

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

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FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3332

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

USCINCSO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, BL

SUBJ: MESSAGE TO THE NATION DELIVERED BY PRESIDENT BANZER ON

JUNE 5, 1974.

QUOTE:

1. TO THE COMRADES OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE NATION WHO DURING MY ABSENCE AND WITH EXEMPLARY POLITICAL MATURITY DEMONSTRATED BEFORE HISTORY, THE FIRM PURPOSE OF THE (MILITARY) INSTITUTION TO MAINTAIN, ABOVE ALL PERSONAL AMBITIONS AND SECTARIAN INTERESTS, THE CONTINUITY OF THE NATIONAL REVOLUTION, AS THE SOLE ALTERNATIVE TO ATTAIN SUCCESS IN OVERCOMING BACKWARDNESS AND DEPENDENCY.

2. TO EACH OF THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONALIST POPULAR FRONT, WHO IN A FEW MINUTES DEMONSTRATED, TOGETHER WITH THE ARMED FORCES OF THE NATION THEIR CAPACITY OR STRUGGLE.

3. TO THE SECURITY UNITS OF THE STATE, THAT WITH DISCIPLINE EFFECTIVELY

FOLLOWED THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN BY THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

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RENEWING THUS THEIR FULL IDENTIFICATION WITH MY GOVERNMENT.

4. TO THE FARMERS AND WORKERS, DEVOTED MEN WHO FULLY REALIZE WHO ARE THOSE WHO WORK AND FIGHT FOR THEIR GOALS AND WHO ARE THOSE WHO ATTEMPT TO ENGAGE IN SMALL ADVENTURES AGAINST THE NATION, CONTRARY TO REASON AND HISTORY.

5. TO THE CITIZENS WHO, FACING THE CHOICE BETWEEN A COUNTRY WITH DIGNITY AND DEVELOPMENT, OR A REGRESSIVE AND DESTRUCTIVE CHAOS, ADOPTED THE GREAT DECISION TO FIGHT THE BATTLE AGAINST THOSE WHO ATTEMPTED TO MAINTAIN POVERTY.

6. TO THE PERSONAL FRIENDS WHO, AT THE TIME OF TRIAL, SUPPORTED THE IDEALS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND SUPPORTED ME.

7. I ADDRESS ALL OF YOU, WITH THE REWARDING FEELING OF A DEFINITE AND CLEAN VICTORY, BUT AT THE SAME TIME WITH THE BITTERNESS CAUSED BY THE INCONSISTENCY AND MEANNESS OF SMALL GROUPS WHO TRY NOT TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE HEROIC DESTINY OF OUR COUNTRY DEMANDS GREATNESS OF SPIRIT, AND THE HUMAN QUALITY WHICH CHARACTERIZES THE BOLIVIANS WHO LEAD THE GREAT CHANGES THAT THE COUNTRY REQUIRES.

8. BOLIVIA IS GOING THROUGH A DIFFICULT TIME IN ITS DEVELOPMENT. FOR THIS, WE ARE USING OUR SACRIFICE, DISCIPLINE AND WORK IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH THE BASES WHICH WILL MAKE POSSIBLE A SUSTAINED RHYTHM OF SHARED PROGRESS AND WELFARE.

9. THE BASIC OBJECTIVE OF MY GOVERNMENT IS THAT OF DEVELOPMENT. THE PEOPLE OF THIS WORTHY LAND ARE ENTITLED TO WORK, THINK, AND BELIEVE WITH NO OTHER LIMITATION THAN THAT OF THEIR OWN POSSIBILITIES. WITH A THIRELESS EFFORT, WE ARE WORKING DAY AND NIGHT, SO THAT OUR BELOVED COUNTRY WILL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITIES AND MEANS OFFERED US BY CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY: AND VERY SOON IT WILL BE POSSIBLE THAT BOLIVIA WILL ACT JOINTLY WITH THE OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD IN EQUAL CONDIDITIONS AND WITHIN A FRAMEWORK OF MUTUAL BENEFIT AND RESPECT.

10. DURING THE CONSULTATION MEETING HELD IN COCHABAMBA, CONVINCED OF THE NECESSITY TO MOBILIZE ALL RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY IN ORDER TO UNCLASSIFIED

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FACE

THE CHALLENGE OF POVERTY, I ASKED THE BOLIVIAN PEOPLE FOR THEIR UNITY AROUND THE ARMED FORCES OF THE NATION. SUPPORTED BY THE STRENGTH OF MY DEEPEST CONVICTION, I ALSO RAISED THE ISSUE OF NATIONAL PARTICIPATION SO THAT EACH TASK COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED WITH THE HELP OF THE DECISION AND CAPABILITY OF EACH BOLIVIAN. THE ANSWER RECEIVED FROM THE

ANTI-NATIONAL GROUPS, WHO ARE MOTIVATED BY ANGER AND UNLIMITED

AMBITION HAS BEEN A TOTAL LACK OF UNDERSTANDING, ISOLATED VIOLENCE, GROUNDLESS CRITICISM, AND OPPOSITION FOR THE SAKE OF OPPOSITION.

