

IMMEDIATE
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031630Z JUN 75
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3868

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 2460

DEPT PASS ALL OTHER ARA DIPLOMATIC POSTS (EXCEPT SANTMRDOMINGO)
E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFDR, DR

RSUBJECT: NEW FOREIGN MINISTER NAMED
1. PRESIDENT BALAGUER LAST NIGHT NAMED COMMODORE (FORMER REAR ADMIRAL) RAMON EMILIO JIMENEZ, JR. AS SECRETARY OF STATE OF FOREIGN RELATIONS REPLACING VICENTE GOMEZ BERGES. GOMEZ BERGES NOW BECOMES SECRETARY OF STATE WITHOUT PORTFOLIO.
2. THE MOVE WAS UNEXPECTED AT THIS TIME. GOMEZ BERGES WAS THOUGHT TO BE SECURE IN HIS POSITION FOR THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS LARGELY BECAUSE OF THE DISTINCTION WHICH HE GAINED FROM HIS CAMPAIGN FOR ELECTION AS DAS SECGEN. ALTHOUGH IT WAS GENERALLY BELIEVED THAT BALAGUER PLANNED TO REPLACE HIM SOON, IT WAS ASSUMED THAT GOMEZ BERGES' SHOWING AT THE DASGA WOULD POSTPONE THE MOVE.
3. BY NAMING JIMENEZ AS FOREIGN MINISTER (AND MAJ. GEN. PEREZ Y PEREZ AS SECRETARY OF STATE OF INTERIOR AND POLICE) PRESIDENT BALAGUER MOVED A LONG WAY TOWARD FINAL RESOLUTION OF THE POLITICAL CRISIS PRODUCED BY JIMENEZ' RESIGNATION AS SECRETARY OF STATE ALONG WITH THOSE OF THE THREE SERVICE CHIEFS. JIMENEZ' POSITION ASSURES HIM OF A CONTINUING PRESTIGIOUS ROLE IN THE GOVERNMENT. IT ALSO CONFIRMS THE PRESIDENT'S INTENTION TO RETAIN CORDIAL RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES TOWARD WHICH JIMENEZ HAS LONG MANIFESTED VERY FRIENDLY SENTIMENTS.
4. ANALYSIS OF IMPLICATIONS OF THIS AND OTHER CHANGES BY SEPTEL.
AXELROD

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