



Declassified Case: NW 52966 Date: 11-01-2013

Department of State

Human Rights TELEGRAM

File

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SY-05  
MCT-01 DHA-02 ORM-02 /067 W  
----- 036313

R 121735Z OCT 76  
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7504

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ASEC, PINS, AR  
SUBJECT: ATTACK ON SWEDISH DIPLOMAT'S WIFE

1. SUMMARY: SWEDISH DIPLOMAT'S WIFE, ARGENTINE NATIONAL, IS VICTIM OF SURVEILLANCE, OF BEING SHOT AT AND ATTEMPTED HIT AND RUN. DIPLOMAT AND VICTIMIZED WIFE RETURNED TO SWEDEN FOLLOWING INCIDENTS.

2. CHARGE D'AFFAIRE SWEDISH EMBASSY FURNISHED THE RSO THE FOLLOWING. ON 10 SEPT. THE WIFE, ARGENTINE NATIONAL, OF ONE OF THEIR OFFICERS, WAS FIRED ON WHILE TRAVELING SOUTH ON INTENDENTS CANTILO. THREE INDIVIDUALS IN A FORD FALCON HAD BEEN FOLLOWING HER. THEY PULLED ADJACENT TO HER CAR (CITROEN 3CV) AND FIRED TWO SHOTS INTO HER AUTOMOBILE. SHE WAS NOT HIT BUT STATED THAT THE WAVES CREATED BY THE PROJECTILES COULD BE FELT BY HER. AFTER THE SHOOTING THE CAR DEPARTED AT A HIGH RATE OF SPEED. SHE DESCRIBED THE FALCON AS HAVING NO LICENSE PLATE. THE VICTIM'S HUSBAND HAS BEEN IN CHARGE OF REFUGEES BEING SENT TO SWEDEN AND HAS PROCESSED APPROXIMATELY 150 PEOPLE.

3. ACCORDING TO THE SOURCE, OTHER INCIDENTS HAVE OCCURRED WITH RESPECT TO THE VICTIM SUBSEQUENT TO THE SHOOTING. ON 12 SEPT. AT APPROXIMATELY 1400 HOURS THE VICTIM WAS INSIDE HER HOME AT SAN ISIDRO. SHE LOOKED OUT

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HER WINDOW AND SAW A WHITE PEUGEOT WITH NO LICENSE PLATE SLOWLY DRIVE PAST. SHE RECOGNIZED THE CHAUFFEUR AS BEING ONE OF THE INDIVIDUALS WHO FIRED AT HER ON 10 SEPT. ON 14 SEPT. SHE WAS TRAVELING FROM HER HOME IN SAN ISIDRO TO HER MOTHER'S HOME IN OLIVOS. SHORTLY AFTER LEAVING HER HOME, A CHEVROLET WITH NO LICENSE PLATE STARTED FOLLOWING HER AND FOLLOWED HER ALL THE WAY TO HER MOTHER'S RESIDENCE.

4. THE SWEDISH CHARGE STATED THAT A FORMAL COMPLAINT HAS BEEN MADE TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. HE FURTHER REVEALED THAT WHEN HE INITIATED THIS COMPLAINT HE INFORMED THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT THE VICTIM COULD IDENTIFY ONE OF THE INDIVIDUALS.

5. ON 4 OCT THE SWEDISH CHARGE ADVISED THIS SECURITY OFFICE THAT THE COUPLE IN QUESTION HAD RETURNED TO SWEDEN FOR AN INDEFINITE PERIOD OF TIME AND HE DID NOT KNOW WHEN, IF EVER, THEY WOULD RETURN TO ARGENTINA. IT WAS ALSO LEARNED FROM ANOTHER SOURCE THAT THE REASON THE COUPLE RETURNED TO SWEDEN EXPEDITIOUSLY WAS THAT FOLLOWING THE INCIDENT ON 14 SEPT, THE COUPLE RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL ADVISING THEM TO LEAVE ARGENTINA IMMEDIATE OR SOME TRAGEDY WOULD BEFALL THE FAMILY. THE FOLLOWING DAY THE WIFE WAS ATTEMPTING TO CROSS A STREET NEAR HER RESIDENCE WHEN AN AUTOMOBILE MADE A DELIBERATE ATTEMPT TO RUN HER DOWN. SHE ESCAPED BUT IN DOING SO FELL, RECEIVING MINOR CUTS AND BRUISES.

