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Department of State

INCOMING TELEGRAM

A1091

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ACTION ARA-15

5170

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INFO OCT-01 10-14 ADS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSD-00 ICAC-00 INRE-00 PH-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 SAS-02 OMB-01
TRSE-00 HA-05 SR-04 OCT-02 SY-05 SYE-09 OOE-17
DOEE-00 EB-00 AID-07 HCE-00 EUR-12 SMS-01 OES-09
DLOS-09 /161 W

CERTIFICATS OF ELIGIBILITY HAD BEEN ISSUED. IF WE DE
SIRE TO IMPROVE RELATIONS, WE NEED TO SEE MORE "BLUE
SKY" IN HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS.

O R 271903Z MAR 80
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4819
INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS

7. UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING AT
GENEVA. GOA--OP AT LEAST THE FOREIGN MINISTRY--IS STILL
IN HIGH DUDGEON OVER ACTIVITIES OF THE US DELEGATION TO
THE COMMISSION, ESPECIALLY THOSE OF USREP SHESTACK.
FOREIGN MINISTER PASTOR SAID THAT EARLY ON SUNDAY MORNING
(MARCH 23) TWO BOMBS HAD GONE OFF AT ARGENTINA'S GENEVA
DELEGATION HEADQUARTERS--PROOF THAT TERRORISTS STILL
ARE ACTIVE AGAINST GOA, HOWEVER UNWILLING OTHER GOVERN-
MENTS MIGHT BE TO CREDIT THEIR EXISTENCE. PASTOR WAS
MOST PARTICULARLY IRRITATED THAT THE USDEL AT GENEVA
HAD LOBBIED AGAINST A 12B RESOLUTION WHICH HAD BEEN
LABORED OVER AND AGREED "BY ALL THE OTHER DELEGATIONS,"
SAID PASTOR. THE US SIDE EVEN ASKED FOR A DELAY IN
VOTING IN ORDER TO GAIN TIME FOR LOBBYING. IN A FINAL
SESSION, PASTOR CHARGED. USREP SHESTACK SAID TO THE
CUBAN DELEGATE--BUT LOUDLY ENOUGH THAT OTHERS HEARD--
SOMETHING TO THE EFFECT THAT "PEOPLE TRAINED IN CUBA
HAVE BEEN TORTURED IN ARGENTINE PRISONS."

SECTION 1 OF 2 BUENOS AIRES 2652

E.O. 12065: GDS 3/27/86 (HALLMAN, WILLIAM H.) CR-P.
TAGS: PEPR SHUM MASS PINT PARM UNHCR US AR
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR SMITH'S CONSULTATIONS WITH THE ARGENTINE
GOVERNMENT: FIRST DAY'S TALK AT FOREIGN MINISTRY (MARCH 24)

8. WE REPLIED THAT UNDERSTANDINGS GAINED AT THE TIME
OF THE GOODPASTER VISIT HAD BEEN HONORED, AND THAT
ARGENTINA'S FOLLOWING SOVIET POSITIONS ON SEVERAL QUES-
TIONS--THE SAHARAV MATTER, FOR EXAMPLE--HAD LOOKED UN-
SEEMLY TO US.

1. ENTIRE TEXT.

9. PROGRESS TOWARD DEMOCRACY. PASTOR REPLIED TO
AMBASSADOR SMITH'S INQUIRY ABOUT THE PACE OF RETURN TO
DEMOCRACY WITH A LITANY OF HORRORS COMMITTED BY ARGENT-
TINA'S LAST ELECTED GOVERNMENT AND OPTIMISTIC WORDS ABOUT THE
CURRENT SITUATION. THE COUNTRY WOULD, HE
ASSURED, CONTINUE TO MOVE TOWARD DEMOCRACY--BUT THIS TIME
IT WOULD BE ONE THAT WOULD BE STABLE AND EFFECTIVE.
EFFORTS WOULD CONTINUE TO REFORM ARGENTINA'S FRAGMENTED
PARTY STRUCTURE. THE MEANS OF DOING THIS WOULD BE THE
DIALOGUE DUE TO BEGIN IN JUST TWO DAYS, ON MARCH 26.
THE POLITICAL BASES DEVISED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND PUB-
LISHED LAST DECEMBER, AS ELABORATED IN TWO VIDELA
SPEECHES, FORM THE TRACK ALONG WHICH THE REFORMS ARE
TO RUN.

2. SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR SMITH'S FIRST ROUND OF TALKS AT
THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS--WITH FOREIGN MINISTER
PASTOR LEADING THE ARGENTINE SIDE--COVERED HUMAN RIGHTS
(INCLUDING SECURITY OF THE PERSON AND ARGENTINE PROGRESS
TOWARD DEMOCRACY), NUCLEAR ISSUES, PROSPECTS FOR US-
ARGENTINE MILITARY RELATIONS AND SOVIET-ARGENTINE RELA-
TIONS. END SUMMARY.

3. SETTING THE THEME OF HIS VISIT, AMBASSADOR SMITH STATED
THAT CONTINUING THE WORK OF THE GOODPASTER MISSION HE
WISHED TO DO HIS BEST TO IMPROVE RELATIONS. IN HIS MANY
YEARS OF GOVERNMENT SERVICE HE HAD NOT SEEN A MORE
SERIOUS INTERNATIONAL SITUATION, ONE IN WHICH THE US
AND ARGENTINA SHARE IMPORTANT COMMON INTERESTS.
FOREIGN MINISTER PASTOR STATED HE FULLY AGREED. PASTOR
SAID VIDELA HAD ASSURED GENERAL GOODPASTER THAT ARGENTINA
WAS A COUNTRY SOLIDLY IN THE WEST.

4. HUMAN RIGHTS. SMITH ASKED ABOUT THE OUTLOOK.
PASTOR SAID THERE WOULD BE FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS. DIS-
APPEARANCES WERE DEFINITELY OVER. PRISONERS HELD IN
EXECUTIVE DETENTION CONTINUE TO BE RELEASED OR PROCESSED
AND THE GOVERNMENT EXPECTS THAT BY THE END OF THIS YEAR
THE APPROXIMATELY 1300 PEN PRISONERS HELD NOW BY THE
GOVERNMENT WILL BE REDUCED BY HALF. ON RIGHT OF OPTION,
HOWEVER, PASTOR WAS CAUTIOUS: THE PROGRAM IS MOVING
SLOWLY, HE ADMITTED, MOSTLY FROM FEAR THAT --AS HAS
HAPPENED SEVERAL TIMES ALREADY, HE SAID--OPTIONED PRISONERS
MIGHT RETURN TO ARGENTINA AND PLAN NEW TERRORIST ACTS.

5. AMBASSADOR SMITH ASKED ABOUT RUMORS THAT SEVERAL
YOUNG PERSONS ABDUCTED IN AUGUST AND SUBSEQUENTLY
ALLOWED TO BE IN TOUCH WITH THEIR FAMILIES HAD AGAIN
FALLEN SILENT. PASTOR CLAIMED TO HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF
THE AFFAIR, LEADING TO A SIDE DISCUSSION OF WAYS IN
WHICH HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS OF THE EMBASSY ARE PROCESSED
AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.

6. SMITH SAID THE PROGRESS GOA HAD MADE WAS WELL RE-
COGNIZED. WE WERE STILL CONCERNED OVER THE SLOWNESS OF
THE RIGHT OF OPTION PROGRAM, ESPECIALLY CASES WHERE US

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Argentina

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/TPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(X) Release () Excise () Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: () In Part (X) In Full

() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason

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INCOMING TELEGRAM

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10. NUCLEAR AFFAIRS. OUR EFFORTS WERE CONCENTRATED ON TRYING TO ELEVATE ARGENTINE'S CONCERN--TO THE MORE IMPORTANT PROBLEM OF

COUNTERING NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION ON A GLOBAL SCALE. NOTING THAT ARGENTINA MAY WELL BECOME A SUPPLIER OF MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGY IN TEN YEARS OR SO WE TRIED TO DIRECT THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S THINKING TOWARD WORLD-WIDE CONTROL OF DANGEROUS MATERIALS. PASTOR COUNTERED WITH THE ARGUMENT THAT ARGENTINA WANTS ONLY TO PROVIDE THE NUCLEAR ENERGY THE COUNTRY NEEDS IN AREAS WHERE HYDRO ELECTRIC ENERGY IS INSUFFICIENT. HE INVITED US TO KEEP LOOKING AT THE COUNTRY'S ENERGY PLAN TO EASE ANY DOUBTS ABOUT THE LEGITIMACY OF ARGENTINA'S EFFORTS, AND ALSO TO CONSIDER THAT ARGENTINA'S "JUST-CONCLUDED NUCLEAR ACCORD" WITH BRAZIL REMOVES ANY IDEA THAT MIGHT EVER HAVE OCCURRED THAT NUCLEAR RIVALRY BETWEEN ARGENTINA AND BRAZIL MIGHT TEMPT TOWARD ARMS PRODUCTION.

