



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
1000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000

96

MAR 20 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SUBJECT: Major Non-NATO Ally Status for Chile ~~(S)~~

(U) I read with great interest the reports on your successful trip to Latin America. We should follow up quickly.

~~(S)~~ The "Strategic Partnerships" paper that we endorsed at the last Western Hemisphere Principals Committee recommended that we designate El Salvador, Chile, and Colombia as Major Non-NATO Allies.

~~(S)~~ Let's make this happen. With Chile I think we gain the most benefit by moving sooner rather than later. If we move out smartly with Chile's designation (perhaps simultaneously with El Salvador) it will be seen as part a broader strategy to reward and strengthen friends in Latin America. On the other hand, if we delay until the Chileans ratify the Rome Statute (as they will), the designation could be portrayed simply as a loophole to get out of the Article 98 impasse with Chile. That hurts our Article 98 strategy more.

~~(S)~~ I understand that President Bachelet has been invited to visit the President here in early June. It would be helpful to have worked this out before then.

cc:
National Security Advisor



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Classified by: R. Pardo-Munoz, DASD-WHA
Reason or Reason(s): 1.4 (d)
Declassify On: 13 March, 2016

OSD 75616-06

WHC

~~FOUO~~
~~SECRET ATTACHMENT~~

March 08, 2006

TO: Eric Edelman

030806-24

FROM: Donald Rumsfeld *DR*

SUBJECT: Memo on Argentina and Chile

I just read this memo from Peter Rodman on Latin America. Please tell me what I should do.

Thanks.

Attach: 3/3/06 ASD (ISA) memo to SecDef (OSD 75549-06)

DEER.m
030806-24

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Please Respond By 03/14/06

10-03-06 12:40 IN

~~FOUO~~
~~SECRET ATTACHMENT~~

OSD 75616-06