

~~SECRET~~

PERSONAL FOR

PENTAGON TELECOMMUNICATIONS CENTER

PTTSZFF: RUEADW0149 1011611
PRIORITY
P 111611Z APP 81 ZFF:
FM HQ DA WASHDC //DACS-ZA//
TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES ARGENTINA
BT

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FOR AMBASSADOR HARRY W. SHLAUDEMAN FROM GENERAL E. C. MEYER, CSA

1. I'M SORRY I DID NOT HAVE A CHANCE ON THURSDAY TO CHECK OUT WITH YOU PRIOR TO THE TIME WE LEFT BUENOS AIRES. CAROL AND I GREATLY APPRECIATE THE SUPPORT THE EMBASSY PROVIDED US DURING OUR VISIT. SKIP MACDONALD AND THE MILITARY CREW APPEAR TO BE A VERY EFFECTIVE GROUP AND I CAME AWAY WITH A GOOD FEELING CONCERNING THE CALIBER OF PEOPLE YOU HAVE ON BOARD. I WILL ENSURE THAT THEIR REPLACEMENTS ARE TOP DRAWER FOREIGN AREA SPECIALISTS AND MILITARY OFFICERS.
2. CAROL AND I ARE PARTICULARLY GRATEFUL FOR THE PERSONAL TIME WE WERE ABLE TO SHARE WITH YOU AND CAROL. THE USE OF YOUR QUARTERS FOR THE RECIPROCAL RECEPTION WAS A SOCIAL AND, IF I MIGHT SAY, POLITICAL COUP. WE ARE BOTH GRATEFUL AND LOOK FORWARD TO SHARING OUR TABLE WITH YOU HERE IN WASHINGTON ON ONE OF YOUR FUTURE STATE-SIDE VISITS.
3. I DEVELOPED MY AFTER ACTION REPORT IN THE FORM OF A MESSAGE AS I HAD PROMISED. I BELIEVE IT COVERS THE HIGH POINTS OF THE DISCUSSIONS I HAD WITH THE SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE JUNTA, PRESIDENT VIOLA, AND SOME OF THE MORE INFLUENTIAL MEMBERS OF THE ARGENTINE MILITARY. A FEW OF THE MORE SENSITIVE ISSUES SUCH AS THE ARGENTINE ACTIVITY IN EL SALVADOR, RELATIONS WITH BOLIVIA, AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN LINK, I WILL DISCUSS IN MORE DETAIL THAN I OUTLINED IN THE MESSAGE WITH ONLY A FEW HERE IN WASHINGTON. SKIP MACDONALD WAS PRIVY TO MOST OF THOSE DISCUSSIONS, SO I BELIEVE HE CAN FILL YOU IN ON THE EL SALVADOR AND BOLIVIA ISSUES.
4. I HOPE BY THE MIDDLE OF NEXT WEEK TO BE ABLE TO FINALIZE THE LETTER TO GENERAL GALTIERI WHICH OUTLINES WHO HAS THE BALL ON THE INITIATIVES WHICH I PROPOSED. I WILL SEND YOU AN ADVANCED COPY OF THOSE INITIATIVES FOR ANY FINAL ADVICE YOU MAY HAVE ON ANY ONE OF THEM.
5. I DID GIVE YOU ONE BIT OF BAD INFORMATION WHILE I WAS THERE. I AM SURE YOU REALIZE THAT BY NOW. WHEN WE DISCUSSED THE SPANISH NEGOTIATIONS, I INDICATED I THOUGHT WE HAD ARRIVED AT SOME AGREEMENT. I WAS WRONG, AND OUR CURRENT PLANS HAVE BEEN PRETTY WELL OUTLINED BY AL HAIG AND CARRIED IN THE PRESS. I DON'T KNOW WHICH TWO DATA BITS WERE OUT OF ALIGNMENT IN MY HEAD BUT THEY CLEARLY WERE.
6. AGAIN THE VISIT WAS MOST USEFUL FOR ME AND WILL BE HELPFUL AS WE DEBATE THE OVERALL POLICY FOR LATIN AMERICA. MY UNDERSTANDING THE UNIQUE ISSUES OF THE SOUTHERN CONE WILL ENABLE ME TO BETTER ARTICULATE A RATIONALE FOR A COHERENT AND INTEGRATED LATIN AMERICAN POLICY.
7. CAROL JOINS IN SENDING HER PERSONAL BEST WISHES TO YOU BOTH.

FAITHFULLY,
SHY

BT

ACTION DACS / GEN MEYER / (1)
INFO SCS REVIEW (1)

(M,C)

MCN=81101/13552 TOR=81101/1606Z TAD=81101/1617Z CDSN=MAD611

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