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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 SSO-00 /031 W
-----223267 062114Z /65

P 061858Z AUG 81
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0543
INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
USMISSION USUN NEWNYORK

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 1 OF 2 BUENOS AIRES 5817

EXDIS

EO 12065: RDS-1 8/6/00 (SHLAUDEMANN, HARRY W.) OR-M
TAGS: PORG, PEPR, AR, XK, EEW, SHUM
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR KIRKPATRICK'S VISIT: CENTRAL AMERICA, THE NAM,
TRADE WITH THE USSR AND HUMAN RIGHTS

REF: BUENOS AIRES 5750

1. (C-ENTIRE TEXT).

2. SUMMARY. DURING HER VISIT HERE AMBASSADOR KIRKPATRICK
RAISED WITH THE GOA THE FACT THAT ITS REPRESENTATIVES IN
UN FORA HAVE FAILED TO SUPPORT US ON CERTAIN ISSUES,
ASSERTING ARGENTINE MEMBERSHIP IN THE NAM AS THE REASON.
THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION OF CENTRAL AMERICA DURING
THE AMBASSADOR'S MEETINGS, WITH THE ARGENTINE LEADERS
UNIFORMLY STRESSING THE NEED FOR MILITARY SUCCESS IN EL
SALVADOR AS A PRECONDITION FOR SOLUTIONS TO THE UNDERLYING
POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. ARGENTINA'S TRADE
WITH THE USSR AND THE RELATED SUBJECTS OF EC AGRI-
CULTURAL POLICIES AND THE THREAT POSED BY WESTERN
ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE IN GENERAL ON THE SOVIETS WERE
ALSO DISCUSSED. ON HUMAN RIGHTS FOREIGN MINISTER
CAMILION TOLD AMBASSADOR KIRKPATRICK THAT HALF THE
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PRISONERS BEING HELD UNDER EXECUTIVE POWER (PEN) WILL
BE RELEASED BY THE END OF THE YEAR. END SUMMARY.

3. AMBASSADOR KIRKPATRICK DID NOT CLEAR OR SEE THIS
CABLE PRIOR TO TRANSMISSION.

4. ARGENTINA AND THE NAM. AMBASSADOR KIRKPATRICK
TOOK OCCASION OF HER MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT VIOLA,
FOREIGN MINISTER CAMILION AND NAVY CINC LAMBRUSCHINI
TO EXPRESS HER SURPRISE AND DISAPPOINTMENT THAT ARGENTINA

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Marvin Russell, Senior Reviewer
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ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS HAD CHOSEN TO COOPERATE WITH THE U.S. IN UN FORA ON ISSUES THAT DO NOT DIRECTLY ENGAGE ARGENTINE INTERESTS. AS IN THE CASE OF THE ECOSOC RESOLUTION ON THE ABU EAIN AFFAIR (AN ABSTENTION), THE EXCUSE PROFFERED IS THAT ARGENTINA BELONGS TO THE NAM. BUT THE NAM CAUCUS IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL, FOR EXAMPLE, ALMOST INVARIABLY ENDS UP ON THE SIDE OF THE SOVIET UNION. IT IS DIFFICULT FOR US TO UNDERSTAND HOW ARGENTINA CAN GO ALONG WITH THIS AUTOMATIC MAJORITY.

5. CAMILION IN EFFECT MADE NO RESPONSE TO THIS PRESENTATION, INDICATING ONLY THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THE POINT. LAMBRUSCHINI RELATED THE NAM ISSUE TO THE GOA'S PROBLEMS WITH THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S POLICIES, SAID IT WOULD TAKE TIME FOR ARGENTINA TO CHANGE COURSE AND AT ONE POINT SUGGESTED AS A POSSIBLE QUID THAT THE U.S. SUPPORT ARGENTINA ON THE MALVINAS QUESTION. PRESIDENT VIOLA OPENED THE SUBJECT HIMSELF BY ASKING AMBASSADOR KIRKPATRICK IF SHE FOUND HIS COUNTRY'S DELEGATION IN THE UN COOPERATIVE AND PREPARED TO WORK WITH THE U.S. IN RESPONSE TO HER DESCRIPTION OF THE DIFFICULTIES SHE HAS ENCOUNTERED, VIOLA REFERRED TO THE IMPORTANCE OF NAM SUPPORT IN CONFIDENTIAL

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GOA EFFORTS TO COUNTER HUMAN RIGHTS ATTACKS AT A TIME WHEN THE U.S. WAS HOSTILE.

6. THE PRESIDENT WENT ON, HOWEVER, TO STATE THAT ARGENTINA HAS NOTHING IN COMMON WITH THE NAM OR ITS PHILOSOPHY. ARGENTINA BELONGS TO THE WEST AND LOOKS TO THE UNITED STATES AS THE LEADER OF THE WEST. VIOLA RECALLED THAT HE HAD RAISED THE SUBJECT OF ARGENTINA'S ADHERENCE TO THE NAM WITH VICE PRESIDENT BUSH IN WASHINGTON, IDENTIFYING THIS AS A POTENTIAL PROBLEM FOR DISCUSSION BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS. THERE HAD NOT BEEN TIME THEN TO GO INTO THE MATTER IN ANY DEPTH BUT, VIOLA EMPHASIZED, THE TWO SIDES SHOULD NOW GO FORWARD TO "ANALYZE IT" AND REACH AN UNDERSTANDING.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 BUENOS AIRES 5817

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

7. COMMENT: THIS IS AN ISSUE WE MEAN TO PURSUE
HERE. TO DO SO EFFECTIVELY WE WILL NEED TO BE INFORMED
IN A TIMELY FASHION WITH RESPECT TO ARGENTINA'S VOTES
ON QUESTIONS OF IMPORTANCE TO US IN THE UN SYSTEM.

