

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 OES-09 CPR-02 NSCE-00 PA-02

SS-15 SSO-00 ICAE-00 /049 W

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O 232145Z FEB 79

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4937

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 LA PAZ 1647

E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: PPDC, TATT, BL, EAID

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM PRESIDENT PADILLA TO PRESIDENT CARTER

1. ON FEBRUARY 23 PRESIDENT PADILLA ASKED THE AMBASSADOR TO COME TO THE PALACE WITH MESSRS. PAUL AND BARTOLUCCI OF AID WHO ARE IN BOLIVIA TO CONSIDER POSSIBLE LOCATION HERE OF AN AID-FINANCED REGIONAL CENTER FOR REMOTE SENSING. PRESIDENT PADILLA PRESENTED THE AMBASSADOR WITH THE TEXT OF A LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER (REPEATED BEGINNING PARA 5 BELOW WITH INFORMAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION). THE ORIGINAL LETTER IS BEING FORWARDED THROUGH THE BOLIVIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON.

2. PRESIDENT PADILLA SAID HE WANTED TO EMPHASIZE HIS DEEP PERSONAL INTEREST IN LOCATING THE LATIN AMERICAN REGIONAL REMOTE SENSING CENTER IN BOLIVIA. HE NOTED THAT THIS WAS AN AREA OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY WHERE BOLIVIA'S CAPABILITY WAS WELL ESTABLISHED AND KNOWN TO THE U.S. THROUGH PREVIOUS U.S.-BOLIVIAN COLLABORATION. PRESIDENT PADILLA WANTED TO ASSURE US THAT THE BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD DO ALL THAT WAS NECESSARY TO SUPPORT SUCH A REGIONAL CENTER IF THE U.S. COULD AGREE TO LOCATE IT IN BOLIVIA. HE WANTED TO PROVIDE BLANKET ASSURANCE THAT THE FACILITIES AND FULL COOPERATION OF SUCH A REGIONAL CENTER WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO ALL OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES WITHOUT RESERVATION,

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INCLUDING CHILE. THE PRESIDENT ALSO UNDERLINED THAT UNDER SEVERAL GOVERNMENTS IN BOLIVIA THERE HAS BEEN CONTINUITY IN THE MANAGERS AND TECHNICAL PERSONNEL OF BOLIVIA'S REMOTE SENSING PROGRAMS AND THAT THIS CONTINUITY WOULD PERTAIN IN THE FUTURE AS WELL.

3. THE AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT WE WERE INDEED DEEPLY

IMPRESSED WITH BOLIVIAN CAPABILITIES IN THE AREA OF REMOTE SENSING TECHNOLOGY AND ITS PRODUCTIVE APPLICATION. HE SAID THAT WE DO INDEED CONSIDER BOLIVIA TO BE A SOLID CANDIDATE, AMONG SEVERAL OTHERS, FOR LOCATION OF THE REGIONAL CENTER. THE AMBASSADOR SAID THAT HE WOULD DO WHAT HE COULD TO ENCOURAGE LOCATION OF THE CENTER IN BOLIVIA.

4. MR. PAUL EXPLAINED THE BACKGROUND OF THE PROPOSAL FOR A LATIN AMERICA REGIONAL CENTER AND THE EXPERIENCE AID HAS HAD WITH SUCH CENTERS IN AFRICA AND ASIA. HE NOTED THAT FUNDS TO SUPPORT SUCH A CENTER COULD BE AVAILABLE NOT ONLY FROM AID BUT FROM THE UNITED NATIONS, THE ANDEAN PACT AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AS WELL.

5. THERE FOLLOWS SPANISH TEXT OF LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER FROM PRESIDENT PADILLA AS PRESENTED TO THE AMBASSADOR QUOTE LA PAZ, 23 DE FEBRERO DE 1979 EXCELENTE SENOR PRESIDENTE: TENGO A HONRA DIRIGIRME A VUESTRA EXCELENCIA, PARA PONER EN SU DIGNO CONOCIMIENTO QUE MI PAIS, COMO UN POSITIVO EFECTO DE LA EXCELENTE UTILIZACION DE LA TECNICA DE SENORES REMOTOS LOCALIZADOS EN PLATAFORMAS ESPECIALES DE LA SERIE LANDSAT DE LA ADMINISTRACION NACIONAL DE AERONAUTICA Y DEL ESPACIO (NASA) DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS, HA PODIDO OBTENER SIGNIFICATIVAS APPLICACIONES Y RESULTADOS EN EL ESTUDIO DE LOS RECURSOS NATURALES DE BOLIVIA.
HACIENDO REFERENCIA A LA POLITICA DELINEADA POR SU ADMINIS-