11. AS A PART OF OUR INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY IN THE CONTEXT OF THE STRUGGLE FOR CONTROL OF THE WORLD, BOLIVIA, BECAUSE OF ITS GEOGRAPHIC POSITION AND BECAUSE OF THE DEFICIENCIES OF OUR HERITAGE, HAS BEEN CHOSEN AS THE CENTER OF EXTREMIST ACTIVITIES OF THOSE WHO HAD INTENDED TO SPREAD THEIR VIOLENT ACTIVITIES INTO OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE HEMISPHERE.

12. UNFORTUNATELY, AMBITIOUS POLITICIANS, SUCH AS HUMBOLDT AND VALVERDE, WITHOUT INTELLIGENCE ENOUGH TO UNDERSTAND INTERNATIONAL EVENTS, ALLOWED THEMSELVES TO BE USED IN SUCH PLANS WITHOUT REALIZING THE HUGE DAMAGE CAUSED TO THE NATION.

13. BUT THE MOST SERIOUS FACT ABOUT THE PERSONS WHO ASSUMED THIS ATTITUDE IS THAT IN THEIR EFFORT TO GAIN FOLLOWERS, THEY TURNED TO THE MILITARY HEADQUARTERS, TOOK ADVANTAGE OF INGENUOUS OFFICERS AND DAMAGED THE IMAGE AND UNITY OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE NATION.

14. THE AUTHORS OF EVENTS OF THIS KIND WILL BE DISCIPLINED WITH THE SEVERITY PRESCRIBED BY THE LAW, BECAUSE ULTIMATELY THE UNITY OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE NATION IS THE UNITY OF THE COUNTRY.

15. I ACCOMPLISH WITH HONOR THE MISSION TO DISMISS THE CHARGES AGAINST THE AIR (FORCE) BASE AND THE MILITARY ACADEMY MADE BY CERTAIN NEWSPAPERS, MAKING CLEAR THAT THESE UNITS MAINTAINED FULL AND CONSISTENT LOYALTY TOWARD THE CONSTITUTED ORDER.

16 IT IS ALSO MY DUTY TO EMPHASIZE THE LOYAL AND DISCIPLINED CONDUCT OF ALL THE GARRISONS OF THE INTERIOR OF THE COUNTRY, TO WHOM I EXPRESS MY APPRECIATION.

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17. ONCE MORE, I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO MENTION THAT THE EFFORT I MAKE, TOGETHER WITH THE ARMED FORCES OF THE NATION AND WITH ALL MY CO-WORKERS, IS NOT TO ATTAIN AN OBJECTIVE OF A PERSONAL NATURE. I AM LEADING THE GOVERNMENT BECAUSE I BELIEVE IN BOLIVIA AND ITS CAPACITY TO BE A GREAT (COUNTRY) VERY SOON: WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THIS CONCEPT, WHEN FACING THE CHOICE BETWEEN BOLIVIA AND ITS GREATNESS OR ACTIVITIES WHICH DISTURB PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT, I WARN THAT I SHALL UNHESTATINGLY CHOOSE BOLIVIA OVER THE ENEMIES OF ITS GREATNESS.

18. THE VICTORY WHICH HAS BEEN ATTAINED DURING MY ABSENCE BY THE PEOPLE SHOWS THE HISTORIC STRENGTH OF MY GOVERNMENT. I SHALL NOT WASTE SUCH MORAL AND MATERIAL STRENGTH OVER SMALL OBSTACLES. MY EFFORT

WITH THE PEOPLE AND WITH THE COUNTRY'S PRINCIPAL INSTITUTIONS IS DECISIVE.

WE SHALL WIN THE BATTLE AGAINST MISERY SO THAT IN THE FUTURE THERE WILL BE NO TEARS FOR LACK OF BREAD, NOR BITTERNESS OVER TREASONOUS ACTS.

19. BOLIVIANS: I HAVE RECEIVED AGAIN
THE LIVING LOYALTY OF MY PEOPLE, OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE
NATIONA, THE NATIONALIST POPULAR FRONT, THE FARMERS, WORKERS
AND ALL HONEST AND NOBLE MEN OF BOLIVIA. THIS BEAUTIFUL
AND MAGNIFICENT DEMONSTRATION DEFINITELY COMMITS ME TO
CONTINUE STRUGGLING TOGETHER WITH THE BOLIVIAN PEOPLE FOR THE
GREAT NATIONAL DESTINY.

THANK YOU. UNQUOTE.

BREWIN

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