

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 08986 032038Z  
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 AID-05  
L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 NSAE-00  
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /111 W  
-----000052 041951Z/44

R 031745Z NOV 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3374  
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
USMISSION GENEVA  
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SREF, BL  
SUBJECT: BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENT CANCELS HMONG RESETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

REF: LA PAZ 7818

1. ON OCTOBER 30 THE FOREIGN MINISTRY UNEXPECTEDLY ISSUED A DECREE VOIDING PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT'S AGREEMENT WITH FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY INTERNATIONAL (FHI) CONCERNING THE RESETTLEMENT OF AN UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF HMONG REFUGEES IN BOLIVIA. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S DECISION FOLLOWED CLOSELY A PUBLIC DENUNCIATION OF THE PROJECT BY THE LEFTIST MIR PARTY, WHICH CLAIMED THAT THE AGREEMENT WITH FHI SUBORDINATED BOLIVIA'S NATIONAL INTERESTS TO THOSE OF "IMPERIALISM."

2. THE MIR STATEMENT, WHICH WAS REPORTED IN THE PRESS ON OCTOBER 30, REFERRED TO CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN FORMER IMMIGRATION SUB-

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SECRETARY GUIDO STRAUSS AND FORMER FOREIGN MINISTRY UNDER SECRETARY MARCELO TERCEROS BANZER RELATING TO THE IMMIGRATION OF UP TO 40,000 (SIC) LAOTIAN REFUGEES. THE MIR DID NOT OPPOSE IN THE PRINCIPLE THE IDEA OF REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT IN BOLIVIA, BUT RATHER THE SECRETIVE NATURE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH FHI AND THE FACT (WHICH WE CAN NOT SUBSTANTIATE) THAT LAND SUCH AS THAAT SET ASIDE FOR THE HMONGS HAS NOT BEEN MADE

AVAILABLE TO LOCAL COLONIZERS. REFERRING OBLIQUELY TO THE  
MIR STATEMENT, THE FOREIGN MINISTRY DECLARED THE FHI AGREEMENT  
"INVALID"BECAUSE OF "CONCEPTUAL FAULTS".

3. IN A CONVERSATION WITH EMBASSY OFFICER ON NOVEMBER 2,  
IMMIGRATION SUB-SECRETARY LUDWIG ALVES COMPALINED THAT HIS  
PREDECESSOR STRAUSS, WHO IS NOT FHI'S AGENT IN BOLIVIA, HAD  
INTERPOSED HIMSELF BETWEEN ALVES AND FHI PRESIDENT WARD, THUS  
IMPEDING THE RATIFICATION PROCESS. HE MAINTAINND, HOWEVER,  
THAT THE AGREEMENT MIGHT STILL BE SAVED IF HE WERE ABLE TO  
MEET DIRECTLY WITH WARD OR FHI LATIN AMERICAN DIRECTOR DEAN  
FLLORA.

4. COMMENT: WE HAVE INFORMED FLORA OF THE FOREGOING DEVELOP-  
MENTS BY TELEPHONE. HE AND POSSIBLY WARD WILL RETURN TO BOLIVIA  
EARLY NEXT WEEK TO TRY TO RESURRECT THE AGREEMENT. OF COURSE,  
WE WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE SUCH ASSISTANCE AS MAY BE APPROPRIATE.  
HOWEVER, WE ARE NOT CONFIDENT THAT A RENEWED FHI INITIATIVE WILL  
BE SUCCESSFUL NOW THAT THE HMONG PROJECT HAS SUDDENTLY BECOME A  
CONTROVERSIAL DOMESTIC POLITICAL ISSUE.  
BOEKER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGREEMENTS, REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 nov 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978LAPAZ08986  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780456-0734  
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**Office:** ACTION HA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 LA PAZ 7818  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 477821  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENT CANCELS HMONG RESETTLEMENT AGREEMENT  
**TAGS:** SREF, BL  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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