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P01510RAZ

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

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CONFIDENTIAL

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1. MOST RECENT AND AUTHORITATIVE INFORMATION WE HAVE ON RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PRESIDENT AND WAR MINISTER CONTAINED IN DAO TEL C-198 DEC 7. THIS REPORT INDICATES WARMIN'S AWARENESS OF CONSEQUENCES OF BREAK BETWEEN HIM AND PRESIDENT AND CARE ON HIS PART TO AVOID SUCH BREAK. ALSO INDICATES WARMIN CONSCIOUS THAT LACERDISTA AND OTHER ELEMENTS ARE WORKING CONSTANTLY THROUGH RUMORS AND INTRIGUE TO DRIVE WEDGE BETWEEN HIM AND PRESIDENT.

2. NEVERTHELESS, PROBLEM OF WEAKENING MUTUAL CONFIDENCE BETWEEN TWO IS THERE AND IT WILL REQUIRE GREAT EFFORT AND DETERMINATION ON PART OF

PAGE TWO RUESUA 260 C O N F I D E N T I A L
 BOTH PRES. AND WARMIN TO PREVENT IT FROM DEVELOPING INTO SERIOUS SPLIT, PARTICULARLY AS QUESTION OF PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION COMES UNDER DISCUSSION. WE ARE FOLLOWING THIS SITUATION CLOSELY AND WILL REPORT ANY FURTHER DEVELOPMENT.

GP-3 GORDON
BT

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