8. CENTRAL AMERICA. VIOLA, LAMBRUSCHINI, GALTIERI
AND CAMILION ALL EXPRESSED GRAVE CONCERN OVER THE
SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA. THE GOA SEES SUCCESSFUL
SUBVERSION THERE AS SPREADING SOUTH AND THREATENING
ARGENTINA'S OWN SECURITY. THE VIEW HERE IS THAT
NICARAGUA IS ALREADY LOST, EL SALVADOR IN DEEP TROUBLE
AND EVEN COSTA RICA NOW IN DANGER. CAMILION SAID HE
HAD READ ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS' SPEECH ON EL
SALVADOR AND FOUND IT A GOOD APPROACH TO THE POLITICAL
PROBLEM, BUT IN HIS VIEW THE MILITARY PROBLEM MUST
COME FIRST. UNTIL SUBVERSION IS DEFEATED MILITARILY
THERE CAN BE NO BROADER SOLUTIONS IN EL SALVADOR. EACH
OF THE OTHER GOA LEADERS IN TURN MADE THE SAME POINT.
AMBASSADOR KIRKPATRICK AGREED THAT THE MILITARY ASPECT IS
OF PRIMARY SHORT-TERM IMPORTANCE. CAMILION URGED CON-
TINUING CLOSE CONSULTATIONS ON CENTRAL AMERICA BETWEEN

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OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS. GALTIERI AND VIOLA PLEDGED FULL ARGENTINE SUPPORT FOR THE U.S. EFFORT IN CENTRAL AMERICA. ENRIQUE ROS, THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S UNDER SECRETARY, TOLD AMBASSADOR KIRKPATRICK THAT THE GOA IS PLANNING TO PROVIDE SUBSTANTIAL NEW CREDITS TO EL SALVADOR.

9. TRADE WITH THE USSR. LAMBRUSCHINI RAISED THIS SUBJECT, ASSERTING THAT THE U.S. IS CRITICAL OF ARGENTINA'S HEAVY SALES TO THE RUSSIANS. AMBASSADOR KIRKPATRICK SAID THAT WAS NOT THE CASE AT ALL. WE UNDERSTAND THE CIRCUMSTANCES, PARTICULARLY THE EFFECTS OF EUROPEAN COMMUNITY POLICIES, WHICH HAVE LED ARGENTINA INTO SUCH HEAVY TRADE WITH THE USSR. BUT THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION IS CONCERNED BY THE PROSPECT OF GROWING ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE OF THE WEST GENERALLY ON THE SOVIET UNION, AS IN THE CASE OF THE GAS PIPELINE TO GERMANY. DETENTE, THE AMBASSADOR OBSERVED, WAS SUPPOSED TO MODERATE THE BEHAVIOR OF THE SOVIETS BY TYING THEM TO THE WEST ECONOMICALLY. BUT THE SYMPTOMS OF A CONTRARY RESULT ARE TO BE SEEN. THE AMBASSADOR MADE THE SAME POINTS TO FOREIGN MINISTER CAMILION IN RESPONSE TO HIS EXPLANATION OF ARGENTINA'S TURN TO THE SOVIET MARKET BECAUSE OF EC POLICIES.

10. HUMAN RIGHTS. CAMILION OPENED THIS SUBJECT BY STATING HIS OBJECTION TO THE INTERVENTIONIST ASPECTS OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S POLICIES TOWARD ARGENTINA. HE RECOGNIZED THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION'S COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS, A COMMITMENT THE GOA SHARES. CAMILION FOUND THE FREQUENT BUT UNPUBLICIZED INQUIRIES AND EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN ON HUMAN RIGHTS CASES ADDRESSED TO HIS MINISTRY BY THE U.S. EMBASSY PERFECTLY ACCEPTABLE. AMBASSADOR KIRKPATRICK NOTED
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THAT EVERY DISAPPEARANCE CASE RESOLVED AND EVERY PEN PRISONER RELEASED STRENGTHENS THE HAND OF ARGENTINA'S FRIENDS IN THE U.S. CAMILION SAID NOTHING COULD BE DONE ABOUT THE DISAPPEARED AT LEAST FOR "A YEAR" BUT THAT THE GOA IS CONCENTRATING ON THE PROBLEM OF THE PEN PRISONERS. HE EXPECTED THAT "HALF" OF THEM WOULD HAVE BEEN RELEASED BY THE END OF 1981. COMMENT: I HAVE TO WONDER HOW WELL CAMILION, VIOLA AND THE OTHERS IN THE GOA WHO WANT TO CONTINUE MAKING PROGRESS ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS FRONT WILL FARE WHEN SO LITTLE CREDIT IS GIVEN ABROAD FOR WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN ACCOMPLISHED HERE. THE COVER STORY IN THE CURRENT ISSUE OF "NEWSWEEK" ILLUSTRATES THE POINT. SHLAUDEMAN

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