

ACTION
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Department of State

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

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ACTION L-03

BUENOS 02761 090248Z

2314

BUENOS 02761 090248Z

INFO OCT-01 ARS-15 ADS-00 MCT-02 SY-05 EB-03 GSA-02
ICA-20 CIAE-00 IHR-10 HSAE-00 EUR-12 /078 W
-----123782 090833Z /17

R 062016Z APR 79
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0181
USDOC JTBKNC

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 2761

COUNTRY LAWS ON TERRORISM: UPDATE

REF: STATE 69183

1. POST DOES NOT HAVE COPY OF RESPONSE TO DEPARTMENT AIRGRAM CITED REFTEL. NONETHELESS, MANY LAWS ON TERRORISM HAVE BEEN AMENDED SINCE 1974, AS A RESULT OF THE HIGH LEVEL OF TERRORISM IN ARGENTINA THROUGH 1977 ARGENTINA IS NOT A PARTY TO THE NEW YORK OR OAS CONVENTIONS. WHILE LAWS 19,793 AND 20,411 RATIFY THE HAGUE AND MONTREAL CONVENTIONS RESPECTIVELY, THERE HAVE BEEN NO IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS TO THESE LAWS.

2. THE BASIC LAW ON TERRORISM IS LAW 20,840 ENACTED ON SEP 28, 1974 WHICH WAS AMENDED BY LAW 21,459 OF NOVEMBER 18, 1976. ARTICLE 1 OF THE CURRENT LAW MANDATES A PRISON SENTENCE OF BETWEEN THREE AND EIGHT YEARS FOR THOSE WHO USE NON-CONSTITUTIONAL MEANS TO DISTURB THE ARGENTINE INTERNAL ORDER FOR IDEOLOGICAL REASONS, UNLESS THE OFFENSE COMES UNDER ANOTHER PROVISION OF EXISTING LAWS WITH STIFFER PENALTIES. ARTICLE 2 DECREES PRISON TERMS FROM TWO TO SIX YEARS FOR THOSE WHO TEACH OR SUPPORT OTHERS WHO CARRY OUT SUBVERSIVE ACTS. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE 3, THOSE WHO USE SYMBOLS OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS OR RADIO OR NEWSPAPER AUTHORITIES WHO PUBLICIZE THEIR STATEMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO TWO TO FIVE YEARS IMPRISONMENT. IF ANY OF THESE OFFENSES ARE COMMITTED BY NATURALIZED ARGENTINES, AFTER SERVICING THEIR SENTENCE, THEIR CITIZENSHIP IS REVOKED AND THEY ARE EXPELLED FROM THE COUNTRY. FOREIGNERS COMMITTING THESE CRIMES ARE EXPELLED FROM ARGENTINA FOLLOWING THE CONCLUSION OF THEIR SENTENCE. UNDER LAW 21,450, ALSO ENACTED ON NOV 18, 1976, THE ARGENTINE ARMED FORCES AS WELL AS THE POLICE ARE GIVEN RESPONSIBILITY TO PROSECUTE TERRORISTS.

3. IN ADDITION TO THESE LAWS DEALING WITH IDEOLOGICALLY MOTIVATED TERRORIST ACTS, ARTICLE 210 OF THE ARGENTINE PENAL CODE STIPULATES A SENTENCE OF FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS FOR THOSE BELONGING TO AN ORGANIZED GROUP WHICH COMMITS VIOLENT ACTS AGAINST A PERSON OR INSTITUTION. UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE SAME ARTICLE, LEADERS OF SUCH ARMED GROUPS ARE SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT OF BETWEEN EIGHT AND TWENTY FIVE YEARS. IF THEIR ACT LEADS TO LOSS OF LIFE OR GRAVE WOUNDS SUSTAINED BY THEIR VICTIMS, THE ARTICLE STATES THAT THE PUNISHMENT SHALL BE DEATH OR LIFE IMPRISONMENT RESPECTIVELY. THE SENTENCE OF THOSE WHO VOLUNTARILY GIVE THEMSELVES UP IS REDUCED TO FIFTEEN TO TWENTY FIVE YEARS, TEN TO TWENTY YEARS, OR BY A THIRD FOR SENTENCES OF DEATH, LIFE IMPRISONMENT, OR A REDUCED PRISON TERM RESPECTIVELY.

4. ARTICLE 170 OF THE PENAL CODE MANDATES A FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEAR PRISON TERM FOR PERPETRATORS OF KIDNAPPING ATTEMPTS MADE FOR RANSOM AND AN EIGHT TO FIFTEEN YEAR TERM IF THEY ARE SUCCESSFUL. UNDER ARTICLE 142, KIDNAPPERS ARE ALSO SUBJECT TO AN EIGHT TO TWENTY FIVE YEAR PRISON TERM IF THE VICTIM IS WOUNDED IN THE ACT OR IF FORCED TO GIVE

AID TO A SUBVERSIVE ORGANIZATION. IN CASE THE VICTIM DIES IN CAPTIVITY, THE OFFENDER IS SUBJECT TO THE DEATH SENTENCE. ARTICLE 225 DECREES A TWO TO SIX YEAR PRISON SENTENCES FOR THOSE WHO PAY RANSOM TO KIDNAPPERS OR ECONOMICALLY AID TERRORISTS.
CASTRO

LEGAL ADVISER
APR 9 1979
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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ACTION MCT-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ISO-00 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 IO-14 HA-05 /091 W
-----114958 210355Z /61

R 201930Z MAR 79
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9902

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ BUENOS AIRES 2198

E. O. 12065 GDS 3-29-85 (THAYER, YVONNE) OR-P
TAGS ASEC, PORG, PINS, PINR, AR
SUBJECT (U) ARGENTINE CONSIDERATION OF CRIMES AGAINST DIPLOMATS

REF: A STATE 045016; B STATE 057380; C BUENOS AIRES 1272

1. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (ENTIRE TEXT)

2. EMBASSY CONVEYED CONTENTS OF REFTELS A AND B TO APPROPRIATE FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS, LEAVING BEHIND DETAILED AIDE MEMOIRES. IN REPLY TO SUBJECT RAISED IN REFTEL A, GOA ORALLY AND INFORMALLY AGREED TO PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH US OFFICIALS IN THE EVENT OF THREATS OR DANGER TO THE LIVES OF AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL.

3. ON THE NEW YORK CONVENTION (REFTEL B), A MINISTRY OFFICIAL ACKNOWLEDGED ARGENTINA'S FAILURE TO RATIFY AS SAID THAT RATIFICATION IS AGAIN UNDER CONSIDERATION AS RESULT OF THE EMBASSY DEMARCHE. THE OFFICIAL CITED NO SPECIFIC ARGENTINE OBJECTION TO THE CONVENTION (UNLIKE ANOTHER MINISTRY OFFICIAL'S EARLIER EXPLANATION OF ARGENTINA'S OPPOSITION TO THE OAS CONVENTION ON TERRORISM AS REPORTED IN REFTEL C), ALTHOUGH HE NOTED THAT THE INFORMAL AGREEMENT TO PRIOR CONSULTATION AND THE EXISTING BILATERAL EXTRADITION TREATY FULLY COVERED ANY CRIMINAL ACT AGAINST US DIPLOMATIC OFFICIALS. HE PROMISED TO ADVISE EMBASSY WHAT IF ANY ACTION GOA PLANS TO TAKE ON THE NEW YORK CONVENTION.
CASTRO

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ACTION ARA-15

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H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 /090 W

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R 151401Z FEB 79
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9504
INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ BUENOS AIRES 1272

E. O. 12065 GDS 2-14-85 (THAYER, YVONNE) OR-P
TAGS PORG, PINS, OAS, AR
SUBJECT (U) ARGENTINA OPPOSED TO SCOPE OF OAS CONVENTION ON TERRORISM

REF: STATE 020764

1. (U) ARGENTINA OPPOSED THE OAS CONVENTION ON TERRORISM IN 1977 AS INADEQUATE AND TOO NARROW A MEASURE TO TREAT EFFECTIVELY WITH TERRORIST THREATS AND HAS NO INTENTION OF SIGNING OR PARTICIPATING IN THE CONVENTION, ACCORDING TO FOREIGN MINISTRY CHIEF OF OAS AFFAIRS ADEN. ADEN SAID ARGENTINA WITHDREW FROM THE CONFERENCE ON THE ISSUE IN PROTEST THAT THE CONVENTION ONLY DEALT WITH TERRORIST ACTS AGAINST DIPLOMATS AND IGNORED THE GENERAL PROBLEM OF TERRORISM. (EMBASSY DOES NOT HAVE TEXT OF TREATY TO VERIFY ADEN'S EXPLANATION.) ADEN CLAIMED THAT ARGENTINA'S POSITION IS GAINING GROUND, HOWEVER, CITING THE 1977 OASGA IN GRENADA WHEN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC RECOMMENDED ANOTHER, BROADER LOOK BE TAKEN AT THE WHOLE QUESTION OF TERRORISM AND AN EFFECTIVE REGIONAL RESPONSE. AT THAT TIME, THE MATTER WAS RECOMMENDED TO THE OAS PERMANENT COUNCIL FOR FURTHER STUDY, THE RESULTS OF WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REPORTED OUT, SAID ADEN.

