

# FOIA MARKER

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**Folder Title:**

Reading Material [President's Trip to South America - October 1997] [2]

**Staff Office-Individual:**

Special Envoy for the Americas-McLarty, Thomas (Mack)

**Original OA/ID Number:**

CF 1056

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# Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

## Clinton Library

| DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE | SUBJECT/TITLE   | DATE        | RESTRICTION |
|-----------------------|---|-------------|-------------|
| 001a. list            | Table of Contents (4 pages)   | n.d.        | P1/b(1)     |
| 001b. memo            | Samuel Berger and Mack McLarty to the President, re: Your Trip to Venezuela, Brazil and Argentina, October 12-19 (12 pages) | n.d.        | P1/b(1)     |
| 001c. memo            | Madeleine Albright to the President, re: Your Visit to Venezuela, Argentina and Brazil, October 12-19, 1997 (3 pages)       | 10/07/1997  | P1/b(1)     |
| 001d. briefing paper  | Bilateral Meeting with President Caldera (4 pages)  | ca. 10/1997 | P1/b(1)     |
| 001e. talking points  | Talking Points for Meeting with President Caldera (4 pages)   | ca. 10/1997 | P1/b(1)     |
| 001f. report          | U.S. Government Report (1 page)   | 09/17/1997  | P1/b(1)     |
| 001g. briefing paper  | Bilateral with President Cardoso (6 pages)  | ca. 10/1997 | P1/b(1)     |
| 001h. talking points  | Talking Points for Meeting with President Cardoso (5 pages)   | ca. 10/1997 | P1/b(1)     |
| 001i. report          | U.S. Government Report (1 page)   | 09/26/1997  | P1/b(1)     |
| 001j. briefing paper  | Meeting with Congressional Leaders (2 pages)  | ca. 10/1997 | P1/b(1)     |
| 001k. talking points  | Talking Points for Meeting with Congressional Leaders (2 pages)   | ca. 10/1997 | P1/b(1)     |

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2009-1155-F  
 ke2569

**RESTRICTION CODES**

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PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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| 001l. briefing paper     | Bilateral Meeting with President Menem (5 pages)                    | ca. 10/1997 | P1/b(1)     |
| 001m. talking points     | Talking Points for Bilateral Meeting with President Menem (6 pages) | ca. 10/1997 | P1/b(1)     |
| 001n. report             | U.S. Government Report (1 page)                                     | 07/24/1997  | P1/b(1)     |
| 001o. briefing paper     | Meeting with Political Opposition Leaders (2 pages)                 | ca. 10/1997 | P1/b(1)     |
| 001p. talking points     | Talking Points for Meeting with Opposition Leaders (2 pages)        | ca. 10/1997 | P1/b(1)     |
| 001q. report             | U.S. Government Report (1 page)                                     | 09/09/1997  | P1/b(1)     |
| 001r. report             | U.S. Government Report (1 page)                                     | 09/09/1997  | P1/b(1)     |
| 001s. report             | U.S. Government Report (1 page)                                     | 09/09/1997  | P1/b(1)     |
| 001t. report             | U.S. Government Report (1 page)                                     | 09/29/1997  | P1/b(1)     |
| 001u. report             | U.S. Government Report (1 page)                                     | 09/29/1997  | P1/b(1)     |
| 001v. briefing paper     | Meeting with Jewish Community Leaders (2 pages)                     | ca. 10/1997 | P1/b(1)     |
| 001w. talking points     | Talking Points for Meeting with Jewish Leaders (1 page)             | ca. 10/1997 | P1/b(1)     |

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SCHEDULE OF KEY EVENTSSunday, October 12

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 2:55 - 3:25 p.m.  | Arrival Ceremony                         |
| 4:10 - 4:55 p.m.  | Embassy Event                            |
| 7:10 - 7:50 a.m.  | Bilateral Meeting with President Caldera |
| 8:00 - 10:30 p.m. | State Dinner                             |

**RON** **Caracas, Venezuela**

Monday, October 13

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| 9:00 - 9:20 a.m.       | Drop-by Energy/Business Leaders<br>Breakfast |
| 9:20 - 9:25 a.m.       | Photo with Fulbright Energy Scholars         |
| 9:50 - 10:15 a.m.      | Observe Signing Ceremony                     |
| 10:30 - 10:40 p.m.     | Wreath Laying                                |
| 10:45 - 11:45 a.m.     | Crowd Event                                  |
| 12:15 - 12:25 p.m.     | Departure Ceremony                           |
| 1:05 p.m.              | Depart en route Brasilia                     |
| 7:35 p.m.              | Arrive in Brasilia                           |
| 8:05 p.m. - 11:25 p.m. | State Dinner                                 |

**RON** **Brasilia, Brazil**

Tuesday, October 14

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| 10:00 - 10:25 a.m. | Arrival Ceremony  |
| 10:30 - 11:40 a.m. | Bilateral Meeting with President Cardoso                |
| 1:15 - 2:15 p.m.   | Press Conference and Signings with<br>President Cardoso |
| 2:35 - 3:05 p.m.   | Meeting with Congressional Leadership                   |
| 3:25 - 3:30 p.m.   | Photo with Marine Detachment                            |
| 3:35 - 4:20 p.m.   | Embassy Event   |

5:00 p.m. Depart en route Sao Paulo  
 6:20 p.m. Arrive Sao Paulo  
**RON Sao Paulo, Brazil**

**Wednesday, October 15**

9:05 - 10:05 a.m. Address to Business Leaders  
 10:10 - 10:35 a.m. Meet and Greet  
 10:40 - 10:50 a.m. Photo with Consulate Staff  
 11:25 a.m. Depart en route Rio de Janiero  
 12:50 p.m. Arrive Rio de Janiero  
 1:35 - 1:45 p.m. Tour of the Mangueira School  
 1:45 - 2:35 p.m. Education/Crowd Event  
 5:20 p.m. Depart en route Buenos Aires  
 7:10 p.m. Arrive Buenos Aires  
 7:20 - 7:40 p.m. Arrival Ceremony  
**RON Buenos Aires, Argentina**

**Thursday, October 16**

9:05 - 10:00 a.m. Wreath Laying  
 10:20 - 11:20 a.m. Bilateral Meeting with President Menem  
 11:35 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. Meeting with Opposition Leaders  
 12:10 - 12:35 p.m. Meeting with AMIA Jewish  
 Leaders/Families  
 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Univision Town Hall Meeting  
 9:05 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. State Dinner  
**RON Buenos Aires, Argentina**

