

11 June 1971

SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN BOLIVIA

2 December 1969 Diplomatic relations between Bolivia and USSR established.

December 1969 Julio Garrett Ayllon named Bolivian Ambassador to USSR.

April 1970 Aleksei Florianovich Scherbakovich, Soviet Ambassador to Bolivia, presents credentials.

May 1970 Viktor Nikolayevich MEDNIKOV, an official of All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions of the Soviet Union, attended Bolivian National Labor Congress and gave \$50 to help Bolivian Labor Central defray expenses of Congress. (At same Congress, Mario NAVARRO, an official of World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU), contributed \$1,500 for the expenses of the Congress. [REDACTED])

May 1970 Bolivian-Soviet friendship organizations were established in Potosi and Oruro, Bolivia. A similar organization has been active in Cochabamba, and a Bolivian-Soviet Cultural Institute exists in La Paz. [REDACTED]

June 1970 First Bolivian tin sold to USSR.

June 1970 Scientific and Technological Cooperation Agreement -- provides for exchange of scientists and specialists as well as information.

August 1970 Trade Agreement signed -- provides for the establishment of trade missions in Moscow and La Paz and for \$27.5 million credit to Bolivia payable at three percent over a ten year period.

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E.O. 13526, Section 3.5

NLN 05-H-07/8907, per sec. 3.3(b)(1); ltr. 4/28/78/2011

By: MLH, NARA; Date: 10/25/2011

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October 1970 Bolivian Finance Minister Antonio SANCHEZ de Lozada (now Bolivian Ambassador to the U.S.) visits Moscow, confers with Nikolay Baybakov, chairman of GOSPLAN, and others.

October 1970 USSR offers to help Bolivia search for oil and minerals on Altiplano.

October 1970 Soviet Embassy official met with labor leaders from the La Paz Departmental Labor Central "to answer any questions relating to Bolivian-Soviet relations."

November 1970 Soviet Ambassador proposed possibility of an exchange of experts and the establishment of a polytechnical institute in Cochabamba during a visit to Cochabamba.

January 1971 Three Soviet composers and members of Union of Soviet Composers, arrived in Bolivia for one-month stay prior to beginning a symphony and ballet exalting Bolivia.

January 1971 Soviet Union, under general line of \$27.5 million credit offered in August 1970, offered Lloyd Aereo Boliviano (LAB) YAK-40 passenger aircraft. (La Paz Embassy Airgram A-22, 26 Jan 71)

February 1971 USSR to provide technical aid for Bolivian television system.

February 1971 Five-year Bolivian-Soviet agreement on cultural and scientific cooperation signed.

March 1971 Cultural Exchange -- provides for rules of mutual recognition of professional and technical diplomas; regulates scholarships to Bolivian students and professionals and the interchange of professors at the university level. Technical University of Oruro reportedly entered into separate agreement with Patrice Lumumba University of Moscow which provides six scholarships per year for Bolivian undergraduate and two graduate students at Patrice Lumumba.

March 1971 USSR cultural mission which visiting La Paz announced that USSR willing to contribute to the creation of a workers university in one of the mining centers of Bolivia.

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- April 1971 Soviet Military Attache arrives in La Paz.
- April 1971 Five technicians from Bolivian Mining Corporation (COMIBOL) left for USSR for two-month visit to various Soviet mining centers. They are to work closely with USSR technicians to learn improved mineral processing systems.
- May 1971 Bolivian Foreign Ministry cites 40 scholarships to USSR for 1971. Twenty are for the complete course in advanced studies; ten in semi-specialization; and ten in postgraduate work.
[REDACTED]
- May 1971 "Matimport," USSR state operated enterprise, offered to extend credit on machinery and equipment for use in petroleum industry. Payment would be in Bolivian products.
- May 1971 USSR to provide following cultural presentations in next few months: singers and dancers in May; Armenian dancers in June; variety group in December; four piano and violin soloists in late December.
- June 1971 Announcement of Soviet aid program designed to "break the international technical and financial boycott." Program includes technical and financial assistance to Bolivia for prospecting for oil and natural gas and water on the Altiplano; credit for the construction of four tin-treating plants; compilation of a tectonic map of Bolivia. Amount of financial aid involved to be decided after Soviet experts assess the costs and technical requirements. (Comment: The \$27.5 million credit has not yet been used. It could be applied against the tin plants and/or the prospecting costs, but these projects will cost much more than \$27.5 million. It therefore is likely that a further credit may be extended.)
- 1970-1971 Soviet Embassy in La Paz known to be in contact with the pro-Soviet Communist Party of Bolivia.

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