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1. (U) CTRY: ARGENTINE (AR)/BOLIVIA (BO)
2. (U) TITLE: MILITARY/POLITICAL - ARGENTINA/BOLIVIA/US RELATIONS (U)
3. (U) DATE OF INFO: 800804/05
4. (U) ORIG (b)(3):10 USC 424
5. (U) REQ (b)(3):10 USC 424
7. SUMMARY: Sec. 3.3(b)(1) HE HAD TALKED TO GENERAL GARCIA ((MEZA)), BOLIVIAN PRESIDENT AND MILITARY JUNTA CHIEF; AND GENERAL WALDO ((BERNAL)), BOLIVIAN AIR FORCE COMMANDER IN CHIEF AND JUNTA MEMBER, THEY HAD SAID THAT THEY WANT TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. BECAUSE THEY ARE A WESTERN COUNTRY. SOURCE SAID REPORTS OF ARGENTINE INVOLVEMENT IN COUP ARE UNFOUNDED. HE FURTHER STATED THAT BOLIVIA NEEDS U.S. HELP TO ELIMINATE THE DRUG TRAFFICKERS BECAUSE DRUGS HURT BOTH COUNTRIES.

Sec. 3.3(b)(1); Sec. 3.3(b)(6)

SANTA CRUZ AND HAS ZONE SECURITY RESPONSIBILITIES, AND SAID HE WILL WORK TO ELIMINATE THE DRUG BUSINESS. IF SOME ALLEGATIONS ARE TRUE, IT MAY BE DIFFICULT - HIS ANSWER QUOTE THAT'S O.K., IT'S THEM OR ME UNQUOTE.

HE SAID BOLIVIA MUST NOW DEVELOP A SERIOUS LONG-TERM ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PLAN TO RAISE THE STANDARD OF LIVING AND EDUCATIONAL LEVELS - SOMETHING TO PROVIDE STABILITY AND COHERENCE. THEN, HE SAID, WE CAN MOVE TO DEMOCRACY.

Sec. 3.3(b)(1)