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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE ~~DEPT~~ CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

SUBJECT: Waning U.S. Influence with Latin American Naval Officers

I share the concern expressed in your memorandum of 8 March, subject as above. You are right on the mark in calling for addressal and reversal of these trends.

(U) DOD is strongly supporting Department of State efforts in connection with the FY83 Security Assistance budget proposal to obtain an IMET program (\$50K) for Chile and Argentina. Although modest, this is a step in the right direction. As you know, the Presidential certification has not yet been made for either country, despite DOD and DOS efforts. The Justice Department is unable to concur at this time that the Chilean Government has met the certification requirements concerning the Letelier-Moffitt case.

(U) The reestablishment of IMET for Brazil is absolutely key to our bilateral military relations. This is a very delicate issue, however, given Congressional sensitivities on the nuclear non-proliferation issue. DOD will continue to work closely with Department of State to attempt to find a way around our current impasse on this IMET issue.

(U) With respect to reciprocal training, the draft International Security and Development Act of 1982, containing the proposal of reciprocal training, was submitted to Congress on 10 March. DOD and Department of State are actively supporting this legislation.

(U) Finally, my staff will be working with your staff in developing a Congressional proposal for the exchange of certain military training on a reciprocal basis with friendly governments.

(U) I appreciate having your views on this important matter and look forward to receiving other initiatives that you may recommend in the future.

Frank C. Carlucci
Deputy Secretary of Defense

330-84-0004, b x 10, Latin America (9m)

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