

DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM

INDICATE
 COLLECT
 CHARGE TO

FROM
Amembassy BUENOS AIRES

CLASSIFICATION
~~SECRET~~

E.O. 11652:
TAGS:
SUBJECT:

GDS
PFOR, SHUM, AR
Request for Instructions

ACTION:

Secstate WASHDC IMMEDIATE
~~SECRET~~ BUENOS AIRES 3462

LIMDIS

AMB
DCM
GERON

1. In view of the generally worsening human rights situation here, I believe the time has come for a demarche at the highest level. Hence, I request instructions to ask for an urgent appointment with the Foreign Minister.

2. I wish authorization to say to him the following:
QUOTE The US very much sympathizes with the moderate policies announced by President Videla and had hoped to be helpful to Argentina in her process of national reconstruction and reconciliation. We fully understand that Argentina is involved in an all-out struggle against subversion. There are, however, some norms which can never be put aside by governments dedicated to a rule of law. Respect for human rights is one of them. The continued activities of Triple A-type death squads which have recently murdered

DRAFTED BY:
POL:WSSmith:cc

DRAFTING DATE
5/25/76

TEL. EXT.
128

CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY:
AMB ROBERT C. HILL

CLEARANCES:

DCM:MChaplin

Michelini, Gutierrez Ruiz and dozens of others and have just kidnapped a member of the Fulbright Commission, Miss Elida Messina, are damaging the GOA's generally good image abroad. These groups seem to operate with impunity and are generally believed to be connected with the Argentine security forces. Whether they are or not, their continued operation can only be harmful to the GOA itself and cause consternation among Argentina's friends abroad.

END QUOTE

3. In view of the pace of developments, I would appreciate reply by immediate cable.

~~SECRET~~