2. COMMENT. ARGENTINA IS EXTREMELY SENSITIVE ON THE WHOLE QUESTION OF TERRORISM, BELIEVING ITSELF AND UNWITTING VICTIM OF AN INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM CONSPIRACY. ARGENTINA HAS BROUGHT UP THE MENACE OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM IN NUMEROUS MULTILATERAL FORA, SEEKING SYMPATHY FOR ITS OWN CASE AS WELL AS AN INSTITUTIONALIZED RESPONSE TO TERRORISM. THE COUNTRY'S REJECTION OF THE REFERENCED CONVENTION THEREFORE APPEARS TO BE NOT SO MUCH OPPOSITION TO ITS INTENT AS TO ITS NARROW SCOPE. OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT ARGENTINA WILL CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE A BROADER LOOK AT THE WHOLE QUESTION OF TERRORISM, BUT IN SUCH A WAY AS TO AVOID LINKAGE TO HUMAN RIGHTS, WHERE ARGENTINA HAS A WELL PUBLICIZED RECORD. ITS STRATEGY MAY BE TO PUSH COUNTRIES WITH BETTER HUMAN RIGHTS REPUTATIONS TO PROMOTE AND EXPANDED DEFINITION AND CONDEMNATION OF TERRORISM IN ALL FORMS. END COMMENT.
CASTRO

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NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 PM-05 L-03 SS-15 SP-02
AID-05 EB-00 ACDA-12 COME-00 HA-05 H-01 GSA-02
A-02 IO-14 PC-01 OPR-02 CA-01 SCS-06 /125 W
-----120540 132314Z /70

R 132036Z NOV 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8249
INFO DIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CANAL ZONE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 1 OF 2 BUENOS AIRES 9002

FROM RSO - DEPARTMENT FOR A/SY/FO/ARA, SY/SY/TAGS/CC, AND
ARA/ECA; PANAMA FOR RSS; CANAL ZONE FOR SCJ-2

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC, PINS, PINT, AR
SUBJ: SUMMARY OF TERRORIST AND RELATED ACTIVITIES - MONTH OF
OCTOBER 1978

1. THIS REPORT GIVES A SUMMARY REPORT OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE
AND TERRORIST ACTIVITIES THAT HAVE BEEN REPORTED TO US BY
SECURITY FORCES DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 1978.

2. OCTOBER 7 - A BOMB EXPLODED IN A VEHICLE (A FIAT) WHICH
WAS PARKED IN THE WOODED AREA OF EZIEZA. THE DEVICE WAS
DETONATED WHEN MR. JUAN JOSE CASTRO, 35 YEARS OF AGE AND
HIS SON, PABLO CASTRO, SIX YEARS, APPROACHED THE VEHICLE
AND MANIPULATED A PACKAGE LOCATED WITHIN THE VEHICLE.
BOTH MR. CASTRO AND HIS SON WERE WOUNDED BY THE EXPLOSION
AND TAKEN TO THE EZIEZA HOSPITAL. NO FURTHER INFORMATION
WAS RECEIVED BY THIS OFFICE.

OCTOBER 10 - AT APPROXIMATELY 1 A.M. THREE ARGENTINE
GENTLEMEN NAMED HERALDO DURANTE SCARANAL, ALEJANDRO
DANIEL SPAJANOLLO AND MR. DARIO HECTOR GARCIA, WERE ADMITTED
TO THE HOSPITAL POLICLINICO CENTRAL SUFFERING GUN SHOT
WOUNDS. UPON BEING QUESTIONED BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES THE
WOUNDED MEN ADVISED THAT WHILE DRIVING THROUGH THE INTER-
SECTION OF REPUBLICA ORIENTAL DE URUGUAY AND AVENIDA
CROVARA IN VILLA MADERO, THEIR VEHICLE WAS FORCED TO THE
SIDE OF THE ROAD BY A FIAT CONTAINING THREE INDIVIDUALS.
THE THREE MEN IN THE FIAT WHICH FORCED THEM OFF THE SIDE
OF THE ROAD, GOT OUT OF THE AUTOMOBILE AND BEGAN SHOOTING.
THE MEN ADVISED THEY ESCAPED IN THEIR VEHICLE
AND CAME TO THE HOSPITAL FOR TREATMENT. IT SHOULD BE NOTED
THAT ONE OF THE OCCUPANTS MR. SPAJANOLLO IS THE SON OF AN
ARGENTINE MAJOR AND THE NEPHEW OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
OF THE ARGENTINE WAR COLLEGE.

OCTOBER 11- WITHIN THE FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE SEVERAL
INSCRIPTIONS WERE FOUND SIGNED BY THE P.C.R. IN WHICH
GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES WERE CRITICIZED. THE INSCRIPTIONS
READ "PATRIOTIC UNIT AGAINST THE GUERRILLA-FACIST DICTATOR-
SHIP OF VIDELA." NEXT TO THE INSCRIPTION WAS DRAWN THE
HAMMER AND CYCLE.

- ON THE SAME DATE AT APPROXIMATELY 1 A.M. IN THE
MORNING, BOMB EXPLOSIVE PERSONNEL WERE SUMMONED TO AN
INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENT LOCATED AT 2942 CANALEJAS WHERE
A SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE WAS LOCATED. INSPECTION OF THE
PACKAGE PROVED TO BE NEGATIVE.

- AT APPROXIMATELY 6:40 A.M. MR. CARLOS OSCAR ROLAS,
ARGENTINE 46 YEARS OF AGE, NOTIFIED LOCAL AUTHORITIES
THAT UPON LEAVING HIS RESIDENCE HE DISCOVERED A BOX WITH
THE INSCRIPTION "DON'T APPROACH - EXPLOSIVES - DO NOT
TOUCH." POLICE AND BOMB EXPLOSIVE EXPERTS ARRIVED AND
DEACTIVATED A BOMB WHICH CONSISTED OF DYNAMITE.

OCTOBER 15 - AT APPROXIMATELY 11:15 A.M. IN THE

INTERSECTION OF DON BUSCO AND LURO STREETS MORTARS WERE
FOUND SIZES 50 X 15 CENT. MADE OUT OF STEEL WITH THE
INSCRIPTION "BOR 1946 NO. 6615 AND BOR 1946 NO. 54540."

OCTOBER 17 - TERRORISTS ATTACKED IN DIFFERENT AREAS
OF MORON BY PLACING "PAMPHLET AND MOLOTOV BOMBS" WHICH
CAUSED MINOR MATERIAL DAMAGES. THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME
DETAILS OF THE EVENTS:

1. AT APPROXIMATELY 8:20 P.M. IT WAS REPORTED THAT AN
EXPLOSIVE DEVICE HAD BEEN FOUND IN THE SAN MARTIN RAIL-
ROAD STATION. THE BOMB WAS DEACTIVATED BY BOMB EXPLOSIVE
EXPERTS WHO STATED THAT THE DEVICE WAS A PAMPHLET BOMB.

2. AT APPROXIMATELY 8:20 P.M. ON RICHIERRI AND O'BRIEN
STREETS, THE HOME OF JORGE ARROZ HORACIO RANDLE, A
MOLOTOV BOMB EXPLODED CAUSING A MINOR FIRE WHICH THE OWNER
WAS ABLE TO EXTINGUISH.

3. IN THE HOME OF PABLO MURATORE, LOCATED AT 1120 GARAY
A MOLOTOV BOMB WAS PLACED ON THE ROOF OF A FIAT 800.
BOMB EXPLOSIVE EXPERTS WERE ABLE TO DEACTIVATE THE BOMB.

4. AT 1170 GARAY, RESIDENCE OF MR. ARMANDO CISILOTO,
OWNER OF A WAREHOUSE, A MOLOTOV BOMB EXPLODED CAUSING
MINOR DAMAGE TO THE FRONT DOOR.

5. IN THE HOME OF MR. ADOLFO ALFONSO MENDEZ TRONGE,
LOCATED AT 1370 JUAN DIEZ DE SOLIS, FORMER SECRETARY OF
THE STATE DISTRICT ATTORNEY IN THE PROVINCE OF BUENOS
AIRES, AN INCENDIARY BOMB EXPLODED CAUSING LITTLE DAMAGE.
TWO OTHER EXPLOSIVE DEVICES, A PAMPHLETARY AND MOLOTOV
WERE DISCOVERED AND DEACTIVATED BY BOMB EXPLOSIVE PERSONNEL.

OCTOBER 20 - AT APPROXIMATELY 0030 A.M. IN THE MORNING
A POLICE PATROL CAR OF THE LOMAS DE ZAMORA PRECINCT
OBSERVED TWO SUSPICIOUS INDIVIDUALS AT THE INTERSECTIONS
OF MONTEAGUDO AND ALVEAR. THE POLICE VEHICLE STOPPED AND
ASKED THE INDIVIDUALS TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES. AT THIS
POINT THE TWO INDIVIDUALS STARTED SHOOTING AND ESCAPED,
LEAVING BEHIND ONE BRIEFCASE CONTAINING A BOX WITH 30
CARTRIDGES OF 9MM. AMMUNITION AND AN EXPLOSIVE DEVICE WHICH
WAS DEACTIVATED BY BOMB EXPLOSIVE EXPERTS.

OCTOBER 24 - AT 10 A.M. TWO UNKNOWN INDIVIDUALS FORCED
THEIR WAY INTO A GROCERY STORE LOCATED AT 2237 SAHORES

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ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ISO-00 MCT-02 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 PM-05 L-03 SS-15 SP-02
AID-05 EB-08 ACDA-12 COME-00 HA-05 H-01 GSA-02
A-02 10-14 PC-01 OPR-02 CA-01 SCS-06 /125 W
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R 132036Z NOV 78

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8250

INFO DIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CANAL ZONE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 2 OF 2 BUENOS AIRES 9002

BUENOS AIRES. THE SUSPECTS THREATENED THE OWNER,
MR. ROBERTO ANTERO AND STOLE A PISTOL FROM POLICE OFFICER
SGT. VINCENT VICTOR ORMANO, WHO WAS IN THE STORE AT
THE TIME OF THE ROBBERY. POLICE SGT. MANUEL ANGEL
GUIDI WITNESSED THE EVENT AND STARTED FIRING AT THE
CRIMINALS AS THEY ESCAPED. THE CRIMINALS RETURNED THE
FIRE, WOUNDING SGT. GUIDI IN THE RIGHT ARM AND LEFT FOOT.

OCTOBER 25 - AT THE LOCATION OF ABRA DEL HINOJO, WHICH
IS APPROXIMATELY 50 MS. FROM THE CITY OF PIGUE, SAAVEDRA,
PROVINCE OF BUENOS AIRES, UNIDENTIFIED INDIVIDUALS
DETONATED A POWERFUL EXPLOSIVE DEVICE WHICH WAS PLACED
IN A PEUGOT 404. THE VEHICLE WAS TOTALLY DESTROYED.
CASTRO

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-01 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 AID-05 TRSE-00 /079 W
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R 301459Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6329

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ BUENOS AIRES 5045

E. O. 11652 GDS
TAGS SHUM, AR
SUBJECT ANTI-TERRORIST OPERATIONS REPORTED IN LA PLATA

Handwritten:
115FV
TERRORISM - ARGENTINA

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED REPORTS FROM FOUR DIFFERENT HUMAN RIGHTS SOURCES (THREE OF WHOM ARE FROM LA PLATA) REGARDING SECURITY OPERATIONS IN LA PLATA BELIEVED TO BE DIRECTED AGAINST PERSONS WITH EITHER THE TRAINING OR THE ACCESS TO EQUIPMENT WHICH COULD HAVE BEEN USED IN THE JUNE 1 AND JUNE 14 BROADCASTS OF MONTONERO PROPAGANDA ON THE TELEVISION AUDIO FREQUENCY DURING WORLD CUP FOOTBALL MATCHES.