**Friday, October 17**

|                    |                                      |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 9:45 - 10:30 a.m.  | Business Leaders Breakfast           |
| 10:50 - 11:35 a.m. | Embassy Event                        |
| 12:35 p.m.         | Depart en route Bariloche            |
| 2:40 p.m.          | Arrive Bariloche                     |
| TBD                | Dinner with President and Mrs. Menem |

**RON****Bariloche, Argentina****Saturday, October 18**

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| 10:40 - 11:40 a.m. | Environmental Event                    |
| TBD                | Depart en route Buenos Aires           |
| TBD                | Depart en route Andrews Air Force Base |

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

October 9, 1997

SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT**

**FROM:** Robert E. Rubin *RE R.*

**SUBJECT:** Economic developments in Argentina, Brazil, and Venezuela

The economies of Argentina, Brazil, and Venezuela are all enjoying at least moderate growth, have scored significant gains against inflation, and have been so far untouched by the financial turbulence in Asia. Their challenge looking forward will be to maintain stable financial policies and embark on deeper reforms needed to raise the living standards of all their people. Five themes have shaped the recent history and future prospects of the three countries.

- First, decades of protectionism, statist controls, and financial instability culminated in the early 1980's debt crisis, followed by the "lost decade" of economic stagnation. The 1990's have seen a remarkable change in economic thinking as leaders in Argentina, Brazil, and to a lesser extent Venezuela, embraced market-oriented policies.
- Second, reforms of the 1990's and ample global liquidity have fueled large-scale flows of foreign capital to the countries over the past two years, with Argentina and Brazil together likely to receive as much as \$50 billion this year. Those inflows can catalyze investment and growth, but they can also turn quickly into destabilizing outflows if policies slip and confidence wanes. Latin countries must stay vigilant about contagion from Asia -- especially Brazil, with its wide budget and current account deficits.
- Third, all three have undergone costly banking restructurings that have left their banking sectors in better health than Mexico in 1994 or Thailand today. Foreign banks have played important roles in recapitalizing and modernizing their banking systems.
- Fourth, the reforms achieved so far will not produce the sustained growth rates of five percent or higher needed to ensure that increased prosperity reaches all segments of society. The three countries, and others in Latin America, must tackle more difficult reforms to improve education, build modern institutions, and fight corruption.
- Fifth, Argentina and Brazil have deepened their economic integration through the Mercosur Customs Union. Those markets are a tremendous opportunity for American exporters, given that they have only recently opened their economies and their trade is expanding rapidly. But if Mercosur deepens without our involvement, trade will be diverted away from our exporters. Argentina appears more receptive to folding Mercosur relatively quickly into the FTAA, while Brazil is inclined to delay the FTAA while Mercosur deepens.

## BRAZIL

In 1994, when President Cardoso was Finance Minister, Brazil introduced the Real Plan, its most serious effort yet at breaking the mold of hyperinflation and economic stagnation. The plan has succeeded brilliantly, cutting inflation from over 1000% in 1994 to 6% this year and boosting the popularity of President Cardoso. Brazil also liberalized trade and embarked on a vast privatization program expected to yield revenues of up to \$80 billion over the next three years.

Fiscal deficits in excess of 4% of GDP, together with tight monetary policy needed to curb inflation, have kept economic growth rates down to only about 3%, and contributed to a strong currency and a current account deficit in excess of 4% of GDP. Those figures make Brazil the most vulnerable of the three countries to financial instability. The Real Plan is not now under threat and will likely be sustainable through the November 1998 Presidential elections, especially if today's global low interest rates persist. But to safeguard financial stability and raise growth, the government will need meaningful fiscal reform after the elections.

## ARGENTINA

Argentina initiated serious economic reform in 1991 with its celebrated Convertibility Plan, which disciplined monetary policy by committing it to convert pesos into dollars at a one-to-one rate. Argentina also opened its borders to world trade and privatized much of its economy.

Today Argentina's economy looks healthy, with growth near 7%, inflation lower than in the U.S. (after more than 2000% in 1990), and manageable fiscal and current account deficits. Unemployment is an important problem, however, due in large part to rigid labor laws. The 16% jobless rate is cutting into support for President Menem and his reform policies. A poor showing in next month's Congressional elections could strengthen the hand of populist elements and lead to a softening of reforms. Another risk for Argentina is its exposure to potential currency instability in Brazil -- which accounts for close to one-third of Argentina's foreign trade.

## VENEZUELA

Venezuela has not suffered the same degree of financial instability as Argentina or Brazil, and nor has it embraced reform as strongly, as it has used its oil revenues to subsidize inefficient policies. The end result has been average annual growth below one percent from 1980 to 1996, one of the lowest in the hemisphere.

Last year's "Agenda Venezuela" economic reform program was a step forward and scored modest gains. Those reforms and high recent oil prices helped cut inflation to about 35% this year, raise growth to about 4%, and bring the current account and budget into surplus. But implementation of Agenda Venezuela reforms has been incomplete, as key privatizations, pension and social security reform, and cuts in the public payroll are all behind schedule. One obstacle to reform has been Venezuela's poor record in attacking poverty directly and instead relying on inefficient subsidies and price controls to help the poor.

One notable recent reform is the opening of Venezuela's oil sector to foreign investors. The Venezuelan government expects oil production to double over the next ten years due to higher domestic and foreign investment.

## SCENESETTER: GENERALISIMO DE MIRANDA AIRBASE

Your visit to Venezuela begins with a brief arrival ceremony at the Generalísimo Francisco de Miranda Airbase, which is also known as La Carlota. General de Miranda served as an army officer with Napoleon in the early 1800s, and brought back to Venezuela, then a Spanish colony, many of the ideas of the French Revolution which had penetrated Spain. In 1811, he initiated an insurrection in Valencia, Venezuela (95 miles west of Caracas). He later served under Simon Bolivar in the wars of independence.

The airport, originally named La Carlota after the surrounding area, served as Caracas' main civilian airport from April 1946 until construction of the Maiquetia International Airport was completed. In October 1966, the airfield was renamed in honor of Generalísimo Francisco de Miranda by an act of the Venezuelan Air Force. The airbase is situated in the municipality of Chacao, at the base of the mountain range El Avila, a national park. The airbase serves as the base of operations for the presidential air fleet, and is also the headquarters of the Venezuelan Air Force.

