

UNCLASSIFIED

FAILURE TO PRODUCE A LIST IS "MOST OUTRAGEOUS" THING.)

-- IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE FOR RULE OF LAW TO OPERATE AGAIN IN ARGENTINA SO THAT WHEN PEOPLE ARE ARRESTED, THEIR ARREST IS ACKNOWLEDGED AND THEIR DEFENSE IS PERMITTED.

-- WE KNOW OF PRESENCE OF INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS IN ARGENTINA, PERHAPS INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OR UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MIGHT BE INVITED ALSO.

-- WHILE WE RECOGNIZE TERRIBLY DIFFICULT PROBLEM GOA FACES IN DEALING WITH TERRORISM, WE CANNOT ACCEPT THAT PEOPLE WITH DIFFERENT VIEWS ARE PERSECUTED, TORTURED AND MURDERED.

3. DEPTOFF ALSO MENTIONED SUSPICION THAT PRISONERS ARE BEING SHOT. HE NOTED THAT CASUALTY FIGURES ARE SURPRISING AND NO PRISONERS ARE TAKEN.

4. BEAUGE ASKED IF OUR EMBASSY IN BUENOS AIRES HAD MADE THESE SAME POINTS. DEPTOFF SAID YES AND OFTEN. BEAUGE PERSISTED, ASKING IF THESE POINTS HAD BEEN MADE BY NEW RPT NEW ADMINISTRATION. HE SAID, "IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR YOUR SAME MESSAGE TO COME FROM ALL CHANNELS. THIS DID NOT HAPPEN IN PAST." BEAUGE WAS ASSURED THAT THE SAME MESSAGE WOULD BE COMING FROM ALL LEVELS OF NEW ADMINISTRATION.

5. BEAUGE VOICED SKEPTICISM THAT ADMINISTRATION'S CONCERN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS WAS REALLY UNIVERSAL. HE WAS CONCERNED THAT ONLY A FEW WOULD SUFFER AS A RESULT OF THE U.S.

STANCE, INCLUDING ARGENTINA.

6. IN CLOSING, DEPTOFF NOTED THAT RELATIONS WERE AT AN IMPORTANT JUNCTURE AND THAT FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS DEPEND ON WHAT ARGENTINES DO.

7. JANUARY 31 CONVERSATION WAS INITIATED BY ARGENTINE FIRST SECRETARY URRUTIA. HE SAID THAT GOA HOPES TO FINALIZE 1977 FMS AGREEMENT WITH FEDERAL FINANCING BANK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BUT, SPEAKING PERSONALLY HE ADDED, HE FEARS COMPLICATIONS. DEPTOFF REPLIED THAT URRUTIA IS A GOOD OBSERVER AND THIS IS INDEED A DIFFICULT SUBJECT. URRUTIA RECALLED THAT CONGRESS HAD ALREADY AGREED TO OVER \$40 MILLION IN FMS CREDITS FOR ARGENTINA. CONVERSATION ENDED WITH DEPTOFF SUGGESTING THAT SUBJECT BE DISCUSSED LATER IN WEEK.

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