2. A HUMAN RIGHTS SOURCE WHO HAS BEEN RELIABLE IN THE PAST GAVE THE EMBASSY THE NAMES OF SEVEN PERSONS REPORTED ABDUCTED DURING THE LA PLATA OPERATION. THIS SOURCE STATES THAT THERE HAS BEEN A LARGE NUMBER OF RAIDS AND HE HAS HEARD THAT AS MANY AS 25 PERSONS MAY HAVE BEEN PICKED UP. EMBASSY AS YET HAS NO CONFIRMATION OF THESE OPERATIONS FROM SECURITY OR DAO SOURCES.

3. THREE OF THE DISAPPEARANCES HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN THE LA PLATA DAILY, EL DIA.

4. THE ABDUCTION OF OSCAR ESTEBAN ANTONIO ELICABE URRIO, AN EMPLOYEE OF A COMMUNICATIONS SUPPLY FIRM, ATTRACTED ATTENTION BECAUSE HE WAS TAKEN FROM HIS HOSPITAL BED IN EARLY JUNE. ELICABE, ACCORDING TO SOURCE AND PRESS ACCOUNTS, UNDERWENT BLADDER SURGERY ON MAY 31 AND WAS REMOVED FROM THE HOSPITAL DE AGUDOS GENERAL SAN MARTIN BY A GROUP OF ARMED MEN IDENTIFYING THEMSELVES AS MEMBERS OF THE JOINT FORCES. PRIOR TO HIS ABDUCTION, ACCORDING TO THE NEWSPAPER ACCOUNT, HIS HOME WAS SEARCHED AND BOOKS AND A TELEVISION SET REMOVED.

5. ACCORDING TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND SECURITY SOURCES, PROVINCIAL POLICE LOCATED THE LOW POWER TRANSMITTER IN A DOWNTOWN LA PLATA HOTEL ROOM WHICH WAS USED FOR ONE OF THE ILLEGAL BROADCASTS. THE TRANSMISSION WAS VERY LOW POWERED, EXTENDING SOME FIVE BLOCKS IN RADIUS FROM THE TRANSMISSION POINT AND WAS TRIGGERED BY A TIMING MECHANISM. INTERRUPTION OF AUDIO TV SIGNAL HAS BEEN A TACTIC USED ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS BY THE MONTONEROS.
CASTRO

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SS-15 ICA-11 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 /087 W
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R 091500Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5643
INFO DIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY PANAMA

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 2 OF 2 BUENOS AIRES 3548

FROM RSO TO SY AND ARA: PANAMA FOR RSS

FOUR MASTER ELECTRIC LINES WITH INTERFACE TO THE 100-LINE SYSTEM INSTALLED FOR THE WORLD CUP.

APR 22: IT WAS REPORTED THAT CGT-R HAD SENT TO SEVERAL UNIONS IN TUCUMAN AND SANTIAGO DEL ESTERO COPIES OF BULLETIN NO. 2 "RESISTANCE" OF THE CGT-R.

- ON THE SAME DATE, PERSONS BELIEVED TO BE SUBVERSIVES SHOT AT POST THREE OF THE LA PLATA MILITARY DISTRICT. NO ONE WAS INJURED AND THE ATTACKERS ESCAPED.

- IN BANFIELD, BS. AS. PROVINCE, AN EXPLOSIVE DEVICE DETONATED AT THE HOME OF FORMER BUENOS AIRES GOVERNOR OSCAR ALENDE, CAUSING SERIOUS DAMAGES TO THE PREMISES AND A SHOP NEXT DOOR. THERE WERE NO INJURIES.

APR 24: IN THE FEDERAL CAPITAL AT CABELLO 3679, A SMALL BOMB DETONATED IN THE APT. BUILDING CAUSING MATERIAL DAMAGE AND ONE INJURY.

APR 26: AN EXPLOSIVE DEVICE WAS DETONATED AT THE GENERAL SAN MARTIN PROVINCIAL SCHOOL IN CORDOBA. THE BOMB CAUSED SERIOUS MATERIAL DAMAGE.

- RAUL ANTONIO AYBAR TURNED HIMSELF IN TO COMANDO FOUR IN TUCUMAN. HE BELONGED TO THE PRT-ERP.

APR 27: SEVERAL UNIONS IN CORDOBA PROVINCE RECEIVED FROM BS. AS. BULLETIN NO. 207, DATED APR 12, 1978, OF THE MARXIST-COMMUNIST-LENINIST PARTY.

APR 30: IN THE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING, UNIVERSITY OF ROSARIO, THE NEWSPAPER "NUEVA HORA", A PCR PUBLICATION, WAS DISTRIBUTED. IT WAS DATED MARCH 25, 1978. THERE WERE ALSO BULLETINS DISTRIBUTED FROM THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY.

- ON THE SAME DATE IN MEHDOZA, AN EXPLOSIVE DEVICE WAS

DETONATED IN FRONT OF THE RESIDENCE OF CARLOS ALBERTO CURCHOD. THE BOMB WAS PLACED UNDER HIS CAR AND CAUSED CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE. CURCHOD WORKS IN THE CRIMINAL COURT BUILDING AND ALSO BELONGS TO THE CIVIL INTELLIGENCE GROUP "C" OF THE AIR FORCE.

LAUNCHER WHICH IS A SOPHISTICATED BAZOOKA-LIKE ATTACK WEAPON AS WELL AS THE SFM G 70 A AND SFM G 40 GRENADES WHICH ARE FIRED FROM THE LAUNCHER. BOTH THESE GRENADES HAVE AN ACCURACY UP TO APPROXIMATELY 100 YARDS AND WILL PENETRATE ONE-HALF INCH OF STEEL. THEY ARE USED AGAINST POLICE PRECINCTS AND MILITARY AND POLICE VEHICLES AS WELL AS OCCASIONALLY IN ATTACKS ON RESIDENCES. THE G 40 IS THE NEWEST IN THEIR SERIES OF LAUNCHED GRENADES. THEY HAVE ALSO REFINED THEIR HAND GRENADE AND DEVELOPED THE SFM G 5 WHICH CONTAINS A VERY HIGH SHRAPNEL CONTENT. UNDER DEVELOPMENT, IS THE SFM TROMBA WHICH IS A LAUNCHER USED TO CONVERT A 12 GAUGE SHOTGUN TO FIRE GRENADES AND THE SFM LGE 22 WHICH IS A SMALL MORAR ONLY IN THE DESIGN STAGE. SOURCES STATED THAT EVEN THOUGH THE MONTONEROS HAVE IN SOME AREAS IMPROVED THEIR WEAPONS, THEY ARE IN VERY LIMITED SUPPLY.

5. THEY HAVE ALSO CONTINUED THEIR DEVELOPMENT OF EXPLOSIVES AND ARE CURRENTLY USING A PLASTIQUE WHICH THEY DESIGNATE AS C2. THE MOST CURRENT EXPLOSIVE DEVICE IS NORMALLY PACKED IN A PLASTIC CYLINDER, 17 CMS HIGH AND 9 CMS IN DIAMETER. IT IS MANUFACTURED TO PRODUCE AN EXPLOSION IN ONE DIRECTION, SIMILAR TO A SHAPED CHARGE. IT IS BELIEVED THAT IT WAS DEVELOPED FOR ATTACKS AGAINST HOMES AND SHOPS WITH THE IDEA OF PRODUCING MAXIMUM DESTRUCTION IN ONE DIRECTION AND DIMINISHING EXPLOSIVE EFFECTS IN OTHER DIRECTIONS. IT IS ACTIVATED BY A TIMER SIMILAR TO THE ONE USED IN WASHING MACHINES AND IS SET NORMALLY FOR A FIVE MINUTE DELAY. THE ACTIVATING SYSTEM IS ELECTRIC AND USED A 1.5 VOLT BATTERY AND A NUMBER 8 ELECTRICAL DETONATOR OF AUSTRIAN MANUFACTURE. THE EXPLOSIVE CHARGE CONTAINS 800 GMS OF AMYNITE ALUMINIZED POWDER. IT CAN BE MANUFACTURED WITH AMMONIUM NITRATE, POTASSIUM PERCHLORATE, RUBBER POWDER AND ALUMINUM POWDER. THE EFFECTS ARE QUITE SIMILAR TO TNT. IT ALSO CONTAINS A TRIAL CIRCUIT CHECK SYSTEM WITH A PARALLEL CIRCUIT USING A 1.5 VOLT LAMP. THE EXPLOSIVE FORCE CAN PENETRATE 60 CM. OF A MASONRY WALL OR 10 CMS OF STEEL. ACCORDING TO SECURITY SERVICES, THIS EXPLOSIVE DEVICE IS THE NEWEST IN THE TERRORIST ARSENAL OF WEAPONS. HOWEVER, IN SPITE OF IMPROVEMENT IN EXPLOSIVES, COMISARIO MARTINI, CHIEF OF FEDERAL POLICE EXPLOSIVES BRIGADE, STATED THAT BOMB INCIDENTS ARE GREATLY RED# FROM THIS TIME LAST YEAR AND THAT SOME EXPERTS OF THE POLICE DEMOLITION UNITS HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED TO ROUTINE INSPECTION DUTIES. SOURCE STATED HE EXPECTS THIS DOWNWARD TREND TO CONTINUE WITH THE POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF JUNE 1978, DURING THE WORLD CUP. ALL OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO RSO SUPPORTS THIS VIEWPOINT.
CASTRO

NOTE BY OCT: * AS RECEIVED.