**REMARKS TO BE PROVIDED**

**VENEZUELAN CONGRESSIONAL AND MUNICIPAL LEADERS**  
**PARTICIPATING IN PHOTO OPPORTUNITY**

Dr. Cristobal Fernandez Dalo, President of the Senate and Congress since March, 1996 and a member of the opposition Movimiento al Socialismo party

Dr. Ramon Guillermo Aveledo (COPEI), President of the Chamber of Deputies and a member of the opposition Social Christian Party (COPEI), which was founded by President Caldera in the late 1940s but later abandoned

Dr. Henry Ramos Allup (Accion Democratica)

Dr. Nelson Chitty La Roche (COPEI)

Dr. Jose Albornoz (La Causa Radical)

Dr. Luis Manuel Esculpi (Movimiento al Socialismo)

Dr. Pedro Pablo Aguilar (COPEI)

Dr. Paciano Padron (independent)

Ms. Irene Saez, (independent), mayor of Chacao (Caracas municipality), and a prospective presidential candidate;  
Antonio Ledesma, (Action Democratic), mayor of Libertador (Caracas municipality)

Yvonne Attas, mayor of Baruta (Caracas municipality)

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| 001f. report             | U.S. Government Report (1 page) | 09/17/1997 | P1/b(1)     |

### COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records  
Special Envoy for the Americas  
McLarty, Thomas (Mack)  
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### FOLDER TITLE:

Reading Material [President's Trip to South America - October 1997] [2]

2009-1155-F  
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### RESTRICTION CODES

#### Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

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PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

#### Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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**SCENESETTER: STATE DINNER AT LA CASONA**  
**PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE**

The President's residence, known as La Casona (which literally means the "big house") is a colonial-style manor surrounded by 30 acres of sugar fields. The original owner of the house was the Marques de Mijares family. In 1928, Alfredo Brandt, brother of painter Federico Brandt, purchased the house and named it La Casona.

President Rul Leoni was the first President to occupy the house (1966). In 1973, President Caldera, during his first term as President, opened the house to the public one day a week; this tradition continues.

The Council of Ministers room contains a vast mural by Tito Salas [check] entitled "Los Causahabientes" -- or Those Who Formed Venezuela. This painting depicts Simon Bolivar and the 19<sup>th</sup> Century presidents of Venezuela. The house includes several gardens which contain trees planted in the last century. Several giant sloths also live in the gardens.

**TOAST TO BE PROVIDED**

**SCENESETTER TO BE PROVIDED**

**REMARKS TO BE PROVIDED**

**SCENESETTER: WREATH-LAYING AND CROWD EVENT**  
**AT THE NATIONAL PANTHEON**

On Monday morning, you will proceed from Miraflores Palace to the wreath-laying ceremony at the National Pantheon, a revered site containing the remains of Simon Bolivar and many of Venezuela's other founding fathers. The Pantheon was constructed in the 19th century when Bolivar's remains were transferred from Colombia to Venezuela. Its internal layout is in the form of a cross, with Bolivar's sarcophagus mounted on a raised altar.

Bolivar, known as "El Libertador" for leading the fight to end Spanish colonial rule in Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, promoted French and American ideals of political equality. Bolivar also sought to create a politically integrated region encompassing all the Andean countries -- a vision which still inspires many.

Your escort, the Director of Historical Ceremony and Monuments, the Ministers of Interior and of Foreign Affairs, and Ambassador Maisto will join you. You will proceed down the central nave to the altar. The National Youth Orchestra, which does not normally play at Pantheon ceremonies, will play the U.S. and Venezuelan National Anthems. The Orchestra, formed in 1975, is made up of 250 children 7 to 14 years old, most of whom come from poor families. They would not have had the opportunity to learn to play an instrument were it not for the National Youth Orchestra and its counterparts at the state and local level.

After the ceremony, you will give a scene-setting speech to a crowd of approximately 5,000 people. The speech will cover our hemispheric agenda, celebrate U.S.-Venezuelan relations and commemorate Columbus Day.

**REMARKS TO BE PROVIDED**

**REMARKS TO BE PROVIDED**

## SCENESETTER: RECEPTION AT FOREIGN MINISTRY

**Itamaraty.** Designed by Oscar Niemeyer (like much of Brasilia), Itamaraty Palace, Brazil's Foreign Ministry, derives its name from the historic building in Rio de Janeiro in which the ministry was housed when Rio was Brazil's capital. Itamaraty, the Brazilian equivalent of "Foggy Bottom," is a term also used to refer to Brazil's highly respected corps of diplomats.

The building's distinctive features include a succession of exterior arches, interior gardens designed by the internationally-renowned landscape architect Burle Marx (who also designed the gardens of the U.S. Embassy), and a reflecting pool surrounding the building from which rises Bruno Giorgi's sculpture "Meteor."

**TOAST TO BE PROVIDED**

## SCENESETTER: DINNER AT THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE

**The Alvorada Palace.** Oscar Niemeyer designed the Palace of the Alvorada ("Dawn"), the first building in the new capital, which was inaugurated in June 1958 by President Kubitschek. As you enter the Palace, you will see on the wall above the guest book an excerpt from Augusto Frederico Schmidt's poem in honor of Kubitschek:

"From this central plateau, this solitude which soon will be transformed into the brain of high national decisions, I turn my eyes once again to the tomorrow of my country and foresee this dawn with unbreakable faith in its great destiny."

The Cardosos may point out to you certain pieces of 17<sup>th</sup>- and 18<sup>th</sup>-century Brazilian furniture mixed with modern masterpieces, including a tapestry by the renowned Brazilian artist Di Cavalcanti. The gardens feature brazilwood (a dye from its bark was the first product sent back to Europe and gave the country its name) and a variety of other tropical plants and flowers.

After your dinner, the party will be entertained by Brazilian music performed by Caetano Veloso.

**TOAST TO BE PROVIDED**

## SCENESETTER: ARRIVAL CEREMONY

**The Planalto Palace.** The futuristic Planalto Palace, like much of official Brasilia, was designed by Oscar Niemeyer. It is President Cardoso's office complex. The honor guard which will escort you on horseback upon arrival and be present for your inspection is part of Brazil's "Revolutionary Dragoon Battalion," equivalent to our Old Guard ceremonial Revolutionary War troops.