6. RSO COMMENT: IT IS THE OPINION OF THIS OFFICE THAT THE ATTACKS AGAINST THE SWEDISH DIPLOMAT'S WIFE MAY WELL HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT BY REPS OF ONE OF THE SECURITY FORCES, ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO SPECIFIC INFORMATION TO CORROBORATE THIS THEORY. THE BASIS FOR THE ACTION COULD STEM FROM EITHER OR BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING: DURING THE COURSE OF SECURITY FORCES NEUTRALIZING TERRORIST ELEMENTS IN THE PROVINCE OF TUCUMAN, A SWEDISH CITIZEN, IDENTIFIED THRU PASSPORT AND OTHER PAPERS, WAS KILLED WHILE LEADING A TERRORIST GROUP. HE SUBSEQUENTLY BECAME A QUASI-HERO AMONG CERTAIN ELEMENTS IN SWEDEN. SECONDLY, FOLLOWING THE CHANGE IN GOA, MAR 24, 1976, ARGENTINE, CHILEAN,

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URUGUAYAN, ETC. REFUGEES REQUESTED ASYLUM IN SWEDISH  
EMBASSY AND WERE ACCEPTED.  
HILL

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ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 FBIE-00 AID-05 USSS-00 MCT-01 /064 W  
----- 105080

R 071435Z OCT 76  
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7460

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ASEC, PINS, AR  
SUBJECT: ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION PRESIDENT OF ARGENTINA

REF: BUENOS AIRES 6504

1. ON 5 OCT., COMMISSIONED OFFICER OF THE PROTECTIVE DETAIL OF THE PRESIDENT OF ARGENTINA FURNISH THE RSO THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION. THE BOMBING WHICH TOOK PLACE ON 2 OCT. AT CAMPO DE MAYO WAS AN EXTREMELY SERIOUS INCIDENT. THE MILITARY IS ATTEMPTING TO PLAY DOWN THE ACT AND AS A RESULT OF EMBARRASSMENT TRYING TO DIRECT THE RESPONSIBILITY TO THE CIVILIAN ARM OF THE GOVT, I.E. MUNICIPAL WORKER. THE REVIEWING STAND UNDER WHICH THE BOMB WAS PLACED WAS ERECTED MORE THAN 24 HOURS BEFORE THE EXPLOSION. SINCE THE BOMB WAS DETONATED BY A MECHANICAL TIMER, IT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN PUT IN PLACE IN EXCESS OF 12 HOURS BEFORE THE EXPLOSION. FIFTEEN MINUTES BEFORE VIDELA OCCUPIED THE STAND, EOD PERSONNEL HAD CONDUCTED A THROUGH EXAM OF THE STAND TO INCLUDE BOTH THE TOP AND UNDERSIDE. NO EVIDENCE OF ANY EXPLOSIVE DEVICE WAS DETECTED. THE BOMB, AS OPPOSED TO BEING 4 OZ. OF TNT, WAS A FULL ONE POUND BLOCK. SHOULD THE BOMB HAVE GONE OFF WHILE VIDELA WAS ON THE STAND, HE WOULD HAVE BEEN SERIOUSLY INJURED AND COULD HAVE BEEN KILLED BY FRAGMENTS. THE BOMB ITSELF WAS NOT A SHAPED CHARGE. IT IS THE OPINION OF THE PROTECTIVE DETAIL THAT THE BOMB WAS

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PLANTED BY A MEMBER OF THE MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT WHO WALKED IN BACK OF THE STAND AND THREW THE BOMB UNDER THE STAND WHILE THE CEREMONY WAS IN PROGRESS. HE STATED THAT THIS OPINION WAS BASED ON THE FACT THAT NO MUNICIPAL OR CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE WOULD HAVE BEEN PERMITTED NEAR THE STAND DURING THE TIME VIDELA WAS PRESENT. HE STATED THAT HE BELIEVES THE PURPOSE OF THE ATTACK WAS TO INFORM THE PRESIDENT, AS WELL AS OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GOVT., THAT THE TERRORISTS WERE STILL EXTENSIVELY ACTIVE AND COULD AT THEIR DISCRETION CLAIM THE LIFE OF ANY MEMBER OF THE GOVT.