3. RSO COMMENT: DURING APRIL, RSO MET WITH MEMBERS OF THE ARGENTINE SECURITY SERVICES CHARGED WITH DEVELOPING INTELLIGENCE CONCERNING TERRORIST ACTIVITIES. SOURCES STATED THE CURRENT TERRORIST STRENGTH IS 450-500 MONTONERO COMBATANTS, OF WHICH 150 ARE OUTSIDE OF ARGENTINA, AND 200-275 MEMBERS OF THE RP, OF WHOM ONLY 20 ARE CONSIDERED COMBATANTS, SUPPORTED BY A CADRE OF APPROXIMATELY 100-175 PERSONS IN ARGENTINA. BOTH ORGANIZATIONS, PARTICULARLY THE ERP, ARE WEAK AND HAVE ONLY LIMITED COMBAT CAPABILITY. HOWEVER, THE MONTONEROS CONTINUE ATTACKS ON SOFT TARGETS, INCLUDING BUSINESS PERSONNEL AND MEMBERS OF THE GOA. CASE IN POINT WAS THE ATTACK AGAINST THE HOME OF MR. DON JOHNSON, U.S. EMPLOYEE OF ALUAR, A DIVISION OF REYNOLDS ALUMINUM, ON 4-14-78. HIS RESIDENCE WAS APPARENTLY THE TARGET OF A G-40 GRENADE FIRE FROM A GRENADE LAUNCHER.

4. SOURCES STATED THE MONTONEROS, IN SPITE OF LOGISTIC WEAKNESS, STILL HAVE A SUPPLY OF THE LG 22 MP GRENADE

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Department of State

INCOMING TELEGRAM

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USA

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BUENOS 03548 01 OF 02 091559Z

ACTION: SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 IHR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 COME-00 EB-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 /0887 W
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R 091500Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5642
INFO DIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY PANAMA

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 1 OF 2 BUENOS AIRES 3548

FROM RSO TO SY AND ARA: PANAMA FOR RSS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC, PINS, PINT, SHUH, AR
SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF TERRORIST AND RELATED ACTIVITIES
MONTH OF APRIL 1978

1. DURING THE FIRST WEEK IN APRIL, NUMEROUS LABOR UNIONS IN THE CITY OF MAR DEL PLATA RECEIVED BULLETINS OF THE CGT-R (GENERAL CONFEDERATION OF LABOR - RESISTANCE, A MONTONERO GROUP).
2. APR 2 - IN CORDOBA, ERP INSIGNIAS WERE FOUND PAINTED ON A BRIDGE AND SOME BUILDINGS. THIS IS ATTRIBUTED TO THE ERP PRESS AND PROPAGANDA SECTION.

- ON THE SAME DAY, SOME COMMUNICATIONS CENTERS IN CORDOBA RECEIVED VIA MAIL FROM MEXICO BULLETIN NO. 5 OF THE SENIOR COUNCIL OF THE MONTONERO PERONIST MOVEMENT (MPM).
- PAMPHLETS WERE MAILED FROM BUENOS AIRES TO VARIOUS UNIONS IN THE CITY OF CORDOBA. TITLE OF THE PAMPHLET WAS:
FIVE YEARS OF POPULAR TRIUMPH.

APR 4: THE BODIES OF TWO TERRORISTS WERE FOUND IN A RESIDENCE IN THE RURAL AREA OF RIO TERCERO. THEY WERE IDENTIFIED AS IVAN BROLLO AND CESAR ARGANARAZ. BOTH MEN HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN THE PRT-ERP ATTACK ON THE MILITARY FACTORY IN VILLA MARIA IN 1974.

APR 6 - IN LA PLATA, ITEMS OF TERRORIST MANUFACTURE WERE FOUND BELONGING TO THE PCHL (MARXIST-LENINIST-COMMUNIST PARTY) OF THE LA PLATA REGION. MATERIALS INCLUDING EQUIPMENT TO MANUFACTURE SHOTGUN AND REVOLVER AMMUNITION.

APR 7 - PRESS AND PROPAGANDA SECTION OF THE FEDERATION JUVENILE COMUNISTA (FJC) BEGAN TO ISSUE THEIR PUBLICATION CALLED "CONCIENCIA" AND "IMAGEN", BOTH BI-WEEKLY.

- ON THE SAME DATE IN RESISTENCIA, RETIRED MAJOR ISAAC MANN RECEIVED A PAMPHLET ENTITLED "MESSAGE TO OFFICERS OF THE ARMED FORCES, NO. 2" BY THE NATIONAL STAFF OF THE MONTONERO ARMY. THE PAMPHLET WAS DATED JANUARY 1978.

APR 8 - SUBVERSIVES IN A LIGHT BLUE TRUCK OPENED FIRE ON THE TIGRE COAST GUARD BUILDING. NO ONE WAS INJURED.

APR 10 - IN SAN LUIS, LOCAL UNION HQ OF UOCRA (CONSTRUCTION WORKERS UNION) REPORTED RECEIVING MONTONERO PAMPHLETS FROM BUENOS AIRES.

APR 11 - IN SAN ISIDRO, SUBURB OF BUENOS AIRES, TWO PERSONS DRIVING A WHITE FIAT 125 SHOT DR. MIGUEL TOBIAS PADILLA, UNDERSECRETARY OF ECONOMIC PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF ECONOMY. DR. PADILLA DIED ENROUTE TO THE HOSPITAL AFTER RECEIVING 4-5 BULLET WOUNDS. NOTE: SECURITY SERVICES DO NOT BELIEVE THIS WAS A TERRORIST OPERATION.

APR 12 - MONTONERO PAMPHLET WAS MAILED FROM THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TO THE CORDOBA CHIEF OF THE CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERS BATTALION. A SIMILAR PAMPHLET WAS RECEIVED ON APR 14 IN POSADAS, ADDRESSED TO THE GOVERNOR OF MISIONES PROVINCE.

- APR 14: THE RESIDENCE OF MR. DONALD JOHNSON, U.S. EMPLOYEE OF ALUAR, DIVISION OF REYNOLDS ALUMINUM, WAS ATTACKED BY SUBVERSIVES USING A G-40 GRENADE, FIRE FROM A

GRENDADE LAUNCHER. THERE WERE NO INJURIES BUT CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE WAS DONE TO THE RESIDENCE (SEE B.A. 3106 FOR MORE DETAILS).

- PAMPHLET WAS RECEIVED BY THE ASSIST. CHIEF OF THE FIFTH ARMY CORPS ENTITLED, "MESSAGES OF THE ARMED FORCES, NO. 2."

- ON THE SAME DATE IN SANTA FE, THE ASSOCIATION OF GOVT EMPLOYEES RECEIVED FROM PARIS A BULLETIN OF THE MONTONERO PERONIST MOVEMENT COVERING LAST AUG AND SEPT.

- ON THE SAME DATE, SEVERAL PERSONS ATTACKED FEDERAL POLICE AGENT HUGO GALEANO AND STOLE HIS BROWNING 9 MM PISTOL AND AMMUNITION. THIS OCCURRED IN BS. AS. PROVINCE.

- APR 17: IN SANTA FE, UNKNOWN SUBVERSIVES SHOT AT THE HOME OF CP. TABORDA OF THE RADIO ELECTRIC COMMAND. NO ONE WAS INJURED.

- ON THE SAME DATE, THE ASSOCIATION OF SANITARY WORKERS IN SALTA RECEIVED FROM FRANCE TWO ENVELOPES CONTAINING MPM PAMPHLETS.

APR 18: A PAMPHLET ENTITLED, "MOVEMENT NO. 5" PERTAINING TO THE MONTONEROS WAS RECEIVED BY THE ASSOCIATION FRIULANA IN CORDOBA. THE PAMPHLET HAD BEEN MAILED FROM HONDURAS.

- ON THE SAME DATE, IN LA PLATA, CHALK MARKS WERE FOUND IN THE STREETS STATING MONTONEROS WILL DEFEAT THE MILITARY.

- SEVERAL PERSONS BELIEVED TO BE SUBVERSIVES ATTACKED AND REMOVED THREE REVOLVERS FROM CORDOBA POLICE SUBCOMISARIO OSCAR CARRIZO.

APR 19: IN LA PLATA, PRISON GUARD JOSE LUIS GUILLERMO OF THE OLMOS PENITENTIARY SECURITY GUARDS WAS SHOT IN BOTH LEGS BY PERSONS BELIEVED TO BE SUBVERSIVES.

APR 21 IN QUILMES, BS. AS. PROVINCE, A POWERFUL BOMB WAS DISCOVERED IN FRONT OF A RESIDENCE BELONGING TO NAVY CHAPLAIN PEDRO FERNANDEZ.

- IN MEHDOZA, PERSONS BELIEVED TO BE SUBVERSIVES CUT

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INCOMING TELEGRAM

PAGE 01 BUENOS 00206 111818Z
ACTION ARA-14

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BUENOS 00206 111818Z

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-01 SY-05 EB-08 COME-00 HA-05
A-01 AID-05 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PH-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4073

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ BUENOS AIRES 0206

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC, PINS, AR
SUBJECT: TERRORISM

REF: (A) 77 BUENOS AIRES A-151, (B) 77 BUENOS AIRES 9764,
(C) STATE 001340

1. OVER THE PAST YEAR THE SECURITY SITUATION IN ARGENTINA HAS GREATLY IMPROVED. THE BEST AVAILABLE ESTIMATES OF TERRORIST STRENGTH REFLECT 400-500 MONTONEROS, 700-100 ERP AND LESS THAN 20 WORKERS POWER COMMUNIST ORGANIZATION (OCPO). THE LEADERSHIP OF BOTH THE MONTONEROS AND THE ERP IS OPERATING OUT OF EUROPE AND THE ORGANIZATIONS ARE IN DISARRAY. THE OCPO HAS NOT RECENTLY ENGAGED IN TERRORIST ACTIVITIES AND FOR THE MOST PART THEY ARE IN DEEP HIDING. RECENTLY A CACHE OF ARMS WAS DISCOVERED IN MAR DEL PLATA BELONGING TO THE PCML (MARXIST LENINIST COMMUNIST PARTY). HOWEVER, THEY HAVE NOT BEEN INVOLVED IN SIGNIFICANT TERRORIST ACTIVITIES FOR OVER 1 1/2 YEARS.

