

Message Text

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71

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 IGA-02 AGR-20 EB-11 COME-00

TRSE-00 OMB-01 SS-20 NSC-10 SPC-03 L-03 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 DRC-01

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O 092143Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1073

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LA PAZ 0173

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID BL

SUBJ: PL-480 WHEAT AND BOLIVIA

REF: LA PAZ 15

1. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, LT. COL. NATUSCH BUSCH, HAS ARRANGED TO CALL ON ME MONNDAY JANUARY 14 AT 10 -.M. TO DISUCSS MATTER OF GREAT IMPORTANCE. I CAN ONLY CONCLUDE THAT HEW WISHES TO TALK ABOUT CRITICAL WHEAT AND FLOUR PROBLEM IN BOLIVIA. ACCORDINGLY I WOULD VERY MUCH APPRECIATE HAVING AN OFFICIAL POSITION TO BE ABLE TO GIVE HIM DURING NEXT WEEK'S MEETIING.

2. THIS MORNING JANUARY 9 DURING A COURTESY CALL ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER BY CONGRESSMAN WHALEN, I WAS TOLD BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER HOW IMPORTANT U.S. COOPERATION IN ELPING BOLIVIA WITH WHEAT WILL BE IN THE PRESENT CRITICCAL SITUATION. ON JANUARY 8 THE SUBSECRETARY OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, DR. CESPEDES, TELEPHONED ME TO INQUIRE THWETHER THERE WAS ANY CURRENT INFORAMTION ON BOLIVIA'S REQUEST FOR PL-480 WHEAT. IN REPLY BOTH TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND THE SUBSECRETARY, I SAID THAT I HAD NO OFFICIAL REPLY BUT I HAD PRELIMINARY INDICATIONS THAT THE CHANCES WERE UNLIKELY THAT THERE WOULD BE ANY NEW AGREEMENTS DURING THE BALANCE OF FY 74.

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3. IN ADDITION TO AN OFFICIAL POSITION WHICH I CAN PRESENT TO

THE IMINISTER OF AGRICULTURE ON JAN 14, WHICH I HOPE WILL
PROVIDE SOME HELP TO BOLIVIA AT THIS CRITICAL TIME, I WOULD LIKE
TO KNOW WHAT THE FACTS ARE WITH REGARD TO SUPPLY AND DEMAND FOR
US WHEAT AND WHETHER THERE WILL BE ANY PL1480 PROGRAMS AT ALL
IN TTHIS FISCAL YEAR AND IF SO WHICH COUNTRIES WILL BE RECEIVING
ALLOCATIONS. I DO NOT INTEND TO CONVEY THIS INFORMATION TO
BOLIVIANS BUT WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE INFORAMTION FOR OUR OWN
UNDERSTANDING OF THE SITUATION. WE RECOGNIZE THE DIFFICULTIES
CONFRONTING THE AGENCIES IN WASHINGTON IN AAKING DETERMINATIONS
UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES BUT WE HERE FEEL WOEFULLY SHORT OF
STATISTICS AND FACTS. IN ANOTHER VEIN, I TRUST THAT SYMPATHETIC
CONSIDERATION IS BEING GIVEN TO BOLIVIA'S REQUEST SO THAT HELPFUL
ALTERNATIVES TO PL-480 CAN BE OFFERED, IF NECESSARY, SUCH AS
SUITABLE CREDIT.

STEDMAN

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Message Attributes

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