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FOR SECRETARY FROM GEN. WALTERS

EO 12065: XDS-1 2/25/2010 (WALTERS, VERNON A.)
TAGS: PINR, PINS, PEPR, AR, US, ES
SUBJECT: MY TALK WITH PRESIDENT VIDELA

1. S - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR SHLAUDEMAN I WAS RECEIVED AFTERNOON OF FEBRUARY 24 BY PRESIDENT VIDELA AT THE CASA ROSADA.
3. I EXPLAINED THAT I HAD BEEN SENT BY SECRETARY HAIG AS PART OF A PROCESS OF CONSULTATION WITH OUR FRIENDS AND ALLIES. PRESIDENT INTENDED THAT WE CONTINUE SUCH A PROCESS. I HAD NOT COME TO ASK FOR ANYTHING BUT TO INFORM THEM OF OUR CONCERNS IN CENTRAL AMERICA AND MORE PARTICULARLY REGARDING EL SALVADOR.
4. WE VIEWED MOST SERIOUSLY THE EFFORTS OF NON-AMERICAN COUNTRIES TO OVERTHROW ESTABLISHED GOVERNMENTS ON THIS CONTINENT, USING THE CUBANS AND NICARAGUANS TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL.
5. I THEN PROCEEDED TO DELIVER THE BRIEFING AND SHOWED PRESIDENT VIDELA THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS.

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6. WHEN I WAS THROUGH HE SAID THAT HE GREATLY APPRECIATED THIS POLICY OF CONSULTATION. IT HAD NOT BEEN THE CASE IN RECENT YEARS AND HE REALIZED THAT IN

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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.
SHLAUDEMAM

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EO 12065: XDS-1 2/25/2010 (WALTERS, VERNON A.)
TAGS: PINR, PINS, PEPR, US, AR, ES
SUBJECT: MY TALK WITH PRESIDENT VIDELA

1. S - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. FOLLOWING MY PRESENTATION AND REQUEST FOR ARGENTINE
ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING, PRESIDENT VIDELA SAID THAT
ARGENTINA WOULD DO THE FOLLOWING:

A) HELP IN ANY WAY SHE COULD IN THE MATTER OF EL SALVADOR;

B) SUPPORT US IN ANY INTERNATIONAL INSTANCE OR FORUM;

C) CONTINUE TO PROVIDE TRAINING ASSISTANCE AND WOULD INCREASE
THAT PROGRAM IF THE SALVADORANS REQUESTED IT;

D) PROVIDE ARMS AND AMMUNITION FROM THEIR OWN LIMITED STOCKS
IF THIS WAS DESIRED;

E) FURNISH SOME FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

3. COMMENT; PRESIDENT VIDELA COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MORE RESPONSIVE.
HE ASKED FOR NOTHING IN RETURN.

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4. ONE OF THE MOST IMPRESSIVE MEN I HAVE MET. I BELIEVE HE
IS WHAT HIS MOTHER THINKS HE IS. WE CAN COUNT ON HIM AND HIS
SUCCESSOR.

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SHI, AUDEMAN

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