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C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 1748

EO 12065: GDS 3/26/88 (RUSER, C.W.) OR-M
TAGS: MILI, OTRA, OVIP, AR
SUBJECT: VISIT OF DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE: MAJOR TOPICS FOR
DISCUSSION

REF: (A) \$3288 222334Z MAR 82, (B) BUENOS AIRES 1577, (C)
#3177 170047Z MAR 82

1. (C-ENTIRE TEXT).
2. AS REQUESTED IN REF C, FOLLOWING ARE OUR SUGGESTIONS ON
BILATERAL ISSUES THE DEPUTY SECRETARY SHOULD BE PREPARED TO ADDRESS.
3. CERTIFICATION: THE DEPUTY SECRETARY SHOULD BE PREPARED
AS THE FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS TO ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF
THE PRESIDENTIAL CERTIFICATION REQUIRED TO BRING INTO
EFFECT THE REPEAL OF THE HUMPHREY-KENNEDY AMENDMENT IF
THAT HAS NOT BEEN ACCOMPLISHED BY THE TIME OF HIS VISIT.
THE MILITARY HERE ARE OBVIOUSLY BECOMING IMPATIENT AS THE
DELAY LENGTHENS (BA 1572). CERTIFICATION IS IMPORTANT TO
THEM BOTH POLITICALLY, AS A GESTURE TOWARD THE
GALTIERI REIME, AND IN TERMS OF RENEWED MILITARY
TRAINING AND PROCUREMENT. (THE FOREIGN MINISTRY DOES
NOT SHARE THIS INTEREST. THE DIPLOMATS HAVE FROM
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THE OUTSET REGARDED THE CERTIFICATION PROCEDURE AS
INCOMPATIBLE WITH ARGENTINE DIGNITY. THEY WOULD
PARTICULARLY LIKE TO AVOID THE CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS
ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN ARGENTINA WHICH THEY FEAR WOULD
FOLLOW CERTIFICATION). THE MILITARY ARE PRESUMABLY
AWARE OF THE CHILEAN CONNECTION TO THIS QUESTION. BUT
THEY WOULD LIKELY BE DEEPLY RESENTFUL OF ANY EXPLANATION
THAT TIED FURTHER POSTPONEMENT OF CERTIFICATION IN
THEIR CASE TO PROBLEMS IN U.S.-CHILEAN RELATIONS.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Alan Flanigan, Senior Reviewer

4. SERVICE-TO-SERVICE RELATIONS: SOME OF THE MAJOR TOPICS OF INTEREST WHICH THE ARGENTINES MAY BRING UP ARE:
--TRAINING AND EXCHANGES--HOW TO OVERCOME THE HIATUS OF THE PAST THREE YEARS;
-- AVAILABILITY OF P-3 AIRCRAFT, A HIGH PRIORITY INTEREST TO THE ARGENTINE NAVY;
-- PLANNING FOR JOINT EXERCISES (UNITAS, ETC.).

5. THE MILITARY SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA, THE CARIBBEAN AND SECURITY IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC CLEARLY WILL BE TOPICS OF CENTRAL INTEREST TO THE ARGENTINES. SOME OTHER MAJOR TOPICS THAT MAY BE RAISED BY THEM ARE BOLIVIA (THE ARGENTINES WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY WISH TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION THERE) AND THE FALKLANDS/MALVINAS DISPUTE IN WHICH THE ARGENTINES SHOW SIGNS OF WISHING TO INVOLVE US. THE GOA MAY WISH TO BRIEF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY ON THE BEAGLE DISPUTE, BUT NOTHING BEYOND LISTENING WILL BE REQUIRED OF HIM IN THAT EVENT.
SHLAUDEMANN

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