11. NUCLEAR AFFAIRS: TLATELOLCO. PASTOR SAID IT WEIGHS ON HIM TO HAVE PRESIDENT VIDELA'S COMMITMENT TO PRESIDENT CARTER TO RATIFY TLATELOLCO REMAIN UNFULFILLED. EFFORTS BY THE US WITH EUROPEAN SUPPLIERS TO BRAKE THE ARGENTINE NUCLEAR PROGRAM HAD LED HOWEVER, HE SAID, TO A CLIMATE IN WHICH RATIFICATION WAS POLITICALLY IMPOSSIBLE. AMBASSADOR SMITH DESCRIBED THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OUR CONCERN FOR PROPER SAFEGUARDS AND ANY IDEA OF SABOTAGING ARGENTINA'S PROGRAM. THE ISSUE HOWEVER, HE SAID, WAS THAT TLATELOLCO DESERVES RATIFICATION FOR ITS OWN MERITS--NOT AS SOMETHING WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF ARGENTINE-US RELATIONS.

12. MILITARY RELATIONS. PASTOR HELD UP THE HUMPHREY-KENNEDY AMENDMENT BARRING ARGENTINA'S BUYING US MILITARY EQUIPMENT AS "CAUSING SUSPICIONS" ABOUT THE UNITED STATES AS A SUPPLIER IN OTHER AREAS. PASTOR CLAIMED MANY ARGENTINES ASKED IN THE WAKE OF THE HODGED VISIT WHAT WOULD HAPPEN HERE IF THE US WERE TO "RETURN TO EARLIER POLICIES" AND LEAVE ARGENTINA WITHOUT SPARE PARTS FOR EQUIPMENT THAT THE ALLIS CHALMERS COMPANY MIGHT PROVIDE FOR HYDROELECTRIC PROJECTS. SMITH REPLIED THAT THE CONGRESS WOULD PROBABLY REQUIRE MORE IMPROVEMENT IN ARGENTINA'S RECORD OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS BEFORE GETTING DOWN TO REPEALING HUMPHREY-KENNEDY. AT THE SAME TIME, HE SAID, THERE IS BEFORE THE CONGRESS AN AMENDMENT TO THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT DESIGNED TO PERMIT THE PRESIDENT TO WAIVE "LEGISLATED FOREIGN POLICY," AND THAT IN TIME MIGHT GIVE SOME FLEXIBILITY TO THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO ARGENTINA.

13. ARGENTINE-SOVIET RELATIONS. PASTOR DESCRIBED AN ARGENTINE FOREIGN POLICY "ROOTED IN THE WEST" BUT WITH BRANCHES IN THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENTS AND TOWARD GOOD--IF CIRCUMSCRIBED--RELATIONS WITH THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. ARGENTINA HOWEVER WILL NOT, SAID PASTOR, SEEK ANY "PERMANENT BALANCE" BETWEEN EAST AND WEST--THUS PLANS FOR A VIDELA TRIP TO THE SOVIET UNION HAVE BEEN DROPPED, EVEN THOUGH SYMMETRY WOULD INDICATE SINCE VIDELA WILL VISIT CHINA AND AT SOME POINT THE MIDDLE EAST, AND HAS ALREADY BEEN TO JAPAN THAT HE INCLUDE SUCCESS THE KNOTTY PROBLEM OF THE MOMENT, PASTOR, SAID, IS NEGOTIATING A FISHING AGREEMENT WITH THE SOVIET UNION. ARGENTINA WOULD RATHER "SELL OUR FISH TO THE RUSSIANS THAN HAVE THEM STEAL IT," BUT ON THE OTHER HAND IS LOTH TO CONCEDE FISHING PORT RIGHTS.

14. OTHER TOPICS. PASTOR RAISED THE DEFENSE OF THE SOUTH ATLANTIC, AND THE NEED FOR BETTER DEFENSE PLANNING FOR THE AREA AMONG BRAZIL, ARGENTINA AND THE US. OUR CONCERN OVER THE POSSIBILITY OF A COUP IN BOLIVIA ARE COVERED SEPTEL.

15. PRINCIPAL ARGENTINE PARTICIPANTS IN THE MARCH 24 CONVERSATION WERE FOREIGN MINISTER PASTOR, DEPUTY MINISTER CAVANOLI, AMBASSADOR AJA ECPII AND JUAN CARLOS JIMENEZ HELO, RECENTLY APPOINTED INTERIM DIRECTOR FOR POLITICAL COORDINATION. ACCOMPANYING AMBASSADORS SMITH AND CASTRO TO THE MINISTRY WERE CLAUD RUCER (ARAFECA), ALLEN LOCKE AND EMBASSY POL COUNSELOR HALLMAN. THE MEETING BEGAN AT 1000 AND CONCLUDED AT 1225. CASTRO

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