

UNCLASSIFIED

Amembassy BUENOS AIRES  
March 4, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE MINISTER

SUBJECT : Letter from Amconsul Cordoba  
FROM : Wilbur W. Hitchcock, CONS

1. At your request, the following confirmation.
2. Mrs. Mabel Comparach is the sister of the wife of the late U.S. Consular Agent John Egan, at Cordoba. On Wednesday, February 26, 1975, she was visiting Buenos Aires from Cordoba (where she was visiting from Peru). Mr. Egan was kidnapped that evening. When she learned of the kidnapping and the Embassy learned of her whereabouts, it was arranged that she would fly back to Cordoba aboard the Air Attache's plane that night, accompanying the Embassy team that was going there.
3. I rode with Mrs. Comparach in the Embassy car that took her to the home of Consul General Huey so that he could take her to the airport. She was naturally upset and our conversation enroute to Mr. Huey's from the Embassy consisted in good part of Mrs. Comparach's lamentations over Mr. Egan's having accepted the consular agent position and my making the appropriate comforting but noncommittal remarks. We spoke in English, in which she is fluent.
4. One of her sentences I remember almost verbatim as follows: "And I just brought a letter to the Embassy from the Egans yesterday to report that they had no police guard!" She said this without malice, and only in sorrow. This was about 11:30 p.m. as we neared Mr. Huey's apartment.
5. I took her remark to mean that she had brought the letter to the Embassy the previous day, Tuesday, February 25. She was not critical of the Embassy and it therefore seemed best to me to leave it that way. Accordingly, I did not pursue the matter with her, lest it give her the impression that the letter had gone astray somewhere within the Embassy.
6. The next day, Thursday, February 27, I came to your office in the afternoon and told you of the remark she had made about the letter. We both then went to Special Assistant Rosenthal's office to tell him.
7. I was glad to learn two days later that Mrs. Comparach had not even arrived in Buenos Aires until Wednesday and that she therefore could not have brought the letter to the Embassy until that day. I am sure that her use of the word "yesterday" was from confusion and not because she was trying to mislead me.

UNCLASSIFIED

60A 41.  
Log

19:15 - Call from Mrs. Cgan

20:30 - Flash message to Dept. 1316  
Repeated to CINCSO at 20:45

20:40 - Telecon  
Huey / Stafford and Dep. Dir. of  
Ops Center, Wash.

20:55 - Mr. Huey / Mrs. Cgan

21:00 - Personnel who convened at Cmb.  
as part of Task Force.

DCM

Mr. Brown

Mr. Huey

Mr. Boyle

Mr. Beckett

Mr. Jones

Mr. O'Brien

Mr. Hitchcock

Duty Sec.

2245- Greg Phillips contacted

2300- Mr. Hedberg arrived

\* Ambassador spoke to the SS Center - Amb  
Luis Hoffacker (No. 202-6329172)  
and read both the press statement  
and the 3rd SITREP over the telephone.  
Hoffacker indicated they would have a  
24-hour watch and the Embassy  
~~would~~ should contact them if they need  
any support or had any questions.  
Hoffacker was given 2 numbers  
which to contact the Embassy.  
46-3211 & 46-9929.

\* Telecom at ~~2100~~<sup>2315</sup> (?) - from Washington  
op Center: Louis Hoffacker  
Frank Artig  
Bob Felder

The Ambassador  
Peter Jones  
The Minister

347 - Control  
380 - Storage

Following personnel notified:

The Ambassador  
Gen. Salisbury  
Col. Stapleton  
Mr. Stener  
Barbara Carr  
Mr. Smith

Following called but could not be reached:

Mr. Hedberg  
Mr. Rosenthal - (reached - is coming in)

of 21:30 - Watch Committee Meeting  
~~convened~~ convened by DCM, USIB  
instructed to put out press release  
+ drafting of 2nd SITREP.

~~22:30~~ 22:30 Ambassador arrived  
Discussion ensued on groups to send  
to Cordoba

Cgan personnel file was searched for indications of next-of-kin with negative results. Consul General will attempt to determine Cgan blood type on arrival Cordoba and advise Embassy.

at 10 pm. Mr. Smith again spoke to Amb. Guirallez and gave him additional details of the kidnaping which were available to Embassy. Smith requested that Amb. Guirallez advise COA officials in Cordoba of planned trip by Emb. officers using DAO aircraft to Cordoba. Guirallez to do so.

Foreign Ministry has setup "Watch" office - Senior Agencias at 32-0480.

12:14 - Minister Monttlan - Called home of Mrs. Cgan advising her that the plane is on its way with (3) from the Embassy

This information was given to us by Mrs.  
Comparach - Was passed to Wash. by telephone.

Egan's brother:

James Egan  
1133 "S" Street  
Fresno, California

Phone: (209)-233-7075  
(Not certain of Area Code)

This info comes from Mrs. Egan's  
sister, Mrs. Comparach, who will  
(if I can arrange it) fly to Cordoba  
from Buenos Aires on the attache plane.

--WHitchcock

2447472

Eduardo Leonard

Ramon Falco 764

Luis Zamora

0100  
Voz del Interior

anonymous from

Montoneros call

saying they will issue  
Communique: <sup>tomorrow</sup> to wit

they will not ~~release~~

~~do~~ do anything  
with Egan (not release)

Until ~~by~~ six captured  
montoneros guerrillas  
in Tucuman

"produced"

Source: Acherman AP

at 0155 - Seniors Iglesias was called  
at 32-0480. Was not in office  
Ministry had no additional information to offer  
0200 - Corrine center at Foreign  
Ministry was called  
31-6895 - no information

0210 - DO called Wall Boyle to ask about  
sources of information on case.