2. THE MONTONEROS REPRESENT THE MAJOR TERRORIST THREAT. THEY ARE OPERATING PRINCIPALLY IN THE SOUTHERN AREA OF GREATER BUENOS AIRES WHICH INCLUDES THE MAJOR INDUSTRIAL AREA. THEY HAVE BEEN TRYING TO FORGE AN IDENTIFICATION WITH DISSATISFIED WORKERS AND TO CAPITALIZE ON THE HARSH ECONOMIC SITUATION. THEY HAVE THREATENED BUSINESS EXECUTIVES WHOSE COMPANIES HAVE BECOME INVOLVED IN LABOR DISPUTES OR WHO HAVE LAID OFF WORKERS. THIS ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY STRONGLY WITH WORKERS' ASPIRATIONS THROUGH ATTACKS AGAINST MANAGEMENT IS AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE THEIR MAIN GOAL DURING THIS COMING YEAR.

3. THE MAJOR LIMITATION ON MONTONERO TERRORIST ACTIVITIES RESULTS FROM THEIR DEPLETED RESOURCES. THEY HAVE SUFFERED MAJOR DEFECTIONS, IN SOME CASES OF HIGH RANKING PERSONNEL. MANY OF THESE DEFACTORS ARE COLLABORATING WITH ARGENTINE SECURITY OFFICIALS, MAKING IT VERY DIFFICULT FOR THE MONTONEROS TO SUCCESSFULLY CONDUCT OPERATIONS. THE STRONGEST AND LARGEST MONTONERO COLUMN IS COLUMN 25 WHICH IS OPERATING IN THE SOUTHERN AREA OF GREATER BUENOS AIRES. IT HAS 60 TO 80 MEMBERS. THIS COLUMN RECEIVED A SERIOUS SETBACK ON DEC. 14, 1977 WHEN ITS LEADER (RAUL MORTOLA) WAS KILLED IN A CONFRONTATION WITH SECURITY FORCES. HE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ASSASSINATION OF GENERAL OMAR ACTIS IN 1976, COL. ANGEL SURADA IN MAY 1977, OR RODOLFO IARCIE, MANAGER OF ALGODONERA LAVALLOL, AND, ON OCT. 13, 1977, HE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR PLANTING A BOMB IN FRONT OF THE HOUSE OF MR. BEECH, MANAGER OF CHRYSLER. THIS SETBACK HAS TEMPORARILY REDUCED THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SOUTHERN COLUMN WHICH HAD BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR NUMEROUS ATTACKS AGAINST BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL.

4. THE EMBASSY'S OVERALL ASSESSMENT IS THAT ARGENTINA IS SAFE FOR U.S. TOURIST TRAVEL AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS COMING ON PRIVATE VISITS. THE SECURITY SITUATION HAS IMPROVED FOR AMERICAN BUSINESS PERSONNEL AND THEY SHOULD FEEL FREE TO TRAVEL TO ARGENTINA WITH THE CAVEAT

THAT THEY FOLLOW GOOD SECURITY PRACTICES, AVOID PUBLICITY AND THAT THEIR COMPANIES ARE NOT INVOLVED IN ANY SERIOUS LABOR DISPUTES. ALL U.S. BUSINESS EXECUTIVES VISITING ARGENTINA SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO MEET WITH THE EMBASSY SECURITY OFFICER TO DISCUSS SPECIFIC SECURITY SAFEGUARDS TO BE FOLLOWED WHILE IN ARGENTINA.

5. THE NUMBER OF AMERICAN EXECUTIVES OF U.S. FIRMS PRESENTLY BASED IN ARGENTINA IS APPROXIMATELY 55. CASTRO

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PAGE 01 STATE 097542
ORIGIN ARA-14

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PH-05
H-01 IHR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, AR

SUBJECT: REPRESENTATIONS TO ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR ON DEATHS
AND DISAPPEARANCES

REF: BUENOS AIRES-2663

1. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY MCNEIL CALLED IN ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR AJA ESPIL ON APRIL 11 TO BACK UP AMBASSADOR CASTRO'S REPRESENTATIONS TO PRESIDENT VIDELA ABOUT THE REPORT OF THE MURDER OF THE TWO FRENCH NUNS AND FIVE QUOTE MOTHERS OF THE PLAZA UNQUOTE.

2. MCNEIL NOTED WE HAD GREAT RESPECT FOR PRESIDENT VIDELA, RECOGNIZED THE ARGENTINE SITUATION WAS DIFFICULT, AND ACKNOWLEDGED POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION BY MOVING FROM A NEGATIVE POSITION TO A POSITION OF ABSTENTION IN THE IFIS. NOW HOWEVER WE WERE FACED WITH CREDIBLE REPORTS THAT TWO NUNS AND FIVE OTHER WOMEN HAD BEEN MURDERED WITH THE PRESUMPTION THAT THE OTHER WOMEN HAD BEEN MURDERED. WE COULD ONLY BE PROFOUNDLY CONCERNED BY THIS OUTRAGE, WHICH SEEMED TRACEABLE TO OUT OF CONTROL SECURITY ELEMENTS.

3. AJA ESPIL PUT UP MINIMAL RESISTANCE TO REPORTS OF THE DEATH OF THE NUNS AND THE MOTHERS, STATING THAT IT WOULD BE A "MIRACLE" IF THEY SHOULD APPEAR. AJA ADMITTED THAT THERE WERE EXCESSES IN ARGENTINA, BUT ASKED FOR UNDERSTANDING AND PATIENCE. HE EMPHASIZED THAT ALTHOUGH KIDNAPPINGS AND DISAPPEARANCES CONTINUED, THEY WERE FAR LESS FREQUENT THAN IN THE PAST.

4. MCNEIL RAISED THE PETROUCH AND DEGHI DISAPPEARANCES, WHICH AJA HAD NOT HEARD ABOUT, AS WELL AS THE REPORTED DEATHS OF THE FOUR PRISONERS RELEASED FROM LA PLATA PRISON. FOLLOWING THE INSTRUCTIONS IN STATE 089468, HE POINTED OUT THAT THE MURDERS OF THE NUNS AND THE CONTINUING CREDIBLE REPORTS OF DISAPPEARANCES HAD CAST A PALL OVER OUR EARLIER OPTIMISM THAT THINGS WERE GETTING BETTER IN ARGENTINA. HE PARTICULARLY STRESSED THE NEED FOR FURTHER POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS TO OFFSET THESE TRAGIC EVENTS. HE POINTED OUT THAT THESE EVENTS MADE IT QUITE DIFFICULT FOR THE U.S. TO GO AHEAD WITH THINGS LIKE SPARES AND TRAINING FOR THE ARGENTINES. IN PARTICULAR, SOMETHING MUST BE DONE TO END THE DISAPPEARANCES IF RELATIONS ARE TO IMPROVE.

5. AJA ESPIL, ATTEMPTING TO MITIGATE SOMEWHAT THE NEGATIVE INFORMATION BEING PRESENTED, SHOWED MCNEIL A CABLE FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WHICH SAID THAT JACOBO TIMERMAN WOULD SOON BE RELEASED. (AJA, HIMSELF, BASED ON THE DEGHI CASE, EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT TIMERMAN'S SAFETY IF HE WERE RELEASED BUT REQUIRED TO STAY FOR AWHILE IN ARGENTINA AS

NOW PLANNED.) HE INSISTED THE RECORD OF RECENT MONTHS, DESPITE SETBACKS, HAD IMPROVED SIGNIFICANTLY. AJA REMARKED HE HAD A REAL PROBLEM IN PRESENTING THE ISSUE TO HIS GOVERNMENT. THE REACTION COULD BE STRONG, HE IMPLIED, IF U.S. POSITION HARDENED BECAUSE OF DISAPPEARANCES, SOME OF WHICH WERE SEVERAL MONTHS OLD, JUST AT TIME TIMERMAN WAS FINALLY RELEASED. ZIMMERMANN POINTED OUT WE HAD SIMILAR PROBLEMS IN THAT WHILE WE WILL APPLAUD THE RELEASE OF TIMERMAN, OTHERS CONTINUE TO DISAPPEAR. MCNEIL SAID HE OF COURSE WAS ENCOURAGED ABOUT THIS OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION OF THE GOA'S INTENT TO FREE TIMERMAN, BUT STRESSED HOW TRULY HARMFUL ANY PHYSICAL ATTACKS ON HIM WOULD BE FOR OUR RELATIONS, AND URGED THAT HE BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY UNDER THESE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

6. THE CONVERSATION CLOSED ON A REQUEST BY AJA FOR U.S. GOVERNMENT INFORMATION ON CURRENT DISAPPEARANCES. HE PROMISED TO RELAY THIS NEWS BACK TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND EXPLAINED THAT THIS WOULD HELP TO MAKE THE ARGENTINE BUREAUCRATS UNDERSTAND THE SERIOUSNESS WHICH WE ATTACH TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTION. WE PROMISED TO DO SO.

7. IN YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH VIDELA AND OTHER SENIOR ARGENTINE LEADERS, PARTICULAR STRESS SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE NEED FOR FURTHER POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS AND THE NEED TO END DISAPPEARANCES CAUSED BY OUT OF CONTROL SECURITY ELEMENTS. THE EMBASSY SHOULD ALSO STRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF ASSURING THE SAFETY OF TIMERMAN, ONCE RELEASED.

CHRISTOPHER

BACKGROUND ARTICLEHow The Montoneros Struck It Rich

One of the most lucrative kidnappings of all times was staged by the Montoneros in Buenos Aires on 19 September 1974. While their abduction of the two Born brothers was, strictly speaking, an internal Argentine matter, the ransom which was exacted has since then allowed the Montoneros to engage in numerous terrorist incidents which have been truly international in character.

According to information provided by leaders of the Montoneros, the planning of the operation against the Born brothers began during late 1973 or early 1974. The Montoneros decided that the firm of Bunge and Born, a multinational conglomerate, was guilty of exploiting its workers, was the "enemy" of small and medium size rural producers who were "bankrupted" by the company's monopolistic policies, and was "acting for its own benefit and profit and not in accord with the national interests of the countries where its businesses were established."

