

## Message Text

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53

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /031 W

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R 151710Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2826

C O N F I D E N T I A L LA PAZ 2306

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR PFOR BL

SUBJ: BOLIVIAN FOREIGN MINISTER PLANNING TO DELIVER LETTER

FROM PRESIDENT BANZER TO PRESIDENT NIXON

1. BOLIVIAN FOREIGN MINISTER GUZMAN INTENDS TO DELIVER TO SECRETARY KISSINGER LETTER FROM PRESIDENT BANZER TO PRESIDENT NIXON. ACCORDING TO FOREIGN MINISTER, LETTER REQUESTS COMPREHENSION OF THE USG OF BOLIVIA'S HOPES FOR AN OUTLET TO THE SEA. LETTER WILL ALSO EXPRESS BANZER'S REGRET AT NOT HAVING BEEN ABLE TO VISIT US IN FALL 1973 AND WILL NOTE BANZER'S INTEREST IN MAKING THE VISIT AT SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE.

2. SUB-SECRETARY FOREIGN MINISTRY TOLD ME THAT LETTER TO PRESIDENT NIXON IS NOT DRAFTED AS A REQUEST FOR ANY ACTION ON OUR PART BUT RATHER IS A REVIEW OF WHAT BOLIVIA CONSIDERS TO BE AN UNJUST SITUATION AND IS DESIGNED TO ELICIT FROM US FAVORABLE UNDERSTANDING. SUB-SECRETARY INDICATED THAT BOLIVIA MAY DISCUSS ITS LAND-LOCKED POSITION WITH OTHER FOREIGN MINISTERS BUT FOR THE MOMENT HAS PUT ASIDE THE IDEA OF A CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM TO OTHER FOREIGN MINISTERS.

3. FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS COME UNDER DOMESTIC POLITICAL PRESSURE TO SHOW SOME FORWARD MOTION ON BEHALF OF BOLIVIA REGARDING AN OUTLET TO THE SEA. LEADING LA PAZ NEWSPAPER DIARIO HAS CRITICIZED FOREIGN MINISTER FOR INEPTNESS IN PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND HAS JOINED OTHERS IN CALLING ON FOREIGN MINISTER TO EXPRESS MORE CLEARLY IN MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON/ATLANTA BOLIVIA'S DEEP-CONFIDENTIAL

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SEATED DESIRES FOR AN OPENING TO THE SEA.

4. IF LETTER IS INDEED DRAFTED AS I HAVE BEEN TOLD, IT SHOULD  
NOT BE DIFFICULT TO ANSWER. HOWEVER, IN CURRENT EMOTIONAL STATE  
HERE ON RETURN TO SEA, REPLY SHOULD BE WRITTEN BEARING IN MIND  
THAT IT VERY LIKELY WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE BOLIVIAN PRESS.  
WITH REGARD TO A REPEAT INVITATION TO PRESIDENT BANZER TO VISIT  
THE US, I WOULD HOPE FOR A BLAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT, AGAIN SUGGESTING  
THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE BUT A MUTUALLY CONVENIENT TIME TO  
BOTH PRESIDENTS.

STEDMAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LANDLOCKED COUNTRIES, PRESS COMMENTS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, ACCESS TO PORTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 APR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**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:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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**Subject:** BOLIVIAN FOREIGN MINISTER PLANNING TO DELIVER LETTER FROM PRESIDENT BANZER TO PRESIDENT NIXON  
**TAGS:** PBOR, PFOR, BL, US, (BANZER SUAREZ, HUGO), (NIXON, RICHARD M)  
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**Type:** TE  
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