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6. ~~Ecuador has said that it will not attend next Spring's Hemispheric Foreign Ministers if the President signs the Trade Bill~~ which contains a provision denying generalized tariff preference to OPEC countries. Do you have any comment on Ecuador's position?

1/3/75 GUIDANCE: This is something you should take up with the

Department of State. I would simply point out that the Administration opposed the restrictive sections of the Trade Bill which Ecuador and other countries have protested. Nevertheless, Congress wrote them into the legislation.

1/3/75

2. Do you have any comment on Ecuador's seizure of U. S. fishing boats?

1/31/75

GUIDANCE: The U.S. Embassy is lodging a protest with the government of Ecuador concerning these seizures and I would suggest you check with State for any detailed comment.

4. Do you have any comment on the outcome of the OAS meeting in Quito?
Didn't the US abstention contribute to the failure of the conference?

Guidance: Deputy Secretary of State Ingersoll represented the US in Quito and I would prefer that a detailed statement on the results of the Quito Conference come from the Department of State. We do not believe the conference ^{ought to be called} was "a failure" just because a consensus was not obtained on the Cuban sanctions issue. We made it very clear that the US would not press its position on any other country and we consulted closely with the other members of the OAS throughout. If the necessary two-thirds majority was lacking it was because there are not enough OAS nations now persuaded to lift the OAS sanctions.