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OO STOCKHOLM

GRS 330

UNCLASSIFIED

FM FCO 221530Z APR 82

TO IMMEDIATE CERTAIN POSTS AND DEPENDENT TERRITORIES  
TELEGRAM NUMBER GUIDANCE 67 OF 22 APRIL.

GUIDANCE TELNO 66: THE RIO TREATY

1. THE RIO TREATY OF 1947 PROVIDES THE AMERICAS WITH A REGIONAL SYSTEM OF MILITARY SECURITY, WITH BASIC CONCEPTS SIMILAR TO THOSE OF NATO. IT CAME INTO BEING AS A BUFFER AGAINST THE SPREAD OF COMMUNIST OR OTHER FOREIGN INFLUENCE IN THE REGION (DEFINED IN ARTICLE 4 AS EXTENDING FROM THE NORTH TO THE SOUTH POLES, INCLUDING AN EXTENSIVE AREA OF THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC OCEANS. IT ALSO SPECIFICALLY INCLUDES EUROPEAN COLONIES IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE). IT HAS BEEN RATIFIED BY ALL SIGNATORIES, WHO COMPRISE THE ORIGINAL 21 MEMBERS OF THE OAS PLUS TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO (WHO JOINED IN 1967). OAS MEMBERS WHO ARE NOT PARTY TO THE TREATY ARE JAMAICA, BARBADOS, GRENADA, ST VINCENT, ANTIGUA, ST LUCIA AND DOMINICA. CUBA WAS SUSPENDED FROM THE OAS IN 1962.

2. THE PROVISIONS OF THE TREATY INCLUDE:

- (A) ALL SIGNATORIES UNDERTAKE NOT TO USE FORCE IN THEIR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (ARTICLE 1)
- (B) ALL SIGNATORIES SHALL SETTLE CONTROVERSIES BETWEEN THEM PEACEFULLY (ARTICLE 2)
- (C) 'AN ARMED ATTACK BY ANY STATE AGAINST AN AMERICAN STATE SHALL BE CONSIDERED AS AN ATTACK AGAINST ALL AMERICAN STATES' AND 'MEASURES OF A COLLECTIVE CHARACTER' SHOULD BE CONSIDERED (ARTICLE 3)
- (D) COLLECTIVE MEASURES SHALL ALSO BE CONSIDERED IN THE EVENT OF ANY THREAT TO THE PEACE OF THE CONTINENT (ARTICLE 6)
- (E) 'INVASION AFFECTING A REGION WHICH IS UNDER THE EFFECTIVE

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JURISDICTION OF ANOTHER STATE' SHALL BE CONSIDERED AS AGGRESSION  
(ARTICLE 9).

(F) POSSIBLE FORMS OF ACTION MAY INCLUDE ONE OR MORE OF THE  
FOLLOWING MEASURES: BREAKING OFF DIPLOMATIC, CONSULAR AND  
ECONOMIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS, 'AND USE OF ARMED FORCE'  
(ARTICLE 8)

(G) DECISIONS MUST BE TAKEN BY A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY (ARTICLE 17)

(H) SUCH DECISIONS ARE BINDING ON ALL PARTIES, 'WITH THE SOLE  
EXCEPTION THAT NO STATE SHALL BE REQUIRED TO USE ARMED FORCE  
WITHOUT ITS CONSENT' (ARTICLE 20).

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