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| DOCUMENT NO.<br>AND TYPE | SUBJECT/TITLE                              | DATE        | RESTRICTION |
|--------------------------|--|-------------|-------------|
| 001g. briefing<br>paper  | Bilateral with President Cardoso (6 pages) | ca. 10/1997 | P1/b(1)     |

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|--------------------------|---|-------------|-------------|
| 001h. talking<br>points  | Talking Points for Meeting with President Cardoso (5 pages) | ca. 10/1997 | P1/b(1)     |

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| 001i. report             | U.S. Government Report (1 page) | 09/26/1997 | P1/b(1)     |

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Special Envoy for the Americas  
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**REMARKS TO BE PROVIDED**

## THE UNITED STATES-BRAZIL PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION

1. We the Presidents of the United States and Brazil recognize that a new reality is reshaping the world and that our citizens must be prepared to meet the challenges of a globalized world in the 21st century. Education is the key to the future. We recognize that working together we will harness inevitable change to the benefit of families in our countries.
2. Literacy and a first-class educational foundation are critical determinants to the well-being of our citizens, the strength of our economies, and preserving the values we as democratically-elected leaders hold dear.
3. Skilled and educated people are the foundations of strong democracies and market economies. We must, therefore, ask more of our educational systems than ever before. Our governments have similar initiatives promoting the development of modern information infrastructures that will facilitate economic growth and will be the foundation of new ways to teach and learn. Our students must be able to compete in a new and constantly-changing job market. This requires access to life-long learning programs and the ability to participate in and benefit from varied cultures outside our borders; and process and organize more and disparate information than ever before. Education is needed to participate actively and knowledgeably in democratic, plural and diverse societies.

4. The democracies of our hemisphere, which will take part in the next Summit of the Americas to be held next April in Santiago, agree that education must be a central element in our shared agenda. Bearing in mind the urgency of prompt, effective action, as a top priority we have separately launched, within our respective countries, new initiatives to raise the quality of education, particularly in the primary and secondary levels.

5. And together, today, we hereby establish the United States-Brazil Partnership for Education. Expanding exchanges, upgrading standards, enhancing teacher training, increasing participation by the family, community and business as well as incorporating new technology underpin our partnership.

#### **Cooperation in the Development and Use of Technologies in Education**

6. New technologies make possible the broad dissemination of information and permit new teaching methods and practices such as distance learning and the use of computers. In addition, students must also master new technologies in preparation for a changing workplace and take part in economic development. We will take advantage of technologies such as the Internet to broaden cultural and language contacts for our students and teachers. We will jointly test and evaluate existing technologies, and facilitate development of appropriate new technologies, while engaging the private sector to assist with their introduction into the classroom.

#### **Ensuring that Every Child Learns Through Educational Standards, Assessments, and Indicators**

7. Evaluating the performance of educational systems requires a clear definition of what schools should teach and what students are expected to know, as well as effective tools for measuring progress. Our governments will each establish standards for student performance in key subjects at appropriate levels, as well as the means to measure them. We will share experiences and information regarding progress on a continuous basis.

### **Strengthening Preparation and Professional Development of Teachers and School Managers**

8. Excellent schools require excellent teachers and managers. We will seek to have qualified, dedicated teachers in all classrooms, at all grades. To support this goal, we will exchange experiences and evaluate alternative models for teacher preparation and training for school management officials. We will especially consider ways to improve training for science teachers of scientific disciplines at the primary and secondary levels.

### **Increasing Educational Exchanges Between the United States and Brazil**

9. Already sharing a wide array of public and private educational exchange programs, the United States and Brazil will seek to expand exchanges at all levels, focusing on the priorities in this declaration. We will utilize existing and new mechanisms to

establish a student exchange program for university students in mutually agreed areas such as engineering and technology. We will also consider a program of exchanges for language teachers to strengthen language skills and cultural ties between our countries. To assist private programs, we will explore methods for linking institutions to promote mutual recognition of educational credits.

### **Enhancing Family, Community, and Business Involvement in Education**

10. Opportunities for learning extend beyond the formal classroom. Parents, family members, employers, employees, older students, and volunteers can effectively participate in the education of children, especially in literacy enhancement. We reaffirm that the private sector is partner in education and will promote its involvement in such areas as combatting illiteracy and student dropout rates and enhancing school administration and overall school development

### **Implementing the Partnership**

11. Finally, to ensure our partnership is vigorously implemented, we hereby establish the Education Partnership Implementation Commission (EPIC). Through regular meetings, EPIC will monitor implementation of actions outlined in the annex to the Memorandum of Understanding to which our governments subscribe today, as well as

periodically formulate new actions. In furtherance of the precepts set forth in this Declaration, EPIC will also seek participation of the private sector and members of the public in implementation of this agreement. Working together, we will reinforce our common resolve, deepen our bonds of friendship, and prepare our children for the coming century.

**PRESS CONFERENCE**  
**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**Why have you waited so long to come to South America? Isn't this trip a bit late in your presidency?**

- Latin America has been a priority since the very start of my Presidency. The passage of NAFTA was one of my most important early achievements. In 1994, I acted to defend the Mexican financial system from a crisis that had profound implications for the hemisphere. My Administration organized and hosted the Summit of the Americas in 1994 to build a comprehensive agenda for the hemisphere that address our common values -- it was at the Miami Summit that I first met President-elect Cardoso. I have also appointed Mack McLarty as my special envoy to the region to demonstrate the strong commitment my Administration places on building a strong partnership with the hemisphere.
- So my interest in this hemisphere has been strong since I took office. I firmly believe that we will either march forward together toward a more prosperous and secure 21<sup>st</sup> century, or we will find ourselves increasingly disadvantaged in today's fast-paced global economy.
- I am pleased to be here in Brazil at this historic juncture. Brazil stands at the crossroads of a new century and a new outlook on its role in the world. President Cardoso has worked with his Congress to lay the foundations for Brazil's lasting economic strength in the years ahead, much as I have worked with our Congress to conclude a balanced budget deal that will ensure continued strong U.S. growth.
- We can't speak about prosperity in the Americas unless Brazil and the United States are moving forward together. I'm confident that we are with Brazil and the rest of our allies in the hemisphere.

**Did you make any progress with Cardoso on trade? Is Brazil still dragging its feet on FTAA?**

- I think the United States and Brazil have much more in common on these questions than people realize. The United States and Brazil agree on the simultaneous launch of comprehensive and broad-scale negotiations on the Free Trade Area of the

Americas next April in Santiago, we agree that we will implement the FTAA as a single undertaking no later than 2005, and we agree on the need for concrete progress toward this goal by 2000.

- There are a number of meetings that will take place before Santiago. Trade negotiators will assemble again in San Jose, Costa Rica before the end of the year, and ministers will meet prior to Santiago. There are a number of specific issues that remain to be worked out.
- Have to remember that we are talking about a complex, far-reaching and historic undertaking here. Cardoso and I committed to working to advance this goal as constructively as possible.

