

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 00146 091410Z

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-10 L-03 H-03 AID-20

CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 CIEP-02 SPC-03 STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1882

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID EEC BL

SUBJ: EC FOOD AID TO BOLIVIA

REF: US MISSION EC BRUSSELS 0086

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. ACCORDING TO CHECK WITH MININD/COM JAN. 8 COMMERCIAL IMPORTS OF W EAT AND FLOUR IN 1973 TOTLED 90,268 M.T. IN WHEAT EQUIVALENT. FOUR YEAR AVERAGE FOR 1969-1972 IS 124,875 M.T.; THEREFORE FIVE YEAR AVERAGE IS 117,953 M.T. OF WHEAT EQUIVALENT.
END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. FYI. WE DO NOT HAVE MUCH CONFIDENCE IN FIGURE FOR 1973 GIVEN US TODAY BY MININD/COM AS FOURTH QUARTER COMPONENT IS ONLY 6,888 M.T. WHE*T EQUIVALENT. THIS FIGURE EXTREMELY LOW EVEN IN VIEW CHRONIC FLOUR SHORTAGES LA PAZ AND OTHER BOLIVIAN CITIES IN FOURTH QUARTER. WE SUSPECT CONSIDERABLE ADDITIONAL QUANTITIES OF "IRREGULAR" FLOUR IMPORTS OCCURRED DURING QUARTER ALTHOUGH MININD/COM HAS NO OFFICIAL RECORD OF THESE.
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PAGE 02 LA PAZ 00146 091410Z

3. WE HAVE OBTAINED COPY OF TABLE GIVEN TO MINFON BY MININD/COM WHICH PRESUMABLY IS ONE OF TABLES PASSED ON TO EEC. OFFICIALS WHO MIGHT BE ABLE EXPLAIN TABLE ARE NOW IN BUENOS AIRES TRYING TO IMPROVE ARGENTINE PERFORMANCE ON ITS COMMITMENTS TO BOLIVIA. WE BELIEVE TABLE CONSTRUCTED ABOUT AUGUST 2, 1973 WHEN MININD/COM JUST BEGINNING TO LOOK AT SUPPLY SITUATION WITH ALMOST ENTIRELY NEW STAFF. TABLE SHOWS ESTIMATED COMMERCIAL IMPORTS IN 1973 OF 135,277 M.T. IN WHEAT EQUIVALENT WHICH WE BELIEVE IMPLIES A LEVEL OF CONTRABAND IMPORTS IN THE FOURTH QUARTER FAR ABOVE WHAT IS LIKELY. TABLE PUTS ESTIMATED COMMERCIAL IMPORTS AT 165,319 M.T. WHEAT EQUIVALENT IN 1974 WHICH WE UNDERSTAND FROM EARLIER CABLES WAS TRIMMED TO 145,000 M.T. LATER. IT SHOULD BE UNDERSTOOD THAT NEITHER OF THESE ESTIMATES BEARS ANY RELATIONSHIP TO THE UMR AS CALCULATED FOR PL-480 TITLE I PURPOSES. MICH IS GENERALLY AN AVERAGE OF COMMERCIAL IMPORTS OVER PRECEEDING FIVE YEARS. IT MAY BE, HOWEVER, THAT BOLIVIA WILL BE FORCED TO IMPORT COMMERCIAL WHEAT AND FLOUR IN 1974 TO THE EXTENT INDICATED IN THE TABLE DUE TO POSSIBLE UNAVAILABILITY OF PL-480 TITLE I WHEAT*

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Message Attributes

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