The Montoneros concluded that a kidnaping operation should be conducted against the Bunge and Born company and it should be developed as follows: (1) collection of information on the company itself and on its principal leaders; (2) surveillance of target individuals to establish weaknesses in their defenses; (3) selection of the ambush site; (4) selection of Montonero members to participate in the operation; (5) execution of the ambush itself with subsequent escape of the kidnapers; and finally, (6) announcement of a "trial" of those abducted and imposition of a "sentence" which would include a ransom payment.

The information section of the Montoneros provided the preliminary targeting information. After this initial survey and target analysis, which took several months, it was decided that Jorge Born, Jr., should be the major target of the abduction, since he was the third most important man in the firm and would be the one to direct it in the future. The two senior members of the company, Jorge Born, Sr., and Mario Hirsh, were not chosen because both were considered

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too elderly. When it was observed that Jorge Born, Jr., was normally accompanied by his brother Juan, the Montoneros decided to kidnap both brothers.

The terrorists learned that the Born family lived in the Beccar section of the city, and traveled to their offices in the Federal District every day, Monday through Friday, with great regularity. Each morning a three-car caravan would leave the home, and after leaving children in one of the area's private schools, two of the cars would follow a fixed route to the Born offices. It was determined that the family had at its disposal a total of seven vehicles.

The route used by the Born family was over main streets which were normally choked with traffic and well-patrolled by police units. The kidnapers decided they would deal with this situation by blocking off a short section of the main avenue a minute before the Born vehicles arrived, detouring the Borns to a side street, and then reopening the route before police units discovered the trick. In searching for an obvious reason for a detour, the kidnapers discovered that workers were pruning trees along a section of the main avenue. The next step in this phase of the operation was the selection of the specific side street where the kidnapers could divert the Born vehicles and capture the two brothers.

Thirty Montoneros were chosen for the operation and they were divided into five teams. One team, consisting of three members, was to block the main avenue and then lift the barricade once the Born cars had turned. A nine-man team was to protect the blockaders and then move quickly to the kidnaping site and help protect that team. Two groups consisting of five men each (one dressed as a uniformed policeman) were to crash pickup trucks into the Born automobiles in a fake accident. A fifth team, with six men (including the overall operation leader), would actually kidnap the brothers. Finally, a two-man subteam would eliminate a gatekeeper on the escape route.

The attack was set for 19 September 1974. On that date, according to plan, the Born caravan was detoured onto the side street and the Montoneros' two pickup trucks collided with the Ford Falcons belonging to the Borns. The Montonero disguised as a uniformed policeman, plus six "plainclothes" Montoneros, succeeded in keeping the Borns' guards occupied,

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ostensibly trying to arrest them in connection with the auto accident, while the six-man team removed the Born brothers from their car and led them to one of the waiting escape vehicles. The two Montoneros who had attacked the gatekeeper calmly walked away, leaving two smashed Ford Falcons, two pickup trucks, and five cars--with honking horns--which had been accidentally detoured onto the side street along with the Born caravan.

The Montoneros held a trial of the Born brothers and followed it with a sentencing. The sentence called for the following: a payment equivalent to \$60 million U.S. in cash to the Montoneros, with another \$1 million U.S. in goods to be distributed to specified sectors of the Argentine public; the personal involvement of the Born brothers in company/union negotiations in factories controlled by the Born family; placement of busts of Juan and Eva Peron in all Born factories; and finally, publication of leaflets throughout Argentina to let the public know that the distribution of the goods was made under pressure from the Montoneros as part of the ransom for the safe release of the Born brothers.

The ransom demands were met to the satisfaction of the Montoneros, and the Born brothers were released unharmed several months after the kidnaping. (UNCLASSIFIED)

UNCLASSIFIED

Department of State

INCOMING TELEGRAM

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ACTION DHA-02

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 ORM-02 IO-14 L-03 SSO-00
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PM-04 H-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01
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FROM USDEL OASGA

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E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PORG, OAS, SHUM
SUBJ: DRAFT RESOLUTION ON TERRORISM AND HUMAN RIGHTS - ARGENTINA

REF: GRENADA 0024

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF ARGENTINA DRAFT RESOLUTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND TERRORISM:

WHEREAS:

EFFECTIVE PROTECTION OF MAN'S ESSENTIAL RIGHTS IS A FUNDAMENTAL AND CONTINUING CONCERN OF THE PEOPLES OF THE AMERICAS;

THOSE RIGHTS CAN BE VIOLATED BY INDIVIDUALS OR TERRORIST GROUPS WHOSE PERSISTENT AND SYSTEMATIC CRIMINAL ACTS DISRUPT THE LIFE OF NATIONS;

THE AMERICAN STATES HAVE THE RIGHT AND THE DUTY TO TAKE EFFECTIVE ACTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL PRINCIPLES, TO CURB TERRORIST ACTIVITIES IN ORDER TO SAFEGUARD THE LIFE OF NATIONS AND TO EFFECTIVELY PROTECT THE ESSENTIAL RIGHTS OF THEIR INHABITANTS;

THE MAJOR RESPONSIBILITY OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS IS TO PROMOTE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS; AND

TO THESE ENDS, THERE SHOULD BE CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE MEMBER STATES OF THE OAS.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLVES:

1. TO INSTRUCT THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO INITIATE A SUBSTANTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE MEMBER STATES ON HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS COMMITTED BY INDIVIDUALS OR TERRORIST GROUPS AND ON THE POSSIBILITIES FOR AND MEANS OF PERFORMING ITS DUTY IN THESE CASES.

2. TO INSTRUCT THE PERMANENT COUNCIL TO DRAW UP SPECIFIC AND UP-TO-DATE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS SO THAT:

A. IT MAY DEAL WITH INSTANCES OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS COMMITTED BY INDIVIDUALS OR TERRORIST GROUPS, AND

B. IT MAY WORK WITH THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE OAS MEMBER STATES AFFECTED BY SUCH ACTS, SO AS TO EFFECTIVELY FULFILL ITS GOAL OF PROMOTING RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.

MC GEE

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Department of State

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ACTION ARA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02 INR-05

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6395

~~SECRET~~ BUENOS AIRES 4716

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC, PFOR, PINT, AR
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON INTERIOR MINISTER

FROM AMBASSADOR HILL (APPROVED BY HIM FOR TRANSMISSION PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR US ON JULY 18)

1. ON JULY 15 ACCOMPANIED BY THE LEGAL ATTACHE I CALLED ON MIN OF INTERIOR HARGUINDEGUY. THE PURPOSE OF MY CALL WAS TO AGAIN IMPRESS UPON THE MINISTER THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS. RATHER THAN RAISE THE QUESTION DIRECTLY, I REFERRED TO POSSIBLE SECURITY RISKS TO A LARGE MEDICAL CONVENTION WHICH IS TO BE HELD HERE IN 1977 AS A MEANS OF LEADING INTO THE SUBJECT OF TERRORISM IN ARGENTINA.

2. IN ANSWER TO MY QUESTION, THE MIN SAID THAT GOA HAS SCORED IMPORTANT SUCCESSES AGAINST TERRORISTS AND THAT BY MARCH OF NEXT YEAR THE TERRORIST PROBLEM WILL BE BEHIND US. HOWEVER, HE SAID, HE EXPECTED SERIOUS TROUBLE BETWEEN NOW AND THE FIRST OF SEPTEMBER. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE MONTONEROS AND THE ERP ARE COMING TOGETHER AS ONE TERRORIST GROUP AND THEY ARE VERY WELL ARMED. HE INDICATED, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT THE ERP REPORTEDLY HAS SOME 5,000 SOPHISTICATED INCENDIARY DEVICES PURCHASED IN GERMANY IN 1973 (WHICH, HOWEVER, MAY NOW BE TOO OLD TO BE EFFECTIVE). THE MINISTER FELT THAT THE WEEKS JUST BEFORE AND AFTER "TRELEW DAY", AUGUST 22, WOULD BE THE MOST

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MOST DANGEROUS PERIOD.

3. THE MINISTER SAID HE WAS IN CONTROL OF THE SECURITY FORCES, AND THE NEW POLICE CHIEF GENERAL OJEDA IS HIS MAN. HE REMARKED, HOWEVER, THAT THE EMBASSY MUST UNDERSTAND THAT IT IS HARD TO CONTROL ALL UNITS OF THE POLICE AND MILITARY, AND THAT ACTIONS SUCH AS THE KILLING OF THE PRIESTS COULD HAPPEN.

4. I POINTED OUT THAT WHILE THIS MIGHT BE SO, THE DEATHS OF THE PRIESTS AND OF ANTHONY PUENTE (SON OF A LONG TIME EMBASSY EMPLOYEE) ARE VERY HARD TO EXPLAIN IN THE US.

5. THE MINISTER DID NOT TAKE ME UP ON THESE INCIDENTS; RATHER, HE CHANGED THE SUBJECT BY REFERRING TO A RECENT BARRONS' ARTICLE COMPARING BEIRUT WITH BUENOS AIRES. HE SAID THIS WAS VERY UNFAIR, AND NOTED THAT AMB MUSICH HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO INVITE TWO OR THREE BARRONS' REPORTERS TO BUENOS AIRES TO TAKE A LOOK FOR THEMSELVES.

6. IN CONCLUDING THE DISCUSSION OF THE SECURITY SITUATION, THE MINISTER ASSURED ME THAT ERP AND MONTONERO LEADERS, SANTUCHO AND FIRMENICH RESPECTIVELY, ARE IN ARGENTINA AND THAT THE GOA IS BENDING ALL EFFORTS TO APPREHEND THEM.