**You still don't have Fast Track authority. How can you discuss trade without it?**

- I am pleased that the Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee both had bipartisan majorities in favor of our Fast Track bill. The legislative process is moving forward; I am working hard to highlight the importance of expanding exports and creating jobs to the Congress and the American people.
- This trip gives the American people the opportunity to see the importance of engaging with our partners on free and open trade -- the open markets, thriving economies and the desire for American goods and services -- show that the countries of South America can be valuable partners in expanding the prosperity of the American people.
- Fast Track is about more than trade in this hemisphere. It's about bringing the Uruguay Round to closure with critical negotiations on services, for example. It's about following up on our dramatic success in achieving the Information Technology Agreement. It's about putting us in the game that is being played increasingly without us, and at a time when we have one of the winningest combinations on the field: a solid basis for sustained economic growth, the most competitive economy in the world, and one that is already more open to global competition than any of its trading partners.

**What are you doing to promote press freedom?**

- President Cardoso and I discussed this important issue.
- A free and vigorous press is the guardian of liberty and the foundation of a robust civil society. The OAS is doing important work on this issue, in particular the Inter-American Human Rights Commission and the Inter-American Court. There may be further ways of bolstering support for this important freedom.
- I note the recent work which has been done within the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to create a position within its human rights mechanism to promote and help protect press freedom. This may be a useful precedent for the hemisphere. We will be exploring these ideas further during my trip.
- Not passing Fast Track legislation will not in any way stop the globalization of the world economy, or slow down the integration of our trading partners amongst themselves and between blocs, but it certainly will ensure that we will be no more than bystanders.

**Why does your Commerce Department say Brazil has a corrupt culture?**

- Certainly no culture can be corrupt, although every culture struggles with corruption in some form. I think we can be proud of our work together in this hemisphere, within the OAS, to pass the world's first anti-corruption convention.
- Can't speak to the specific wording of an individual report. Point is, United States and Brazil have a booming economic relationship. Brazil is the largest recipient of American investment in Latin America. Obviously, U.S. and Brazilian businesspeople have found our two countries to be good places to do business.

**Why did the U.S. give only Argentina MNNA status? Aren't you trying to divide the sub-region just when we're getting together?**

- I am consulting with the Congress on Major Non-NATO Ally status for Argentina in recognition of the Argentine contribution to global peacekeeping and in order to stimulate

further participation along those lines. Argentina, as has Brazil and many of our Latin American partners, contributed to international peacekeeping efforts. MNNA is a recognition of that. This is not exclusive to Argentina, and we are happy to consider other countries in the hemisphere for such status.

- President Cardoso and I have discussed the important and very positive trends underway in the Southern Cone, represented in deepening security cooperation among the states in this region, and exemplified by the emergence of MERCOSUR as a positive force for integration. We welcome and support these developments, which we believe support democracy and economic reform, reduce regional tensions, and expand trade, including our trade with the region. We have no aim to divide the countries of the Southern Cone; to the contrary, we support their increasing integration.

**Why have you decided to start an arms race in Latin America, just when governments are beginning to focus on poverty?**

- We have never sought and do not now seek to foster an arms race in Latin America. Recognizing that the hemisphere is now almost completely democratic, with strong civilian control of the military and legitimate self-defense and security needs, it no longer made sense to presumptively deny requests to our mature allies in the hemisphere weapons or to treat Latin America differently from other regions of the world.
- Weapons sales to Latin America now based on the same principles that apply worldwide and we will take any request for arms purchase on a case-by-case basis weighing the regional implications as well as the countries economic and military needs.
- We are working with the OAS to enhance hemispheric confidence and security-building measures, transparency of arms sales and acquisitions. Strongly support these efforts.
- Also, we have initiated a series of Defense Ministerials of the Americas, designed to increase defense cooperation and strengthen civilian control.
- Committed to responsible, mature and transparent defense relations with hemisphere.

**Don't you agree that Brazil, eighth largest world economy and global peacekeeping participant, is a logical Security Council permanent member? And shouldn't Brazil have a veto too?**

- We think the Security Council should be expanded to a size of 20 or 21 members, to better reflect the world today. We do not favor any reforms that would weaken the Council or alter the current veto power of the five permanent members.
- We are open to new permanent seats for developing countries. Look to the countries of the region to determine how it should be represented.

**Free trade and market economies have done little to help Brazil's millions of poor and destitute. Aren't we on the wrong course?**

- Free trade and open markets have helped lift millions out of poverty in this hemisphere and around the globe. The alternative, closed economies and non-market approaches have yielded only inefficiency and stagnation.
- Cardoso's policies to end inflation have done more to help the poor than any other single macroeconomic policy could. As he and I have discussed, the next steps lie in making the right investments in education and the environment, so that our future generations have a chance to build on our successes.

**You say that your economy is open, yet Brazil's orange juice, footwear and steel are restricted access. Why?**

- The United States and Brazil have a large and rapidly growing trade relationship. This is a reflection of the sound economic policy framework President Cardoso has pursued, as well as the underlying strength of both our economies.
- It's natural to have areas of friction in any large trade relationship. Ours is no exception, and our trade negotiators frequently discuss market access and other issues that affect U.S. exports to Brazil, and Brazilian exports to the United States. But keep in mind that our overall trade has nearly doubled to over \$23 billion in the last five years.
- Overall, our trade relationship is one of the bright new aspects of a broad strengthening of our ties.

- Look to the FTAA process to further open our markets and reduce remaining barriers to trade.

**Brazil has proposed tough restrictions on developed country greenhouse gas emissions for climate change negotiations. Will the United States accept this?**

- The Kyoto Conference on Climate Change will be extremely important. Just last week I held extensive consultations with a wide variety of people on climate change issues, and we are finalizing our own position as the world convenes next week in Berlin for the final preparatory round.
- Cardoso and I discussed this issue in some detail. I wanted to understand Brazilian thinking before I finalize our position. An effective treaty requires the active and constructive participation of all countries.
- There are some tough political choices ahead for all of us. The problem is one that will require a shared sense of responsibility if we are to solve it.

**The U.S. Senate insists on binding limits for developing countries too, yet Brazil is opposed. How did you and Cardoso discuss this?**

- Cardoso and I conducted an honest consultation on our positions. The reality is, both developed and developing countries must share in the solution to this problem if we hope to be successful. I am determined to provide leadership on this issue, but it is truly a global problem that requires global action.

