

Message Text

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66

ACTION HEW-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 MED-03 SCI-06 IO-14 AID-20 PA-04

USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SCA-01 DODE-00

SP-03 PRS-01 OPR-02 M-02 A-01 DRC-01 /110 W

----- 026147

P R 092130Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3868

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

UNCLAS LA PAZ 5093

1. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC RELATIONS OF MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH ANNOUNCED AUG 8 THAT BORDER WITH BRAZIL HAD BEEN CLOSED AUG 2 TO PREVENT SPREAD OF MENINGITIS FROM THAT COUNTRY TO BOLIVIA. ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT PERSONS WITH MEDICAL CERTIFICATE ATTESTING TO THEIR GOOD HEALTH ON BASIS OF "LABORATORY DIAGNOSIS" MIGHT BE ADMITTED AFTER EXAMINATION BY BORDER AUTHORITIES. ACCORDING TO DR. GAMARRA OF NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TRANSMISSIBLE DISEASES, PERSONS ARRIVING BY AIR OR GROUND FROM OTHER NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES WILL BE CLOSELY CHECKED FOR MENINGITIS SYMPTOMS.

2. ACCORDING TO THE MINISTRY, NO CASES OF MENINGITIS HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN BOLIVIA AS YET. DOCTORS HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS CASES TO PUBLIC HEALTH EPIDEMIOLOGISTS.

3. DR. GAMARRA TOLD MISSION OFFICER THAT TYPE C VACCINE HAD BEEN REQUESTED FROM PAHO IN ANY QUANTITY IT CAN PROVIDE. PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT STATED SAME REQUEST HAD BEEN MADE OF WHO.

4. REGIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER NOTES THAT QUALIFIED MEDICAL PERSONNEL ARE NOT GENERALLY AVAILABLE AT MOST FRONTIER TRANSIT

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POINTS AND THAT CONTROL MAY NOT BE VERY EFFECTIVE.

5. RMO BELIEVES MENINGITIS OUTBREAK IN BRAZIL DOES NOT
PRESENT SIGNIFICANT DANGER TO MISSION PERSONNEL.
STEDMAN

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Message Attributes

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