

## Message Text

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ACTION PM-07

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FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

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E.O. XGDS

TAGS: MARR, MASS, MMOL, MORG, MPOL, BL

SUBJ: MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR BOLIVIA: FY 1976-1980

A. JCS MSG 221205 AUG 74

B. RADIO CALL BETWEEN J5 & CPT GARCIA

1. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AS ADDITIONAL JUSTIFICATION  
FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE IN FY 1976 - 1980 FOR BOLIVIA  
IS PROVIDED PER A ABOVE. THIS INFORMATION IS INTENDED TO  
REINFORCE AND SUPPLEMENT THAT PROVIDED IN THE SECURITY  
ASSISTANCE POM, FY76-80 (U)

A. (S) MATERIEL, ARMY.

(1) ALTHOUGH THE FIVE "TIPO" REGIMENTS ARE FULLY FUNDED  
IN 76, FOLLOW-ON-SUPPORT FOR THIS EQUIPMENT IS REQUIRED  
FOR THE PERIOD THRU FY80.

(2) DELAYS IN DEVELOPMENT OF THE SIGNAL UNIT TOE'S  
HAS DELAYED PROGRAMMING OF REQUIRED COMMUNICATIONS  
EQUIPMENT. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THIS WILL BE PROGRAMMED  
1977-1980.

(3) THE ENGINEER EQUIPMENT THAT HAS BEEN PROGRAMMED FOR  
FY77-78-79 IS REQUIRED FOR THE CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT AND  
IMPROVEMENT OF THE COUNTRY'S ROAD NETWORK.

(4) A COLONIZATION PROJECT IS SANTA CRUZ DEPARTMENT BY  
THE BOLIVIAN ARMY WILL ENTER THE PLANNING STAGE FY76-77  
AND THE EXECUTION STATE DURING FY 76-77. THE BOLIVIAN

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ARMY HAS REQUESTED SUPPORT IN THIS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

PRIMARILY WITH EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING. THE ARMY IS DEVELOPING A MOBILE MEDICAL BDE. TO SUPPORT THIS PROJECT AND ANOTHER FOR SUPPORTING THE BENI REGION UNDER THE JOINT CIVIC ACTION PROGRAM. THESE 2 BDES WILL NEED EQUIPMENT.

(5) WITH THE PLANNED PHASE DOWN OF EXPENSIVE DOLLAR EQUIPMENT ITEMS FROM GRANT AID SERIOUS ATTENTION MUST BE GIVEN TO PROVIDING FUNDS FOR TRAINING AIDS AND SUPPORT MATERIAL TO DEVELOP A TRAINING BASE IN BOLIVIA.

(6) THE LACK OF FUNDS HAS DELAYED THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SANTA CRUZ AND CAMIRI MAINTENANCE CENTERS. WITHOUT THESE CENTERS THE BOLIVIAN ARMY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SUPPORT THE EQUIPMENT CURRENTLY BEING RECEIVED OR THAT PROGRAMMED. ADDITIONALLY THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPOSED ENGINEER MAINTENANCE CENTER FOR LA PAZ WILL NEED INCREASED MAP SUPPORT IN VIEW OF THE PROGRAMMED AND PROJECTED FMS ACQUISITIONS TO BE MADE BY THE BOLIVIAN ARMY.

B. MATERIEL AIR FORCE PROGRAM. IN ADDITION TO THE JUSTIFICATION GIVEN IN THE POM, THE FOLLOWING IS SUBMITTED. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THERE BE FINANCING FOR THE ABOVE PROGRAM YEARS FOR THE BOLIVIAN AIR FORCE (BAF). THE PROGRAM INCLUDES SUPPORT ITEMS ESSENTIAL FOR BAF SELF-SUFFICIENCY. TO ELIMINATE OR REDUCE ASSISTANCE FOR THIS PROGRAM WOULD DESTROY THE PROGRESS WHICH HAS BEEN ATTAINED DURING THE PAST FEW YEARS. THIS PROGRAM INCLUDES ONLY 7 AIRFRAMES (6 EA A-37B AND 1 EA UH-1H) WHICH HAVE BEEN CONSIDERED ESSENTIAL TO THE INTERNAL SECURITY OF THE COUNTRY. AS STATED IN THE POM, THE BAF IS PROCEEDING WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE CENTER IN COCHABAMBA BOLIVIA. AFTER BUDGETING FOR HANGERS, LIGHTING EQUIPMENT, RUNWAYS, PARKING RAMPS ETC. BAF HAS NOTHING LEFT FOR EQUIPMENT FOR THE MAINTENANCE SHOPS. ALTHOUGH NO COMMITMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE AT THIS LEVEL, SHOP EQUIPMENT HAS BEEN PROGRAMMED THROUGH GRANT AID DURING THIS TIME FRAME. WE BELIEVE THAT THE ONLY WAY FOR THE BAF TO PROJECT ITSELF OUT OF ANTIQUITY IS BY ESTABLISHING A SOUND MAINTENANCE/SUPPLY/LOGISTICS SYSTEM CAPABLE OF SELF-SUFFICIENCY.

C. MATERIEL, NAVY. DURING TIME-FRAME FY76-80 MODERNIZATION OF NAVAL UNITS THROUGH THE PROVISION OF LIMITED INTERNAL DEFENSE WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT IS PROGRAMMED. FAILURE TO PROVIDE THIS MATERIAL WILL SERIOUSLY LIMIT THE CAPABILITY

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OF NAVAL UNITS IN THE BENI REGION TO ASSIST IN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS DISCUSSED IN THE POM. IT SHOULD BE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT TERMINATION OF MAP GRANT AID IS ANTICIPATED IN GRADUATED BUT LARGE INCREMENTS BEGINNING IN FY78 AND PHASING OUT COMPLETELY IN FY80.

2. THE AMBASSADOR CONCURS IN VALIDITY OF CONTINUED MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR REASONABLE PROJECTS IN FY 7/-80 PERIOD AND NOTES THAT IF THE BOLIVIAN FINANCIAL SITUATION WERE TO

CONTINUE TO IMPROVE, FRANT ASSISTANCE COULD BE REDUCED  
PROVIDED THAT AN ADEQUATE LEVEL OF FMS CREDITS IS  
SUBSTITUTED.  
PARKER

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