

RELEASE IN PART
B5,B6

From: H <hrod17@clintonemail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 25, 2010 7:40 AM
To: 'oterom2@state.gov'
Subject: Re: Bolivia Summary

Thx for making the trip and carrying our message in the face of continuing insults. Have a good trip to Africa. All the best.

----- Original Message -----

From: Otero, Maria <OteroM2@state.gov>
To: H
Sent: Sun Jan 24 11:00:02 2010
Subject: Fw: Bolivia Summary

From: Maria Otero [redacted]
To: Otero, Maria
Sent: Sun Jan 24 10:41:23 2010
Subject: bolivia

B6

Dear Hillary:

Just back from Bolivia, about to leave for Africa and wanted to give you quick summary of Bolivia trip.

S Solis and I participated in two full days including countless hours of speeches and indigenous rituals, a meeting with FM Choquehuanca, a big press conference, several media interviews. We got lots of ink and TV. Presidents attending included Chile, Paraguay, Venezuela, Ecuador and high level Cubans. Key points:

- Evo's speech mostly recounted the past and delivered no new unexpected message; he appears to be positioning himself to be the representative of all indigenous groups in Latin America. There are some important causes of concern we can discuss later;
- the VP declared that Bolivia will be "socialist." Nothing new here. Both threw barbs at us, all blasts from the past; I had told Post that I would not walk out unless the insults were unacceptable. They were considerably milder and fewer than expected.
- Cabinets changes left FM Choquehuanca in place [redacted] and replaced two hardliners with more acceptable picks. I don't have all details on this.
- Our relationship: S Solis and I communicated our position of increased dialogue, collaboration, mutual respect. The talks are stalled right now and FM Choquehuanca asked for a high level meeting in Washington as next step. While we know Evo wants to meet with POTUS, we can certainly proceed with a meeting that includes A/S Valenzuela and myself with their FM.
- There were many questions about Haiti and our reaction to Evo's occupation accusation. In the press conference I clarified our position as you and I agreed. Most unfortunately, two hours before the press conference a US UN official (I think a Deputy to Amb. Rice) called Evo a "retrograde" for his comments, as well as other names. This made big headlines. [redacted]

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[redacted]
 - It was very good to have sent a high level delegation with a cabinet member, and S Solis was terrific. I have to say, sending two latinias to represent the "empire" was disarming.
 I will speak with Arturo before I leave.

Finally, I so greatly appreciated our meeting last Wed. before I left.

[Redacted]

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Best,
Maria