**What about burning in the rainforest? Isn't it getting worse, not better?**

- The rainforests here and elsewhere around the world are part of the patrimony of mankind. Brazil has a special responsibility to safeguard it. I am pleased that our two governments and nongovernmental organizations from both countries have a growing program of cooperation on rainforest study, preservation and research.
- We are expanding our cooperation on the rainforest into space. NASA and the Brazilian Space Agency are working together on a number of projects relating to the environment and rainforest

in particular. I am pleased that Brazil is our newest partner in the International Space Station, which will provide an excellent scientific platform to improve our knowledge of our environment.

- The United States will be contributing \$10 million to the G-7 Pilot Program for the Amazon, which is conducted fully in cooperation with the Government of Brazil.
- We need to address rainforest issues in a spirit of partnership and responsibility.

**Why do you employ discriminatory visa policies? Argentina has a visa waiver; why not Brazil?**

- No room for discrimination in our visa policy or in any governmental policies. Not only illegal, just plain wrong.
- Committed to ensuring fair treatment to all people who have business before the United States.
- Visa waiver policy subject to strict and impartial guidelines, including the rate of overstays by visa holders. Not a policy of playing favorites.
- Understand more visitor visas were issued to Brazilians over the past year than any other nationality.

**Did the CIA help mastermind Brazil's 1964 coup? Philip Agee says so, according to the Brazilian magazine "IstoE".**

- Of course not. Mr. Agee has made a number of outrageous assertions over the years. I don't pay them much attention.
- Let's resolve that the days of coups in this hemisphere are over.

**Did you discuss the Chico Mendes case? What about the plight of Brazil's Amazon peoples?**

- The 1988 murder of Chico Mendes grabbed the world's attention because of what he stood for, and because of our growing comprehension of the role of the habitat he sought to protect in our planet's health.

- The issues Chico Mendes championed are now center stage, as we head into the global climate change negotiations later this year. His name still echoes in the world's consciousness. This is his legacy.

## SCENESETTER: MEETING WITH CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS

Brazil's Congress has been meeting since April 1960 -- except for a short period during the military government -- in landmark buildings designed by Oscar Niemeyer. City planner Lucio Costa symbolically located the Congress between the Executive and Judicial branches on the Plaza of the Three Powers.

Brazil is a federal republic with 26 states (plus the Federal District of Brasilia). 81 senators, three from each state including the federal district, are popularly elected for eight-year terms. The 513 representatives, also popularly elected, serve for four years. There are fifteen parties represented in Congress.

You will be escorted to the door of the "Salao Negro" (Black Reception Hall), where you will be joined by Antonio Carlos Magalhaes, President of the Senate (and of the Congress), and Michel Temer, President of the Chamber of Deputies. They will lead you to the "Salao Nobre" (Noble Reception Hall), where the Senate keeps a small collection of historical artifacts preserved from its previous location in Rio.

# Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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| DOCUMENT NO.<br>AND TYPE | SUBJECT/TITLE                                | DATE        | RESTRICTION |
|--------------------------|--|-------------|-------------|
| 001j. briefing<br>paper  | Meeting with Congressional Leaders (2 pages) | ca. 10/1997 | P1/b(1)     |

### COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records  
Special Envoy for the Americas  
McLarty, Thomas (Mack)  
OA/Box Number: CF 1056

### FOLDER TITLE:

Reading Material [President's Trip to South America - October 1997] [2]

2009-1155-F  
ke2569

### RESTRICTION CODES

#### Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

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| 001k. talking<br>points  | Talking Points for Meeting with Congressional Leaders (2 pages) | ca. 10/1997 | P1/b(1)     |

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## SCENESETTER: BUSINESS BREAKFAST

The breakfast will be held in the San Telmo room on the first floor of the Sheraton. Remarks will be given by Secretary Albright, Foreign Minister Di Tella, Economic Minister Rogue Fernandez and Secretary Daley prior to your arrival. Madeleine, Mack and Bill with their Argentine counterparts will be seated at the head table along with the President of the American Chamber of Commerce, Citibank Argentina's Carlos Fedrigotti, who is hosting the breakfast.

Mack McLarty will introduce you, followed by President Menem, who sees this as his opportunity to introduce you personally to the business community.

Fifty to 75 Argentine and U.S. officials, 200 representatives from American companies and about 200 Argentine business representatives have been invited. Press will be present.

This joint breakfast symbolizes our close and positive commercial relations with Argentina. Two-way trade for 1997 is estimated to exceed \$8 billion annually with a surplus of over \$2 billion in our favor. We are also the leading investors in Argentina with \$12 billion in investment, increasing at more than \$2 billion per year. The growing importance of Brazil and Mercosur, and the sensitivity of U.S. relations with it, makes your participation in the breakfast a key opportunity to highlight U.S.-Argentine trade, the importance of Free Trade Area of the Americas goals and our support for MERCOSUR and other free-trade-based regional trade groupings.

## **SCENESETTER: MEETING WITH EMBASSY STAFF**

The United States was the first nation to establish an Embassy in the newly created city of Brasilia. President Eisenhower laid the cornerstone in February 1960. Officially inaugurated in April 1961, the original chancery was replaced in 1976 by the current structure.

There are about 110 American employees with 150 family members at post, and 240 Brazilian national employees.

**REMARKS TO BE PROVIDED**

## SCENESETTER: ADDRESS TO BUSINESS LEADERS

*Memorial America Latina:* Your venue is the auditorium at the Latin America Memorial complex, built in 1989 by the State of Sao Paulo. Also at this complex devoted to Latin American cultures and regional integration are the Latin American Parliament ("Parlatino") building, and a museum. The Parlatino is a separate, international organization where representatives from South American legislatures meet periodically.

The museum displays arts and crafts from various Latin American countries. It is currently hosting a display of photos and a video presentation on Che Guevara.

Your hosts for this event, the American Chamber of Commerce in Brazil/Sao Paulo chapter, is the largest and most important in Brazil. Member companies are the leading U.S. corporations from all industrial and service fields, with combined investment and sales activities in the billions of dollars.

**REMARKS TO BE PROVIDED**

## SCENESETTER: VISIT TO MANGUEIRA SCHOOL

Known also as "Villa Olimpica," the Mangueira/Xerox project began in 1987 as an integrated program of education and sports to give opportunities to children living in one of Rio's poorest shanty towns ("favelas"). More than 1,000 children between the ages of 8 and 18 take part every year, attending school and participating in volleyball, swimming, soccer and Olympic athletics. The State of Rio provided the high school and gymnasium on the compound; Xerox provides all sports-related equipment and instruction. Vocational training is also provided on-site, as is primary health care. Xerox and other Rio businesses employ young Mangueira trainees in a successful work-study program. Xerox leads a group of other corporate sponsors with annual contributions of about \$600,000 to Mangueira.