2. ACCORDING TO THE SOURCE, AT THE TIME OF THE EXPLOSION, THE CHIEF OF THE PROTECTIVE DETAIL TO THE PRESIDENT REQUESTED THE PRESIDENT TO LEAVE CAMPO SINCE HIS SECURITY COULD NOT BE ENSURED. AT THIS TIME VIDELA ADVISED HIS CHIEF OF SECURITY THAT HE COULD NOT LEAVE THE MILITARY STATION REGARDLESS OF THE RISK SINCE IT WOULD EMBARRASS THE MILITARY EXTENSIVELY. SOURCE STATED THAT UP UNTIL 2 OCT., THE DATE OF THE BOMBING, THE FEDERAL POLICE PROTECTIVE DETAIL WAS NOT PERMITTED TO CARRY OUT ITS FUNCTION ON A MILITARY BASE BUT THAT FOLLOWING THE BOMBING THE PRESIDENT HAD ORDERED THAT THE PROTECTIVE DETAIL WOULD BE WITH HIM AT ALL TIMES. SOURCE STATED THAT THIS DECISION HAD BEEN REACHED SINCE IT WAS OBVIOUS THE MILITARY COULD NOT ENSURE THE PRESIDENT'S SECURITY.

3. SOURCE STATED THAT IN HIS OPINION THE ARGENTINE PEOPLE AND THE GOVT. WERE FORTUNATE THAT VIDELA WAS NOT SERIOUSLY INJURED OR KILLED AS A RESULT OF THE BOMBING. SHOULD SUCH HAVE OCCURRED, THE GOVT. WOULD IMMEDIATELY HAVE BEEN TAKEN OVER "BY THE HARDLINERS" WHICH WOULD HAVE PRODUCED A MUCH GREATER DEGREE OF STRENGTH BEING APPLIED AGAINST THE TERRORIST MOVEMENT. SOURCE DECLINED TO ELABORATE ON THIS STATEMENT OR TO NAME INDIVIDUALS IDENTIFIED AS HARDLINERS.

4. FOREGOING PROVIDED FOR DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION. EMBASSY UNABLE TO EVALUATE RELIABILITY OF INFORMATION. WILL

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ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 MCT-01 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15  
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 A-01 USSS-00 DODE-00 H-02 L-03  
PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 AID-05 OPR-02 SCS-03 SCA-01  
DHA-02 /073 W

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R 061828Z OCT 76  
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7446

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ BUENOS AIRES 6592

FROM RSO FOR A/SY/FO, A/SY/T, ARA/EX

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: ASEC, PINS, AR  
SUBJECT: GRENADE LAUNCHERS FOUND IN FRONT OF SHERATON HOTEL

1. THIS DATE, 5 OCT, RSO'S WERE PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFOR-  
MATION FROM A MEMBER OF THE GOA FEDERAL POLICE PRESIDENTIAL  
PROTECTIVE DIVISION AND THE CHIEF OF THE 46TH PRECINCT OF  
FEDERAL POLICE. ON MONDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 4, SIX GRENADES  
IN LAUNCHERS WERE FOUND AT 1010 HOURS BY A 46TH PRECINCT PATROL  
CAR IN A PARK ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE SHERATON HOTEL. THEY  
WERE SITTING ATOP A UTILITY COMPANY TOOL BOX AND WERE COVERED  
WITH BURLAP. THE PATROL IMMEDIATELY CALLED THE BOMB SQUAD  
WHICH DEACTIVATED THE GRENADES AT 1017 HOURS, 3 MINUTES BEFORE  
THEY WERE DESTINED TO BE LAUNCHED AT THE HOTEL. PRECINCT CHIEF  
THOUGHT THAT THEY WERE SET TO BE LAUNCHED AROUND THE TIME  
AMERICAN ACTRESS RITA HAYWORTH, WHO IS STAYING AT THE SHERATON,  
WAS TO LEAVE. WITH PRESS COVERAGE OF MISS HAYWORTH, THE GRENADE  
ATTACK COULD HAVE BEEN TURNED INTO PUBLICITY COUP FOR  
THE TERRORISTS.