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TRACION EN FECHA 11 DE OCTUBRE DEL PASADO ANO ACERCA DEL USO CIVIL DEL ESPACIO Y EN LA CUAL VUESTRA EXCELENCIA SE HA SERVIDO ENFATIZAR LOS IMPORTANTES RESULTADOS QUE LOS SENORES REMOTOS APORTAN AL DESARROLLO DE NUESTROS PAISES, DESEO EXPRESARLE MI VIVO INTERES EN QUE EL ILUSTRADO GOBIERNO DE VUESTRA EXCELENCIA TENGA A BIEN CONSIDERAR LA POSIBILIDAD DE IMPLEMENTAR UN CENTRO REGIONAL DE ADIESTRAMIENTO EN EL CAMPO DE LOS SENORES REMOTOS EN BOLIVIA, PRINCIPALMENTE LANDSAT, QUE BENEFICIARIA NO SOLAMENTE A MI PAIS, SINO A TODAS LAS NACIONES LATINOAMERICANAS.
PARA ESTA FINALIDAD, MI GOBIERNO SE HALLA RESUELTO A PONER A DISPOSICION DE TAN NOBLE OBJETIVO, TODAS LAS FACILIDADES ACTUALMENTE EXISTENTES, LAS CUALES HAN SIDO EVALUADAS POR LOS MIEMBROS DEL PROGRAMA DE SENORES REMOTOS DS/ST DE LA AGENCIA DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS PARA EL DESARROLLO INTERNACIONAL (AID).
EN ESPERA DE TENER UNA POSITIVA RESPUESTA SOBRE ESTE ASUNTO QUE TANTO INTERESA A BOLIVIA, HAGO PROPICIA LA OPORTUNIDAD PARA OFRECER A VUESTRA EXCELENCIA, LAS SEGURIDADES DE MI CONSIDERACION MAS ALTA Y DISTINGUIDA.
GRAL. DIV. DAVID PADILLA ARANCIBIA, PRESIDENTE DE LA HONORABLE JUNTA MILITAR DEL GOBIERNO DE BOLIVIA.

AL EXCELENTE SEÑOR DON. JIMMY CARTER PRESIDENTE DE
LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DE NORTEAMERICA WASHINGTON D.C. U.S.A.
END QUOTE.

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FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4938

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6. INFORMAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION QUOTE LA PAZ FEBRUARY 23,
1979 HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT: I HAVE THE HONOR
TO INFORM YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT MY COUNTRY, UTILIZING THE
REMOTE SENSING DEVICES LOCATED ON SPECIAL PLATFORMS OF THE
LANDSAT SERIES OF THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND
SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NASA), HAS BEEN ABLE TO ACHIEVE SIGNI-
FICANT RESULTS IN THE STUDY OF BOLIVIA'S NATURAL RESOURCES.
WITH REFERENCE TO THE POLICY OUTLINED BY YOUR ADMINISTRATION
ON OCTOBER 11, 1978, IN RESPECT TO THE CIVIL UTILIZATION OF
SPACE AND IN WHICH YOUR EXCELLENCY underscored THE IMPORTANT
CONTRIBUTION THAT REMOTE SENSORS MAKE TO THE DEVELOPMENT
OF OUR COUNTRIES, I WISH TO EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT YOUR
GOVERNMENT WILL CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF IMPLEMENTING A
REGIONAL TRAINING CENTER FOR REMOTE SENSORS IN BOLIVIA,
AT THE LANDSAT SITE, WHICH WOULD BE OF BENEFIT NOT ONLY TO
MY COUNTRY, BUT TO ALL LATIN AMERICAN NATIONS.
TO THIS END, MY GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED TO MAKE AVAILABLE
ALL PRESENTLY EXISTING FACILITIES WHICH HAVE BEEN EVALUATED
BY THE REMOTE SENSORS PROGRAM STAFF MEMBERS DS/ST OF THE UNITED
STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (AID).
IN THE HOPE OF RECEIVING A POSITIVE REPLY TO THIS REQUEST
OF UTMOST INTEREST TO BOLIVIA, I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO
PRESENT TO YOUR EXCELLENCY THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST AND
MOST DISTINGUISHED CONSIDERATION. GEN. DIV.
DAVID PADILLA ARANCIBIA PRESIDENT OF THE MILITARY JUNTA OF
THE GOVERNMENT OF BOLIVIA. END QUOTE
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