The project has contributed to a continuous reduction in juvenile delinquency in the neighborhood. In a remarkable testament to the program's success, there have been no reported incidents of juvenile crime among Mangueira participants in the last seven years.

Xerox sponsors similar facilities in Sao Paulo and Manaus, but the Mangueira project is the largest. The State of Rio de Janeiro is seeking to replicate this successful public/private sponsorship elsewhere in the state.

Xerox entered the Brazilian market 32 years ago, and today has sales of \$2 billion and a workforce of 5,500.

**REMARKS TO BE PROVIDED**

## SCENESETTER: BUENOS AIRES AIRPORT ARRIVAL

Your visit to Argentina will begin with a brief arrival ceremony at Ezeiza International airport, formally known as Ministro Pistarini international airport, which is some 47 kilometers from downtown Buenos Aires. The airport was inaugurated by President Juan Peron in April of 1949. Its site is not ideal, being square in the fog basin of Argentina, but the land was state owned, which met the needs of the government's pocketbook.

The original name, Ezeiza, was that of a small town near the airport. It was later changed to honor the Army General and Minister of Public Works in office when the airport was built. U.S. carriers American and United use Ezeiza for daily flights to and from the United States.

**SCENESETTER: WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY**  
**AT SAN MARTIN PLAZA**

General Jose de San Martin is considered the founding father of Argentina. He is closely analogous to George Washington. Born in what would become Argentina, San Martin began his military career in Spain, fighting against Napoleon's invasion of the Iberian Peninsula. News of revolution in his native land led him to return home in 1812. His leadership of the revolutionary troops forced the resignation of the ruling triumvirate in October of 1812.

Between 1816 and 1820, General San Martin's leadership, planning and perseverance helped lead to the final defeat of Spanish colonial forces in the southern region of South America. In addition, therefore, to his status as the national hero of Argentina, San Martin is recognized as the liberator of Chile and Peru.

This wreath-laying ceremony is traditional for visiting heads of state. You will be welcomed at the monument side of San Martin Plaza by Foreign Minister Di Tella. A master of ceremonies will narrate events and announce the playing of the national anthems. He will then announce that you will lay the wreath, which will be positioned by ceremonial troops at the pedestal of the monument. You will stand in front of the wreath to render honors to San Martin; a ceremonial band will play taps. You will make brief, prepared remarks. The MC will announce the end of the ceremony and you will be escorted to your vehicle en route to meeting with President Menem.

**REMARKS TO BE PROVIDED**

**SCENESETTER: BILATERAL MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MENEM**

Your meeting with President Carlos Menem will take place in the Casa Rosada (Pink House) after the wreath laying ceremony. The Casa Rosada serves as the Argentine President's downtown office. The building is located on the "Plaza de Mayo," where the city was founded in 1580. At that time, this area was surrounded by fortifications and located on a hill above the River Plate, which has since shifted to nearly a mile away. In 1806-07, the building was occupied by invading British troops. Later, in the 1850's, it was painted pink, then a fashionable color for residences.

From a balcony facing the plaza, Juan Peron and other Argentine leaders have spoken to large crowds on momentous occasions. Last year this balcony was featured prominently in the filming of "Evita." The Plaza de Mayo is most recently known as the location for protests by the "Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo" seeking information on their children who were disappeared during Argentina's "dirty war" (1976-1983).

On arrival at the "Portico," you will be greeted and led in along a red carpet, up a short set of steps, and then to the right down another red carpet. At the top of a double set of marble steps, you enter the White Room.

President Menem will greet you. (N.B. Alternatively, President Menem will have ridden with you to the Casa Rosada from the wreath laying ceremony.) Press will be available for photos. Departing through doors to the right of the dais, President Menem will lead you down a corridor and through double doors to his Presidential Office for a short private conversation.

Next, you and President Menem will proceed to the formal (expanded) meeting in the North Room, entering it through the left door of the adjacent White Room. You will be seated at the middle of the conference table on the side nearest the White Room, and President Menem will be directly opposite (with his back to the window). (Press spray on arrival, simultaneous translation during meeting).

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| 0011. briefing<br>paper  | Bilateral Meeting with President Menem (5 pages) | ca. 10/1997 | P1/b(1)     |

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| 001m. talking<br>points  | Talking Points for Bilateral Meeting with President Menem (6 pages) | ca. 10/1997 | P1/b(1)     |

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| 001n. report             | U.S. Government Report (1 page) | 07/24/1997 | P1/b(1)     |

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# Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

## Clinton Library

| DOCUMENT NO.<br>AND TYPE | SUBJECT/TITLE                   | DATE       | RESTRICTION |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| 001t. report             | U.S. Government Report (1 page) | 09/29/1997 | P1/b(1)     |

### COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records  
Special Envoy for the Americas  
McLarty, Thomas (Mack)  
OA/Box Number: CF 1056

### FOLDER TITLE:

Reading Material [President's Trip to South America - October 1997] [2]

2009-1155-F  
ke2569

### RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
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C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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|--------------------------|---|-------------|-------------|
| 001 v. briefing<br>paper | Meeting with Jewish Community Leaders (2 pages) | ca. 10/1997 | P1/b(1)     |

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| 001 w. talking<br>points | Talking Points for Meeting with Jewish Leaders (1 page) | ca. 10/1997 | P1/b(1)     |

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## SCENESETTER: TOWN HALL EVENT

At this live broadcast, "*Voices of the Future: A Conversation with American President Bill Clinton*," you will be speaking to and answering questions from audiences of youth leaders in three cities: Buenos Aires, Miami and Los Angeles.

The *Town Hall of the Americas* will focus attention on a new generation of Latin Americans that share many of the same ideals and interests as their peers in the United States. By facilitating interaction among young people in Miami, Los Angeles and Buenos Aires, this event will underscore the common future of the hemisphere's youth and our common interest in working as partners to meet the challenges of the new era. The dialogue will highlight your agenda for addressing the challenges the young people of the Americas face on the verge of the 21<sup>st</sup> century (education, drugs and good jobs primary among them) and the benefits of our growing cooperation.

