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ARA - MR. CRIMMINS
ARA/ APU - MR. STEDMAN
ARA/OAS - MR. CRIGLER
S/ S - MR. MILLER

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TOSEC 247

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP, AR, UY
SUBJ: SECVISIT LA: CAMPORA INAUGURATION
REF: LIMA 3187 AND STATE 96322

JUAN MARIA BORDABERRY, PRESIDENT OF URUGUAY

1. FROM PRESS REPORTS IT APPEARS THAT PRESIDENT BORDABERRY
   WILL NOW HEAD HIS COUNTRY’S DELEGATION TO THE INAUGURATION
   OF PRESIDENT-ELECT CAMPORA.

2. WHILE THERE IS NO SPECIAL NEED FOR THE SECRETARY TO
   MEET WITH PRESIDENT BORDABERRY, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION
   MAY BE HELPFUL SHOULD HE DO SO:

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3. COURTESY POINTS:
-- EXPRESS GRATIFICATION OVER THE RECENT SUCCESS AGAINST
THE TUPAMARO URBAN GUERRILLAS IN URUGUAY AND THE RECENT
CAPTURE OF THE PERSON WHO ALLEGEDLY MURDERED THE UNITED
STATES PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISOR IN URUGUAY, DAN MITRIONE.

-- REMARK THAT IT WAS GOOD TO MEET WITH URUGUAY’ S FOREIGN
MINISTER JUAN CARLOS BLANCO IN WASHINGTON APRIL 6, AND
RECALL BLANCO’ S EXPRESSIONS OF FRIENDSHIP, COOPERATION, AND
UNDERSTANDING AT THE CEREMONY OF SIGNING THE NEW EXTRADI-
TION TREATY BETWEEN URUGUAY AND THE UNITED STATES.

-- THE SECRETARY MIGHT ALSO REMARK ON THE GOOD SPEECH
FOREIGN MINISTER BLANCO MADE AT THE OASGA IN WASHINGTON
IN APRIL 1973, AND ON URUGUAY’ S CONTINUING INTEREST IN
SEEKING WAYS TO MAKE PRACTICAL IMPROVEMENTS IN THE OAS.

4. PRESIDENT BORDABERRY WAS BORN IN MONTEVIDEO ON JUNE
17, 1928. HE ATTENDED THE LAW SCHOOL OF THE UNIVERSITY
OF THE REPUBLIC FOR 2 YEARS BUT LEFT AFTER THE DEATH OF
HIS FATHER TO TAKE OVER THE FAMILY RANCH. FROM 1959
UNTIL 1962 BORDABERRY SERVED AS THE FIRST SECRETARY OF
THE NATIONAL MEAT BOARD. BORDABERRY SUCCEEDED TO THE
LEADERSHIP OF THE FEDERAL LEAGUE FOR RURAL ACTION IN
MARCH, 1964. IN NOVEMBER, 1962 HE WAS ELECTED A NATIONAL
SENATOR ON A COMBINED RURALIST- BLANCO TICKET. BORDABERRY
RESIGNED HIS SENATE SEAT IN MARCH 1965, BUT IN 1969
BECAME MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK. US OFFICIALS
WHO WORKED CLOSELY WITH HIM FOUND BORDABERRY FORTHRIGHT
AND COOPERATIVE. ON NOVEMBER 28, 1971, HE WAS ELECTED
PRESIDENT OF URUGUAY FOR A 5- YEAR TERM COMMENCING ON
MARCH 1, 1972. CONSCIENTIOUS AND HARD- WORKING, THE
PRESIDENT APPEARS TO BE SINCERE AND MOTIVATED BY A STRONG
SENSE OF MORALITY. HE IS MARRIED, HAS SEVEN CHILDREN
AND SPEAKS SOME ENGLISH.

5. PRESIDENT BORDABERRY HAS BEEN UNDER CONSIDERABLE
PRESSURE FROM DOMINANT MILITARY ACTIVISTS DURING THE PAST
FEW MONTHS, BUT HAS THUS FAR BEEN ABLE TO BALANCE, BEND,
AND ACCOMMODATE, AND THEREBY MAINTAIN AT LEAST THE OUT-
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WARD STRUCTURE OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY IN URUGUAY. RUSH

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