2. THE PRESIDENTIAL PROTECTIVE DIVISION MEMBER PROVIDED  
THE FOLLOWING TECHNICAL INFORMATION: THE GRENADES WERE

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LOCATED SIDE BY SIDE IN CARDBOARD LAUNCHERS (50 CM. X 7 CM) ARRANGED AT AN ANGLE TO TRAVEL APPROXIMATELY 70 METERS. SIMULTANEOUS LAUNCHING OF THE GRENADES WAS TO BE ACCOMPLISHED BY A CLOCK AND BATTERY DEVICE WHICH WOULD IGNITE A POTASSIUM CHLORATE FUSE. THE FUSE WOULD IN TURN IGNITE A BLACK POWDER CHARGE BENEATH EACH GRENADE. IGNITION OF THIS CHARGE WOULD LAUNCH THE GRENADES AND SIMULTANEOUSLY IGNITE A SLOWER-BURNING FUSE CONNECTED TO EACH GRENADE. AFTER A SPECIFIC TIME OF FLIGHT, THE FUSE WOULD DETONATE THE FIVE GRAMS OF BLACK POWDER AND ALUMINUM CONTAINED IN EACH GRENADE.

3. PRESIDENTIAL PROTECTIVE SOURCE STATED THAT HAD ONE OF THE GRENADES HIT A WINDOW AT THE TIME OF DETONATION, IT WOULD HAVE GONE THRU THE WINDOW. HOWEVER, THE CHARGE WAS NOT SUFFICIENT TO PENETRATE CONCRETE WALLS. SOURCE SAID THESE GRENADES WERE DESIGNED TO CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE OF TERROR. HE FURTHER STATED THAT THESE GRENADES MAY HAVE BEEN PLACED AS AN EXPERIMENTAL DEVICE TO DETERMINE RANGE, ELEVATION AND WINDAGE FOR USE OF THE 70 MM. GRENADE WHICH HAS THE CAPABILITY OF PENETRATING 7MM OF STEEL.

4. IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE, HE STATED THAT IT WAS TRUE THE SECURITY FORCES WERE HAVING SUCCESS AGAINST THE MONTONEROS AND ERP, BUT THAT THE MONTONEROS WERE STILL ABLE TO RECRUIT REPLACEMENTS. THEIR BASIC RECRUITING DRIVE NOW IS IN THE HIGH SCHOOLS, AS OPPOSED TO THE UNIVERSITIES. HE STATED THAT INCIDENTS SUCH AS THE ATTEMPT TO GRENADE THE SHERATON WERE USED FOR THE PURPOSE OF TRAINING THESE RECRUITS, I.E. THAT THEY WOULD START WITH DISTRIBUTING PROPAGANDA OR THE PAINTING OF SLOGANS, PROGRESS TO PROPAGANDA BOMBING, AND GO FROM THERE INTO ATTACKS ON POLICE STATIONS, ASSASSINATIONS AND DEMILITATION BOMBING.

5. RSO COMMENT: SUCCESS OF THIS ATTEMPT AT GRENADE THE SHERATON AND THE ATTEMPT ON PRESIDENT VIDELA'S LIFE WOULD HAVE BEEN WIDELY-PUBLICIZED VICTORIES FOR THE TERRORISTS, HELPING BOTH THEIR MORALE AND THEIR RECRUITING. THUS, THE ABILITY OF THE TERRORISTS TO STRIKE, DESPITE ANY GOVT. SUCCESSES AGAINST THEM, CANNOT BE DOWNPLAYED AT THIS TIME. HILL

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