

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 02306 151836Z

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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-
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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 Decaptioning: 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
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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:
Disposition Remarks:
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