7. COMMENT: IN MY CONTACTS WITH THE MINISTER THERE HAS ALWAYS BEEN A GOOD GIVE AND TAKE. ON THIS OCCASION, I BELIEVE HE APPRECIATED MY EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION TO HIM FOR THE ROLE HE PLAYED IN EXPELLING THE THREE DRUG TRAFFICKERS TO THE US. I AM POSITIVE THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS MADE UP ITS MIND TO USE ALL MEANS AT ITS DISPOSAL TO ELIMINATE THE TERRORISTS ONCE AND FOR ALL, BUT THOSE IN GOVERNMENT ARE LIKELY TO TURN A DEAF EAR TO ADVICE FROM ABROAD ON THE TOPIC, RIGHTLY OR WRONGLY, THE GOVERNMENT IS CONVINCED THAT IT IS THREATENED BY A COMMUNIST TAKEOVER AND THEREFORE MUST DEFEAT THE TERRORISTS AT ALL COSTS.
CHAPLIN

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Declassified Case: NW 52831 Date: 10-24-2013

Department of State

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 SCCT-01

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~~SECRET~~ BUENOS AIRES 4487

F. O. 11652: XGDS-2
TAGS: ASEC, PINT, PINS, AR
SUBJECT: FURTHER ON MURDER OF CATHOLIC PRIESTS

REF: BUENOS AIRES 4443

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED INFORMATION SUBSEQUENT TO REFTEL WHICH CONFIRMS THAT PRIESTS WERE MURDERED BY GOVERNMENT SECURITY FORCES. HOWEVER, IT IS NOW CLEAR THEY WERE KILLED BY MEMBERS OF FEDERAL POLICE, NOT BY ARMY. POLICE BELIEVED THE TWO SEMINARIANS WERE INVOLVED WITH "THIRD WORLD" MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS, WHICH HAS HEADQUARTERS NOT FAR FROM THE CHURCH; HENCE, THEY WERE CONSIDERED FAIR GAME IN WAVE OF VIGILANTE-TYPE EXECUTIONS POLICE HAVE CARRIED OUT IN RETALIATION FOR BOMBING OF POLICE OFFICE ON JULY 2 (SEE SEPTTEL). ACCORDING TO LEGATT SOURCES, POLICE NEVER AT ANY TIME BELIEVED MONTONERO LEADER FIRMINICH HAD BEEN SHELTERED BY PRIESTS. THAT IS SIMPLY A FABRICATED STORY THEY ARE PUTTING OUT IN ATTEMPT TO JUSTIFY A MURDER WHICH EVEN BY ARGENTINE STANDARDS WAS EXCEEDINGLY BRUTAL AND MINDLESS. POLICE SOURCES HAVE EMPHASIZED THAT MURDERS WERE COMMITTED BY NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS WITHOUT ANY HIGHER AUTHORIZATION.

2. AMBASSADOR HILL AND RSO SAW PAPAL NUNCIO JULY 8. LATTER SAYS ALLEGATION THAT PRIESTS HAD SHELTERED FIRMINICH IS AN OUT-AND-OUT LIE. HE ALSO SAID REPORT

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PAGE 02 BUENOS 04487 082139Z

THAT NUNS HAD BEEN KILLED WAS "SOMEONE'S IMAGINATION." NUNCIO INDICATED CHURCH HAD BEEN CONCERNED THAT ONE OF THE SEMINARIANS MIGHT HAVE SOME "THIRD WORLD" CONNECTIONS. NUNCIO EMPHASIZED, HOWEVER, THAT EVEN IF SUCH WERE THE CASE, THAT HARDLY JUSTIFIED MURDER OF SEMINARIANS, LET ALONE OF PRIESTS WHO WERE IN NO WAY INVOLVED.

3. NUNCIO INDICATED CARDINAL ARAMBURU HAD STATED FLATLY TO MINISTER OF INTERIOR THAT CHURCH KNEW BEYOND ANY DOUBT THAT IT WAS GOA SECURITY FORCES WHO HAD MURDERED THE PRIESTS. ARAMBURU SAID FURTHER TO HAVE TOLD MINISTER THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER THAT LATTER MAKE NO COMMENT SINCE A DENIAL WOULD SIMPLY BE A LIE. MINISTER OBLIGED AND REMAINED SILENT.

4. NUNCIO INFORMED AMBASSADOR HILL THAT HE HAD BEEN TOLD BY ONE RANKING OFFICIAL OF GOA THAT GOVT INTENDED TO "CLEAN UP THE CATHOLIC CHURCH". NUNCIO CLAIMED "SOME GENERALS" WANTED A CATHOLIC HIERARCHY "SUCH AS WE HAD IN ARGENTINA TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO." NUNCIO SPECULATED THAT MURDER OF THE PRIESTS MIGHT BE FIRST STEP IN "CLEANING UP" THE CHURCH.

5. COMMENT. NUNCIO SAID HE FEARED MURDER OF PRIESTS MAY PRESAGE A WAVE OF RIGHT-WING TERROR WORSE THAN ANYTHING WE HAVE SEEN BEFORE. GIVEN CORBETTA'S FAILURE TO BRING POLICE TERROR UNDER CONTROL AND INTERIOR MINISTER'S REMARKS LAST NIGHT LAUDING POLICE AND SUGGESTING THEY WILL TAKE ANY MEASURE THEY DEEM NECESSARY IN COMBATING SUBVERSION, EMBASSY IS INCLINED TO AGREE.

HILL

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Department of State TELEGRAM

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PH-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 CIAE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5395

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ BUENOS AIRES 2738

R.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, ASEC, AR
SUBJECT: GENERAL VIDELA BEGINS TO CONTROL RIGHT-WING TERRORISM?

REF: BUENOS AIRES 2628

1. FOLLOWING VIDELA MEETING WITH SENIOR GENERALS IN WHICH HE MADE CLEAR HIS DESIRE THAT RIGHT-WING TERRORISM BE BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL (REF A), LEGATT SOURCES REPORT THAT CORPUS COMMANDERS, TAKING VIDELA'S ADMONITIONS TO HEART, CRACKED DOWN ON POLICE UNITS WHICH HAD BEEN CARRYING OUT EXTRALEGAL REPRISALS AGAINST SUSPECTED TERRORISTS. ARMY OFFICERS WENT SO FAR AS TO REMOVE FROM POLICE CONTROL THOSE ARRESTED TERRORISTS WHO SHOWED SIGNS OF MALTREATMENT, TRANSFERRING THEM TO MILITARY BASES WHERE THEY ARE NOW RECEIVING PROPER MEDICAL ATTENTION. IN ADDITION, MILITARY COMMANDERS ARE NOW ENGAGED IN PRODUCING ON PRIORITY BASIS COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF THOSE PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN DETAINED ON POLITICAL, SUBVERSIVE OR CORRUPTION CHARGES SINCE COUP. WHILE UNDER PRESSURE FROM VIDELA TO PRODUCE LIST BY END OF THIS WEEK, IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT THERE MAY BE SOME SLIPPAGE AS MILITARY COMMANDERS TRY TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO THOSE PERSONS ORIGINALLY LISTED AS ARRESTED BY POLICE BUT NOW UNACCOUNTED FOR.

2. ON APRIL 23 A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED THAT IN THE FUTURE THE PRESS COULD NOT, WITHOUT PRIOR AUTHORIZATION FROM

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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THE GOVERNMENT, PUBLISH ACCOUNTS OF TERRORIST ATTACKS OR PUBLISH REPORTS ABOUT BODIES FOUND AND PRESUMED TO BE THE WORK OF SOME TERRORIST ORGANIZATION. THE SPOKESMAN WHO RELEASED THIS INFORMATION NOTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT FELT ITSELF TO BE "IN A STATE OF WAR" AND WAS TAKING THIS ACTION TO DENY TERRORISTS PUBLICITY THEY NEED TO KEEP THEIR MOVEMENTS GOING. IT WAS NOT, HE EMPHASIZED, RELATED TO ANY BROADER ISSUE OF PRESS CENSORSHIP.

3. COMMENT: FACT THAT ARMY COMMANDERS HAVE MOVED TO CURB RIGHT-WING VIOLENCE AND HAVE GONE SO FAR AS TO ACT AGAINST POLICE SEEN AS VERY ENCOURAGING SIGN BY POLITICAL OBSERVERS. EMBASSY POLITICAL CONTACTS ACROSS BROAD SPECTRUM OF PARTIES CONTINUE TO VOICE THEIR "SURPRISE" THAT MILITARY ACTING IN SUCH MODERATE MANNER. WITH REGARD TO PRESS, REPORTING OF TERRORISM IS CAUSING CONCERN AS OBSERVERS WAIT TO SEE HOW THIS NEW ACTION WILL WORK OUT IN PRACTICE.
HILL

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Declassified Case: NW 52831 Date: 0-24-2013

Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ BUENOS AIRES 1896

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, PINT, ELAB, AR
SUBJECT: TERRORIST TOLL CONTINUES HIGH

REF: BUENOS AIRES 1791

1. SUMMARY: WITH LOCAL PRESS OPENLY REPORTING THAT COUP MAY TAKE PLACE "WITHIN HOURS", DEATH TOLL FROM TERRORIST ACTS NEARING ALL-TIME HIGH. PRIVATELY, POLITICAL CONTACTS VOICING CONCERN THAT MANY OF THE DEAD ARE "PRE-COUP VICTIMS" OF PROVINCIAL MILITARY AND POLICE VENGEANCE. END SUMMARY.

2. LONG-TIME OBSERVERS OF ARGENTINE POLITICAL SCENE STATE THAT PUBLIC REPORTING OF IMMINENT COUP IS WITHOUT PRECEDENT IN MODERN ARGENTINE HISTORY. GIVEN WIDESPREAD PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE OF IDEA THAT COUP IMMINENT, CHIEF CONCERN OF MOST EMBASSY CONTACTS IS THAT THE PROVINCIAL LEVEL POLICE AND MILITARY AUTHORITIES DESPITE REPEAT DESPITE ORDERS FROM HIGHER COMMAND ARE MOVING TO SETTLE SCORES WITH LOCAL LEFTISTS, LABOR STUDENTS AND OTHER ANTAGONISTS. FROM MAR 1 TO 20 OF THIS YEAR FORTY-SIX PERSONS HAVE DIED AS A RESULT OF TERRORIST ACTS OF BOTH RIGHT AND LEFT. ANOTHER TWELVE TO FIFTEEN DIED OVER LAST WEEKEND, FROM BEGINNING OF YEAR TO DATE, OVER 165 PERSONS HAVE BEEN KILLED AS RESULT OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE.