The audiences will be composed of approximately 100 "Stars of Tomorrow" from Argentina, the United States and other countries in Latin America. They will represent a diverse cross-section of current youth leaders in education, business, community service, sports, health, environment, anti-drug efforts and the arts.

*Univision* reaches 92.3 percent of Hispanic households in the United States (29.3 million people). In addition, *Univision* is donating the satellite feed from the town hall to the major broadcasters in the hemisphere and to all countries interested in the broadcast. This service will be free of charge and allow all 33 democracies in Latin America, as well as Spain and Portugal, to receive the broadcast.

The event will last 60 minutes. You will have several minutes for an opening presentation and then take approximately 15 questions total from the three locations. *Univision* will also weight the proportion of questions asked from each site more heavily towards Buenos Aires. The breakdown will be 60 percent of the questions from Buenos Aires, 20 percent from Miami and 20 percent from Los Angeles.

**REMARKS TO BE PROVIDED**

**Qs AND As TO BE PROVIDED**

## SCENESETTER: STATE DINNER

President Menem will host the dinner, to be held at the main restaurant on the grounds of the Sociedad Rural de Argentina ("Rural Society of Argentina"). There will be approximately 1,000 guests invited to this gala affair, which the Argentines intend to make into one of the visit's premier events. The evening will be centered around a traditional Argentine "asado" or barbecue. Entertainment will likely consist of demonstrations of equestrian skills by "gauchos" in their typical garb, folk music and dance, the tango, and jazz, among other activities. The "gaucho culture" is widespread throughout southern Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay, and Chile.

The Sociedad Rural is next to the U.S. Embassy. It is widely recognized as the site of the annual Exposicion Rural de Argentina, an agricultural trade show which occurs in July-August and to which thousands of local and international ranchers and businessmen come every year.

The complex is used extensively by President Menem for entertaining. On previous occasions, the President has hosted official functions there during visits by former President Bush, the Duke of Edinburgh, and all of the presidents of the Mercosur countries.

**TOAST TO BE PROVIDED**

## SCENESETTER: BUSINESS BREAKFAST

The breakfast will be held in the San Telmo room on the first floor of the Sheraton. Remarks will be given by Secretary Albright, Foreign Minister Di Tella, Economic Minister Rogue Fernandez and Secretary Daley prior to your arrival. Madeleine, Mack and Bill with their Argentine counterparts will be seated at the head table along with the President of the American Chamber of Commerce, Citibank Argentina's Carlos Fedrigotti, who is hosting the breakfast.

Mack McLarty will introduce you, followed by President Menem, who sees this as his opportunity to introduce you personally to the business community.

Fifty to 75 Argentine and U.S. officials, 200 representatives from American companies and about 200 Argentine business representatives have been invited. Press will be present.

This joint breakfast symbolizes our close and positive commercial relations with Argentina. Two-way trade for 1997 is estimated to exceed \$8 billion annually with a surplus of over \$2 billion in our favor. We are also the leading investors in Argentina with \$12 billion in investment, increasing at more than \$2 billion per year. The growing importance of Brazil and Mercosur, and the sensitivity of U.S. relations with it, makes your participation in the breakfast a key opportunity to highlight U.S.-Argentine trade, the importance of Free Trade Area of the Americas goals and our support for MERCOSUR and other free-trade-based regional trade groupings.

**REMARKS TO BE PROVIDED**

**BACKGROUND ON JOURNALISTS  
TO BE PROVIDED**

**Qs AND As TO BE PROVIDED**

## **SCENESETTER: EMBASSY SITE**

The current U.S. chancery was completed in 1976. The building itself provides office space for the Department of State, Defense Attaché Office, Drug Enforcement Agency, Federal Aviation Association, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Foreign Agricultural Service, Foreign Commercial Service, and USIS. The Embassy staff consists of 104 U.S. officials accompanied by 164 dependents, and 160 local employees.

At the U.S. Embassy you will officially open the new Embassy Information Resource Center (IRC) in a short ribbon cutting ceremony and receive an honorary membership in the Argentine Center for International Relations (CARI).

The IRC is the United States Information Agency's state-of-the-art reference center which provides targeted information on the U.S. to key Argentine opinion makers. It offers unique access to information on relevant USG legislation, trade, environmental and education issues as well as other areas of interest via multiple computer databases and the Internet.

CARI is a well-known and respected Argentine forum on foreign policy and has conferred honorary membership on other visiting dignitaries including President Bush, Secretary Albright, and the Heads of State of Spain, Panama, Haiti, Hungary and Finland.

**REMARKS TO BE PROVIDED**

## SCENESETTER: SAN CARLOS DE BARILOCHE

San Carlos de Bariloche, more commonly referred to simply as "Bariloche," is an attractive mountain town of 100,000 inhabitants located 1,000 miles southwest of Buenos Aires on the eastern slope of the Andes. The city's architecture is reminiscent of a European ski village, with most buildings made of local wood and stone. The town is famous for homemade chocolates, smoked meats and cheeses, and ceramics.

Bariloche is surrounded by the Nahuel Huapi National Park, with over 1.6 million acres of mountains, forests, lakes and rivers. The altitude in the area ranges from 2,500 to 13,000 feet. Much of the National Park land in Argentina is in private hands, including Ted Turner's 10,000 acre estancia (ranch) in the adjacent province of Neuquen, but the Argentine government places strict controls on building, planting, and clearing. The park is especially famous for the "Bosque de Los Arrayanes" (myrtle trees) on the Quetribue peninsula on Nahuel Huapi lake. The arrayan tree can be found in limited places elsewhere in the hemisphere, but the "Bosque" is the only living complete forest. It evokes such an impressive eeriness that Walt Disney sent his artists to the peninsula in the 1940's where they designed the backdrops for "Bambi."

Bariloche appeals to tourists year-round. In the winter months (our summer), thousands of tourists flock to the various ski resorts which contain over 5,000 acres of skiable runs, the most well known being "Cerro Cathedral." The other seasons attract those who explore by hiking, mountain climbing, horseback riding, mountain biking, and trekking. The area also offers crystalline lakes and rivers for those who like trout fishing, kayaking, rafting, and boating. One of the most challenging golf courses in Argentina is the 9-hole Scottish-style links located on the grounds of the Llao-Llao Hotel.

There are longstanding German communities sprinkled throughout the Andes, including Bariloche, dating back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Some media have characterized the area as a haven for ex-Nazis like Erich Priebke who settled there before being extradited to Italy where he is currently standing trial.

**BRIEFING PAPER  
TO BE PROVIDED**

**REMARKS TO BE PROVIDED**