

~~SECRET~~48  
Action  
55  
Info  
CONTROL: 17725

RECD: JANUARY 22, 1966 9/26AM

FROM: MADRID

ACTION: SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 871

~~SECRET~~ JANUARY 22

LIMDIS

DEPT PASS DOD

REF EMBTELS 867 AND 869; DEPTTEL 834

1. FOLLOWING IS ROUNDUP DEVELOPMENTS RELATED B-52/KC-135 ACCIDENT SINCE LAST REPORTS (EMBTELS 867 AND 869):

A. SHORTLY AFTER NOON JANUARY 21 FONMIN TELEPHONED AMBASSADOR TO CONVEY "EXTREME CONCERN" OF CHIEF STATE UPON READING UPI STORY CABLED BY SPANISH EMBASSY WASHINGTON (TEXT ABOUT SAME AS THAT QUOTED DEPTTEL 834). FONMIN SAID HE SENDING SAGAZ TO DISCUSS QUESTION.

B. SAGAZ ARRIVED DISPLAYING CONSIDERABLE AGITATION. USING SUCH TERMS AS "DEEP CONCERN", "EMERGENCY" AND "CRISIS", HE COMPLAINED PARTICULARLY ABOUT PASSAGES IN UPI STORY CONCERNING ALLEGED ATTITUDE OF "US DIPLOMATS" AND THAT PURPORTING DESCRIBE COMPLAINTS OF SPANISH INHABITANTS OF ACCIDENT AREA AGAINST GOS FOR PERMITTING OVERFLIGHT NUCLEAR-ARMED USAF AIRCRAFT. SAGAZ DID NOT FAIL RING IN POTENTIAL BLOW TO TOURISM OF RADIATION SCARE. HE ENDED PRESENTATION SAYING THESE REVELATIONS HAD EFFECT LIBERATING GOS TO TAKE INDEPENDENT ACTION ON ITS OWN AND MENTIONED POSSIBILITY CONVENING PRESS CONFERENCE FOR FULL DISCLOSURE ALL FACTS AND GOS POSITION. AMBASSADOR REFUTED UPI ATTRIBUTION TO US DIPLOMATS, MENTIONED IMMINENT RETURN CHIEF JUSMG FROM SCENE ACCIDENT WITH UP-TO-DATE ACCOUNT OF CIRCUMSTANCES THERE FOR OUR INFORMATION AND THAT OF GOS, AND REFERRED TO DESIRABILITY REMAINING CALM AND CONTINUING MUTUALLY ADVANTAGEOUS US-SPANISH COLLABORATION IN DEALING WITH DELICATE SITUATION OF

SANITIZED

E.O. 13292, Sec. 3.5

NLJ/RAC 05-20

By iol, NARA, Date 2-26-07~~SECRET~~

