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PUTTING DOWN TERRORISM CERTAIN EXCESSES HAD OCCURRED IN ARGENTINA AND HE KNEW THAT THEY HAD THINGS TO BE FORGIVEN. BUT HE WAS NOT ASKING FOR FOGIVENESS BUT UNDERSTANDING, AND THEY HAD NOT HAD MUCH IN RECENT YEARS. I REPLIED THAT I KNEW OF NO NATION WHICH WAS WITHOUT SIN. HE THANKED ME FOR THIS REMARK.

7. PRESIDENT VIDELA SAID THAT ARGENTINA WAS A WESTERN NATION BY CHOICE, NOT JUST BY A GEOGRAPHIC ACCIDENT. THEY FELT THEMSELVES PART OF THE WEST AND SHARED ITS VALUES. THEY RECOGNIZED THE UNITED STATES AS THE NATURAL LEADER OF THE WEST AND WISHED TO HELP US SHARE THE BURDEN OF THE DEFENSE OF HUMAN FREEDOM IN ANY WAY THEY COULD.

8. THEY HAD BEEN CONCERNED FOR SEVERAL YEARS BY THE PROCESS OF COMMUNIST INFILTRATION AND AGGRESSION IN CENTRAL AMERICA. THEY HAD FOUND LITTLE UNDERSTANDING FOR THIS CONCERN IN THE UNITED STATES AND HE WAS GREATLY COMFORTED AND REASSURED BY THE MESSAGE I BROUGHT HIM FROM SECRETARY HAIG. HE FULLY UNDERSTOOD OUR POSITION AND WOULD DO EVERYTHING HE COULD TO BE SUPPORTIVE OF OUR POSITION. HE COULD ASSURE ME THAT HE WAS NOT SPEAKING AS A PRESIDENT ABOUT TO LEAVE OFFICE BUT HAD DISCUSSED THESE MATTERS WITH PRESIDENT-ELECT VIOLA WHO WAS AN OLD AND CLOSE FRIEND AND WHOSE VIEWS WERE THE SAME AS HIS. THIS WAS ALSO TRUE OF THE THREE COMMANDERS-IN-CHIEF.

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9. HE GREATLY APPRECIATED SECRETARY HAIG'S SENDING ME TO SEE HIM AND TO CONVEY THIS INFORMATION TO HIM. WE COULD COUNT ON ARGENTINA'S UNDERSTANDING AND MATERIAL AND MORAL SUPPORT.

10. HE COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MORE FRIENDLY, RECEPTIVE AND COURTEOUS.  
SHLAUDEMAN

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