

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MC-02 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

SAM-01 OMB-01 COME-00 TRSE-00 EB-11 SSO-00 INRE-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 EUR-25 AID-20 AGR-20 IGA-02 DRC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2125

INFO USCINCSO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 LA PAZ 0676

5. I TOLD THE PRESIDENT THAT SUBSEQUENT TO HIS OBSERVATIONS TO CONGRESSMAN WHALEN ABOUT OUR MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, I HAD MADE AN INVESTIGATION WITH OUR MILGP TO DETERMINE THE CAUSES AND REMEDIES FOR THE DELAYS IN THE DELIVERY OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT. I NOTED THAT I HAVE PRESENTED NEW RECOMMENDATIONS TO WASHINGTON FOR EXPEDITING CERTAIN EQUIPMENT FOR THE BOLIVIAN TIPOS. AS TO ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, I NOTED THE COJLNUOUS AND COMPREHENSIVE EFFORTS OF OUR AID MISSION TO WORK IN THE AGRICULTURAL, PUBLIC HEALTH AND EDUCATION FIELDS, GIVING ME EVERY CONFIDENCE OF A SUSTAINED

AND EFFECTIVE ECONOMIC COOPERATION KYROGRAM WITH HIS GOVERNMENT. I TOLD HIM I COULD NOT UNDERSTAND WHERE HIS REPRESENTATIVES IN WASHINGTON COULD HAVE OBTAINED VIEWS THAT OUR GOVERNMENT FELT HE WOULD SOIZN FALL. I INDICATED OUR POLICY WAS UNCHANGED AND IT WAS ONE OF CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR THE GOB AND ITS EFFORT TO BRING PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT OT THE COUNTRY. I ASKED FOR GUIDANCE AS TO WHICH BOLIVIAN AUTHORITIES THE US MISSION SHOULD WORK WITH IN

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ATTEMPTING TO DEVISE A MORE CONCRETE PROJECT FOR AGRICULTURAL

ASSISTANCE ALONG THE LINES HE HAD SUGGESTED. I ATTEMPTED TO PROBE AS TO WHETHER HE THOUGHT HE HAD A FINANCIAL PROBLEM OR A SUPPLY PROBLEM. HIS RESPONSE WAS MOST GENERAL AND INDICATED THAT HE HAD NEEDS BOTH FINANCIAL AND EQUIPMENT. AS I DEPARTED PRESIDENTIAL PALACE, I MET BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR ENTERING, WHO, I HAD BEEN INFORMED INFORMALLY, WAS BEING SUMMONED ALSO FOR REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE.

6. COMMENT: WHILE THERE MAY BE ELEMENTS OF FACT IN THE SYNTHESIS OF INTERNATIONAL CONCENTRATION OF EXTREMISTS ON BOLIVIA, I HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT THE ZENTENO STORY HAS NOT BEEN CONFIRMED AND THAT MUCH OF THE DIFFICULTY IN THE COCHABAMBA AREA IS HOME GROWN. I AGREE WITH HIS LAMENT ABOUT OUR INABILITY TO HAVE KEPT UP THE RHYTHM OF DELIVERIES OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT FOR THE TIPOS. I BELIEVE ALSO THAT

THE STYLE AND PACE OF OUR AID ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IS APPROPRIATE AND WELL FOCUSED. HOWEVER, GIVEN OUR CONTINUED POLICY TO ATTEMPT TO SUPPORT THIS PRESIDENT AND HIS ADMINISTRATION, I DO INTEND TO SEARCH WITH THE HELP OF OUR AID AND ECONOMIC PEOPLE FOR SOME WAYS TO ASSIST IN THE AGRICULTURAL AREA, POSSIBLY THROUGH THE DEVICE OF RE-PROGRAMMING COUNTERPART, LOCAL CURRENCY ACCUMULATIONS AND THE USE OF ONGOING PROJECT ACTIVITIES.

7. I WOULD APPRECIATE PROMPT REACTION FROM STATE AND DEFENSE AS TO WAYS AND MEANS IN WHICH WE MIGHT MEET THE REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED ACTION ON MAP EQUIPMENT SUBMITTED IN LA PAZ TELEGRAM 608. IT WOULD GO A LONG WAY, I BELIEVE, TO HELPING THE PSYCHOLOGICAL MOOD HERE AND TO MEETING OUR FOREIGN POLICY OBJECTIVES. IF STATE/AID HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS WITH REGARD TO THE REQUESTS FOR EMERGENCY ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, I WOULD OF COURSE BE DELIGHTED TO HAVE THEM AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE. IT WOULD ALSO BE OF INTEREST TO ME IF THERE IS ANY WAY OF ASCERTAINING THE BASIS FOR THE REPORT THAT BOLIVIAN REPRESENTATIVES IN WASHINGTON ARE INFORMING PRESIDENT BANZER THAT USG HAS REACHED THE CONCLUSION THAT HE IS SOON TO FALL.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 JAN 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974LAPAZ00676  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** RR  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** LA PAZ  
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**Line Count:** 99  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 SEP 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09 SEP 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <10 DEC 2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** n/a  
**TAGS:** n/a  
**To:** SECSTATE WASHDC USCINCSO JCS OSD/ISA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005