

# AIRGRAM

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NO.

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INFO : AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

FROM : AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

DATE: January 18, 1964

SUBJECT : "River Plate Protocol of January, 1964" Signed by Argentina and Uruguay

REF :

The Foreign Ministers of Argentina and Uruguay, on January 14, 1964, signed a new accord entitled "River Plate Protocol of January 1964" and providing for a complete survey of the waters of the River Plate to be undertaken with the collaboration of both Governments. The Protocol reaffirms the Protocol of January 4, 1910 and the Joint Declaration of January 30, 1961 on the same general subject. Aside from agreeing on the survey project, the Protocol reasserts the exclusive sovereignty of Argentina and Uruguay, as riparian states, over the waters of the River Plate out to its 130-mile-wide opening into the Atlantic Ocean.

Transmitted herewith, as Enclosure No. 1 is an Embassy translation of the Protocol text as published in the Buenos Aires daily, La Nacion, of January 15, 1964.

Five copies of the Spanish language text, clipped from La Nacion, along with the texts of remarks made on the occasion by the two Foreign Ministers, are transmitted as Enclosure No. 2.

MCCLINTOCK

Enclosures: *att*

1. Translation of Protocol Text
2. Spanish Language Text

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FORM 4-62 05-323

Drafted by: POL: JIngersoll:mes

Contents and Classification Approved by: DCM:EWClark

Clearances:

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BUENOS AIRES

RIVER PLATE PROTOCOL OF JANUARY, 1964

Signed at Buenos Aires, Argentina  
January 14, 1964

In the City of Buenos Aires, on the fourteenth day of the month of January, nineteen-hundred and sixty-four, gathered in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Argentina, Miguel Angel ZAVALA ORTIZ, and of The Oriental Republic of Uruguay, Alejandro ZORILLA de San Martin, motivated by the coincidences, the historic community of purposes and the bonds of affection created by the fraternal friendship of the two peoples, which, as their inevitable duty, they propose to maintain for their well-being and happiness, declare:

1. That they reiterate, as is set forth in the Protocol of January 5, 1910, that the navigation and the use of the waters of the River Plate shall continue without change as hitherto and that any differences which may arise in this respect shall be overcome and resolved with the same spirit of cordiality and harmony as have always existed between the two countries.
2. That they reiterate, similarly, the joint declaration of January 30, 1961, that the limit of the River Plate, dividing the waters of that river from the Atlantic Ocean, is the imaginary, straight line between Punta Rasa, on Cape San Antonio, in Argentina and Punta del Este, in Uruguay.
3. That in order to facilitate the navigation and use of the waters, they recognize the urgent necessity of a complete survey of the River Plate, for which purpose the Governments of the Republic of Argentina and of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay agree to extend reciprocal collaboration and to keep each other informed of the work plans and of the verifications which they obtain.
4. For the purposes indicated in the preceding paragraph, both Governments declare their willingness to contribute technically and financially to the definitive study and execution of the "Plan for the Complete Survey of the River Plate" submitted by the Argentine Government.

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5. The execution of the Plan for the Complete Survey will not alter the jurisdiction which the riparian countries have been exercising in the River Plate, the only ones (jurisdictions) which the two Governments recognize over that river.

6. Both Governments, without prejudice to existing national technical commissions or organizations, shall proceed with the creation of a mixed commission, composed of representatives of the two Governments, to consider questions relating to the "Plan for the Complete Survey of the River Plate", indicated in paragraph 4 above, whose recommendations, when appropriate, shall be submitted for the approval of the respective Ministers of Foreign Affairs.

7. For reference purposes, this document shall be entitled "River Plate Protocol of January, 1964."

For the Republic of Argentina:  
Miguel Angel Zavala Ortiz  
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship

For the Oriental Republic of  
Uruguay:  
Alejandro Zorilla de  
San Martin  
Minister of Foreign Affairs

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