INCOMING

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

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R 172237Z AUG 67 FM AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7276 INFO RUESUZ/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 878 RUESBA/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 486 RUESBG/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 176 RUESAS/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION 138 RHESDO/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 329 STATE GRNC CONFIDENTIAL

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SUBJECT: LAFTA CONFERENCE

1. DIPLOMATIC COLUMNIST FOR TRIBUNA DA IMPRENSA, WHO OFTEN HAS ACCURATELY REFLECTED FONOFF POSITION STATES IN AUGUST 16 COLUMN GREAT IMPORTANCE BEING ATTACHED TO AUGUST 28 LAFTA MEETING AS FIRST STEP FOLLOWING PUNTA DEL ESTE IN LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC INTEGRATION. SAID "DIPLOMATIC OBSERVERS" SAY CENTRAL THEME WILL BE UNEXPECTED US BACKING OFF FROM SUPPORT TO CREATION OF COMMON MARKET AS EVIDENCED LAST LATAM ECOSOC MEETING WHEN US DELEGATION WAS RETICENT IN DISCUSSION EXTENT OF ECONOMIC SUPPORT PROMISED BY PRESIDENT JOHNSON AT PUNTA DEL ESTE.

2. COLUMNIST SAID ASUNCION CONFERENCE ALSO LIKELY PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS ON LASO RESOLUTIONS PRELIMINARY TO 12TH MFM. TUTHILL BT

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