEZUELA AS MINISTER OF GOVERNMENT IN 1961-63 AND WAS NOT FIT TO JUDGE OTHERS. HE CONTINUED THAT DURING THE THREE YEARS OF TERRORISM IN ARGENTINA NO ONE, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF THE U.S. CONGRESS OR REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WHITE HOUSE OR STATE DEPARTMENT, HAD RAISED HIS VOICE AGAINST HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS THROUGH TERRORISM. ARGENTINA WANTED TO BE COOPERATIVE. THE PREVIOUS EVENING IT HAD PRESENTED IN THE OAS A PROJECT FOR \$100 MILLION IN ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY COUNTRIES IN THE ENERGY AND

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FOOD SECTORS. BUT IT WAS VERY FRUSTRATED BY THE IMPASSE OVER HUMAN RIGHTS.

8. THE SECRETARY SAID HE WOULD EXAMINE CAREFULLY THE POINTS PASTOR HAD PRESENTED. HE THEN TURNED TO BOLIVIA. HE SAID WE CONSIDERED THE PRESENT BOLIVIAN REGIME TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE BECAUSE OF ITS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS, INTERRUPTION OF THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS, AND DRUG CONNECTIONS. PASTOR RESPONDED THAT PRESIDENT VIDELA HAD TWICE TALKED WITH EX-PRESIDENT BANZER IN THE EFFORT TO GET A MESSAGE TO THE BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENT REGARDING PERFORMANCE. IT HAD STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF LIMITING HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES, CONTROLLING DRUG TRADE, SETTING A TIMETABLE FOR ELECTIONS, AND IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES. (WHEN

EATON LATER ASKED PASTOR WHETHER BANZER WAS REALLY A GOOD CHANNEL TO GARCIA MEZA, PASTOR SAID OTHER CHANNELS WERE ALSO BEING USED.) THE SECRETARY SAID THE USE OF ARGENTINE INFLUENCE IN THIS WAY WAS POSITIVE.

9. NUCLEAR RELATIONS. THE SECRETARY SAID HE HOPED FINAL SAFEGUARD QUESTIONS COULD BE RESOLVED O THAT NUCLEAR COOPERATION COULD CONTINUE. PASTOR SAID HE ALSO HOPED SO AND THEN TURNED TO TLATELOLCO. HE SAID THAT, IN ORDER TO BE INDEPENDENT OF BILATERAL PRESSURES, ARGENTINA HAD ASKED THE IAEC IN VIENNA TO DEVISE A FORMULA REGARDING NUCLEAR USE FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES THAT WOULD PERMIT ARGENTINA TO SIGN THE TREATY OF TLATELOLCO.

10. CLOSING. THE MEETING CLOSED WITH PASTOR INVITING THE SECRETARY TO VISIT ARGENTINA AT ANY TIME AND THE

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SECRETARY SAYING THAT HE HAD A STRONG PERSONAL DESIRE TO KNOW LATIN AMERICA BETTER. ON THE WAY OUT, BOWDLER TOLD PASTOR THE U.S. WOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS A PROPOSAL FOR HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION WITH ARGENTINA THE NEXT DAY. MUSKIE

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