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3. WHILE POLITICAL VIOLENCE PER SE IS NOT NEW FEATURE OF ARGENTINE SCENE, THERE IS INCREASING CONCERN AMONG CIVILIANS, POLITICIANS, AND NEWSMEN, INCLUDING THOSE WHO LOOK ON A COUP FAVORABLY, THAT LATEST ACTS MAY FORESHADOW INABILITY OF ARMY COMMAND AND POLICE AUTHORITY TO CONTROL THEIR SUBORDINATES WHEN THE COUP COMES. ONE LEFTIST POLITICIAN TOLD EMBOFF OVER WEEKEND THAT HE HAS BECOME FERVENT SUPPORTER OF VIDELA-VIOLA COUP SAYING THAT "IF THEY DON'T DO IT SOON SOME HARD-LINE GENERAL IN THE PROVINCES WILL PUSH THEM ASIDE AND PLUNGE THE COUNTRY INTO BLOODBATH IN MISGUIDED EFFORT TO PURIFY THE BODY POLITIC." WHILE SOMEWHAT OVERDRAWN, THE FEAR IS SHARED AMONG RESPONSIBLE CIVILIANS.

4. THE FACT THAT MANY OF LATEST ACTS HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN REMOTE AREAS FAR FROM FEDERAL CAPITAL OR PRINCIPAL CITIES AND THAT VICTIMS IN THESE AREAS ARE MORE OFTEN THAN NOT "LEFTISTS" ADDS CREDENCE TO THESE FEARS. WHILE ALL KILLINGS MAY NOT BE WORK OF MILITARY AND POLICE, IT IS HIGHLY PROBABLE THAT MANY ARE. THE KILLING OF SANTILLAN, LEFTIST SECGEN OF TUCUMAN SUGAR WORKERS FEDERATION (FOTIA), WAS ALMOST CERTAINLY THE WORK OF THE MILITARY OR POLICE. HE WAS ASSASSINATED IN HIS UNION HEADQUARTERS MIDDAY TODAY, MAR 22. SANTILLAN HAD LONG HISTORY OF COLLABORATION WITH TROTSKYITE LEADERS TOSCO AND SALAMANCA, BUT REPORTEDLY HAD REACHED LIVE AND LET LIVE ACCORD WITH NATIONAL PERONIST LABOR LEADERSHIP APPROXIMATELY SIX MONTHS AGO. HE IS MOST PROMINENT LABOR LEADER KILLED WITHIN RECENT MONTHS.

5. COMMENT: LATEST TURN IN TERRORIST ACTS ATTRIBUTED TO MILITARY ADD SUBSTANCE TO COMMENTS EMBOFFS HAVE RECEIVED FROM SOURCES IN RECENT DAYS STATING "NATURE OF COUP PRESENTLY PLANNED TO BE MODERATE AND LEGALISTIC WILL NOT BE DETERMINED UNTIL THERE IS EVIDENCE THAT VIDELA-VIOLA-MASSERA ET AL WILL IN EVENT BE ABLE TO IMPOSE THIS POLICY ON THEIR SUBORDINATES."
WOODWARD

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Department of State TELEGRAM

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02
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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4895

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ BUENOS AIRES 1791

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, AR
SUBJECT: TERRORIST ACTIVITIES CONTINUE AT HIGH LEVEL

1. SUMMARY: AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF INCREASED PUBLIC DISCUSSION RE AN IMMINENT MILITARY GOLPE, TERRORIST DEPREDATIONS IN RECENT DAYS HAVE ADDED TO A MOOD OF HEIGHTENED ANXIETY AMONG THE GENERAL POPULACE. END SUMMARY.

2. THE KIDNAPPINGS IN CORDOBA, WHICH HAVE RUN AT AN EXTRAORDINARY RATE IN PAST MONTH, CONTINUE UNABATED. IN ADDITION TO THE FIFTY PLUS VICTIMS REPORTED IN THE PRESS IN LAST MONTH, THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT MANY MORE CASES HAVE GONE UNREPORTED. THIS, ALONG WITH THE BOMBINGS, SHOOTINGS, AND ECONOMIC UNREST IN THE PROVINCE, HAVE LEFT THE POPULACE BADLY FRIGHTENED AND ANGRY. BOMBINGS, MURDERS AND KIDNAPPINGS HAVE ALSO TAKEN PLACE IN THE LAST FEW DAYS IN SALTA, JUJUY, TUCUMAN, ETC., SPREADING MOOD OF ANXIETY THROUGHOUT COUNTRY.

3. IN THE FEDERAL CAPITAL, IN ADDITION TO THE BOMBING OF ARMY HEADQUARTERS WHICH KILLED ONE PERSON AND WOUNDED TWENTY-EIGHT, TERRORISTS HAVE IN LAST 48 HOURS SET OFF OVER TWENTY BOMBS AND CARRIED OUT SEVERAL ATTACKS AGAINST POLICEMEN AND PROPERTY. A NUMBER OF POLICEMEN IN THE FEDERAL CAPITAL, ONE IN MAR DEL PLATA, AND ONE IN LA PLATA, WERE KILLED IN THESE ACTS. IN THE BARRIO NORTE-PALERMO AREA OF THE FED CAPITAL,

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Department of State

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PAGE 02 BUENOS 01791 181351Z

WELL OVER TWENTY BOMBS EXPLODED ON NIGHT OF MAR 16. SEVERAL AMERICAN COMPANIES HAVE REPORTED RECEIVING THREATENING CALLS AND LETTERS DURING PAST FEW DAYS, MOSTLY FROM MONTONEROS.

4. LEFTIST TERRORISTS HAVE TAKEN RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MAJORITY OF THESE ACTS THOUGH ONE OF POLICEMEN KILLED WAS GUARDING JESUS PORTO, A PERONIST CONGRESSMAN WHOSE NAME IS ON THE AAA'S DEATH LIST. BOTH PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY, ARGENTINES TEND TO SEE THESE ACTIONS AS TERRORIST ATTEMPT TO PUSH MILITARY INTO FINAL DECISION TO CARRY OUT A COUP. AS ONE PAPER, LA-OPINION, PUT IT, ANY ORGANIZED SOCIETY IS VULNERABLE TO TERRORIST ACTS. WHAT IS DISTRESSING ABOUT ARGENTINE CASE IS THAT THE VULNERABILITY EXTENDS FAR BEYOND THE LIVES AND PROPERTY OF THOSE DIRECTLY INVOLVED AND GIVEN FRAGILITY OF PRESENT INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE, THESE OTHERWISE POINTLESS ACTS MAY SUCCEED.

5. WHILE LEFTIST TERRORISTS ARE CARRYING OUT OPERATIONS AT AN ALMOST UNPRECEDENTED LEVEL, ONE SIGN OF INTERNAL STRAIN SURFACED THIS WEEK. APPARENTLY REALIZING THAT SEVERAL RECENT POLICE RAIDS HAD RESULTED FROM INFO RECEIVED FROM JAILED MONTONERO LEADER ROBERTO QUIETO, THE MONTONEROS ISSUED STATEMENT "SENTENCING" QUIETO TO DEATH FOR HAVING SOLD OUT TO POLICE.
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Original to be Filed in _____ Decentralized Files.

7 FILE DESIGNATION

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TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 INFO: DIA/DOD Washington D.C.
 USCINCSO
 AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
 AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
 AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
 AMCONGEN RIO DE JANEIRO

DATE: Dec 2, 1975

Handwritten notes and signatures:
 WE
 US
 [Signature]

FROM: AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

E.O. 11652: N/A
 TAGS: ELAB, PINS, AR
 SUBJECT: INDUSTRIAL TERRORISM: GUERRILLA WARFARE ON THE FACTORY FLOOR

REF: BA-7538

INTRODUCTION Terrorism is a fact and a way of life in Argentina. The guerrilla activities in the rural areas of Tucuman and the urban areas of Córdoba and Buenos Aires have been the subject of world-wide comment and endless analysis. However, another and possibly even more insidious form of guerrilla warfare, to which little attention has heretofore been paid, is in full operation in Argentina. It is the war being carried out by the industrial guerrilla, who operates on the factory floor, in the union hall and, increasingly, in concert with management. His tactics are those used by his rural and urban cousins, but refined to the necessities of his particular environment. He aims to radicalize the workers, alienate them from their legitimate leaders and their government, and win their sympathy so that they become his willing accomplices or docile followers.

The industrial guerrilla's efforts have been met with considerable success, and only now are the dangers and extent of those efforts being fully appreciated by the government and the populace. Consequently, some formal action, probably military, to combat the industrial guerrilla can be expected in the near timeframe (see Reftel). However, repressive actions alone cannot eradicate the underlying problems which nourish the terrorists. Thus, the industrial guerrilla is likely to remain a fact of Argentine life for the foreseeable future.

POST ROUTING

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Action Taken:
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FORM 10-64 DS-323

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An objective analysis of the factory guerrilla is impossible as concrete information on his plans and operations is unobtainable. This report, therefore, attempts only to outline the scope of the problem, to chronicle the public's increasing awareness and concern, and to cite examples of industrial guerrilla tactics as described by a wide range of political, management and labor sources.

* * * * *

Embassy reporting has consistently pointed out the increasing alienation of the Argentine organized labor leadership from its rank-and-file. With the exception of only a handful of unions, the current national labor leaders are now virtually divorced from the workers they represent. Their authority has eroded to the point that rank-and-file parallel unions, usually called plant "Struggle Committees" or "Coordinating Committees", have virtually replaced elected union delegates in negotiations at the plant level. Invariably, those grass-roots committees are far more militant than their legitimate leaders. As a result, "illegal" strikes and gangster-style tactics are becoming increasingly common.

In the viewpoint of many Argentine military, political and labor leaders, that increased militancy is caused by leftist subversives who are attempting to gain control of the working class. While that viewpoint is not wholly based on objective analysis, as many believe that all worker militancy is indistinguishable from subversion, there is little doubt that it has some basis in fact. Although the extent to which terrorist organizations are responsible for the new militancy is not statistically demonstrable, they are extremely active and there is ample evidence that they have encountered considerable success on the factory floor.

The newsmedia and Argentines in general are becoming increasingly preoccupied with this aspect of subversive activity. Few days pass without some reference to it in the newsmedia. Publicly and privately, politicians, businessmen, military and labor leaders stress the seriousness of the problem. Following are some representative observations.

Radical Party (UCR) President Balbin commented at a press interview that he was deeply concerned as it was obvious that the "factory guerrilla is serving foreign interests". National Deputy Antonio Troccoli, who represents Buenos Aires Province, told Emboff Nov 24 that the factory terrorists were a "disastrous influence" and that

