Message Text

SECRET

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4522

S E C R E T BUENOS AIRES 1044

EXDIS

FOR ARA/ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR HILL

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, AR

SUBJECT: MILITARY ALLEGEDLY WISH TO SEND REPRESENTATIVE TO MEET WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER

1. MR. CARNICERO, A NATURALIZED AMCIT OF ARGENTINE BIRTH, CALLED ON ME FEB. 13. HE LIVES IN WASHINGTON, OR HAS FOR SEVERAL YEARS. HE MAY BE WELL KNOWN AT THE DEPT. RECENTLY HE HAS BEEN NEGOTIATING WITH ITT & STANDARD ELECTRIC AT THE REQUEST OF THE GOA. ACCORDING TO CARNICERO, SEVERAL HIGH-RANKING MILITARY OFFICERS HAVE ASKED HIM TO ARRANGE A MEETING BETWEEN AN APPROPRIATE MILITARY REP AND SECRETARY KISSINGER SO THAT THEY CAN EXPLAIN THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN ARGENTINA (I.E. WHY THEY MUST TAKE POWER) AND RECEIVE ASSURANCES OF US RECOGNITION.

2. I DISCOURAGED CARNICERO FROM GOING FORWARD WITH THIS IDEA. SUCH A MEETING, SHOULD IT BECOME PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE, COULD BE MISINTERPRETED TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE OFFICERS THEMSELVES AS WELL AS OF SECRETARY KISSINGER. FURTHER, I SAID, IT SEEMED TO ME UNNECESSARY. THE EMBASSY HAS DISCREETLY AND THROUGH THIRD PARTIES ALREADY INDICATED TO THE MILITARY THAT THE USG WILL RECOGNIZE A NEW GOVT IN ARGENTINA AS LONG AS IT HAS THE USUAL PREREQUISITES FOR RECOGNITION.

3. CARNICERO WAS NOT TO BE DISSUADED, HOWEVER. HE SAID THE MILITARY WANT TO HEAR IT FROM SECRETARY KISSINGER HIMSELF. CARNICERO SECRET

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INDICATED HE WOULD TRY TO SET UP THE MEETING THROUGH THE GOOD

OFFICES OF HIS CLOSE FRIEND AMBASSADOR ORFILA.

4. I STRONGLY RECOMMEND AGAINST SUCH A MEETING -- FIRST, FOR THE REASONS GIVEN IN PARA TWO, AND SECONDLY, BECAUSE I HAVE SOME DOUBTS AS TO WHETHER THE IDEA ORIGINATED WITH THE MILITARY OR WITH CARNICERO HIMSELF, WHO HAS THE REPUTATION OF BEING A SUCCESSFUL PROMOTER AND OPERATOR. HE MAY WISH TO DEMONSTRATE TO THE MILITARY HOW WELL-CONNECTED HE IS BY SUGGESTING AND BRINGING ABOUT A MEETING WITH SECREARY KISSINGER. WERE THIS THE MILITARY'S OWN IDEA, I BELIEVE THEY WOULD HAVE USED OTHER CHANNELS. HILL

SECRET

NNN

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