0230 - Ambassadors called and  
advised of incoming traffic  
from Wash. (State 044066  
and 044067)

0130 DO read press releases over  
telephone to ABC Los Angeles & advised  
then to check with <sup>Wall</sup> (792-6757) re: case  
Officer O'Brien in morning for additional  
news.



27 Feb 75

1900 - Mrs. Jones called Joe Min.  
Amb. Molina Salas nor Mrs. Medus  
available. Talked to Consejero  
Mathí. Mrs. Jones passed  
message of kidnappers' demands.  
The Consejero indicated he  
would inform Amb. ~~Joe~~ Molina Salas  
and Mrs. Medus and would call us  
back.

1910 - Mrs. Jones called Amb. Hill to report to  
him on call to Joe Min. Amb. Hill  
instructed Mrs. Jones to seek earliest  
possible appoint at Joe Min.

1930 Joe Min - Consejero Mathí informed  
Mrs. Jones that Amb

2000: Rosenthal reassigned charge of  
the Control Center

2345 - Congen called SIT represent

February 28

0815 Chuck Brown telephoned  
from ops center with some  
speculation delaying tickets - see  
mem cons

0915 Call from DC. Moller  
1000 Amb to MFA.

1030 ditto. Moller

1130 app Amb returned

1140 Huey called. - code

1245 Huey called - gave med report

1445 - Outgoing "no des"  
45328

1430 Amb O Smith to MFA.

1110 = phone call from Moller  
Egan dead at 1000

1130 Call placed to Mrs. Egan

1132 Ambassador talked to Egan's

Talked to Mrs. Egan's sister,

Mrs. Camporace. Expressed regrets.

Mar 1

Mrs. Egan doesn't know.

0015 Call to Bowdler -

Learned that White House  
and State statements and  
letters en route

0040 Ambassador - Diggle phone  
call.

0240 Diggle and Gamble phone call

Mrs Egan's condition

Two telegrams to be sent, to the  
Dept. notifying daughter + 3 brothers,  
to Lima notifying brother-in-law.

0400 McNeely / Gamble phone call Gov. and  
Abid paid call on McNeely

(from records)  
1015 McNeely / O'Brien, Monttlor & Hedberg

16 45

A Huey + Jones, + M. O'Brien  
+ Duffie re arrangements  
for funeral  
P Jones F. Obit  
A Huey + Jones

17 36

18 30

John P. EGAN

1916 Mrs. Egan contacted  
~~Bill Hitchcock~~  
~~John H. H. H. H.~~ saying husband  
(Hon. Manuel Egan - Cordoba) taken  
within last ten minutes of by  
Montoneros

1920 called Huey + advised  
who immediately phoned Ambassador  
1 Huey arrived Embassy at 1940 hours  
+ placed call to Dept operations  
center.

2000 hours contacted Amb who  
directed establishing operations  
center 8th floor + that a "flash"  
message be sent

2015 Flash message sent

2035 call to operations center  
came through and OP center  
advised (Stafford) who recorded  
info.

2010 Foreign Ministry called by Ambassador  
Wayne Smith <sup>who reports</sup> Chief of Prot  
Col S.F.M.

Buenos Aires, Argentina  
December 21, 1976

Mrs. John P. Egan  
Libertadores 710 - Apt. 502  
San Isidro  
Lima, Peru

*My Dear Friend-*

On my return from the United States I found your letter from Lima expressing appreciation for the assistance rendered you by the Embassy.

Cecelia and I hope and pray that you are having a pleasant time with your family after so many unfortunate experiences in Argentina. We will be thinking of you at Christmas and wish you and your family a very prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Hill  
Ambassador

November 9, 1976

The Hon. Robert C. Hill  
Ambassador of the U.S. of America  
BUENOS AIRES , Argentina

---

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

I really have no words to express my gratitude to you for your kindness in providing me with a security guard after the robbery in my apartment. Since the police were uncertain as to whether the robbery was committed by extremists or common thief or thieves, knowing who I was they recommended I be accompanied all the time, specially returning to my apt. to change locks, believe me, although I had completely overcome the stage of fear they absolutely scared me, which is why I turned to your kindness and authority to ask for help.

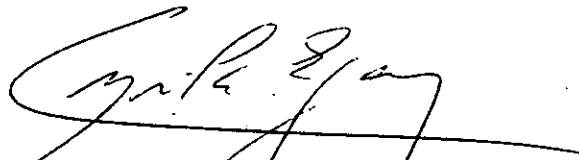
Comisario Estela was most kind and helpful. Since I had to go so many times both to the Central Police headquarters and the precinct corresponding to my neighbourhood, I felt safe doing all I had to do accompanied by Mr. Salas, one of the Embassy's private guards.

The police is sure the robbery was committed by ordinary thieves, but since they recommended I leave the country for a while until they investigate the case and come to a final conclusion, I hope a couple of months' rest between Lima and Talara will help me forget the sad incident I had, and start a busy life again as from March on.

My family joins me in wishing you and Mrs. Hill a Merry Xmas and a Happy and Prosperous 1977.

Thanking you once again, and deeply indebted for your kindness please accept my respectful personal regards.

Very sincerely yours,



Mrs. John P. Egan

*Egan*

Buenos Aires, Argentina  
April 10, 1975

Miss Debra R. Benincasa  
American Embassy  
Buenos Aires

I wish to thank you for your very helpful assistance at the Embassy Control Center during the recent and tragic kidnapping and assassination of Consular Agent John Patrick Egan.

The period February 26th to March 2nd, 1975, was first an anxious and later a sad time for all of us. Nevertheless, Embassy Buenos Aires had to continue to function. Your contribution in the Control Center helped make that function a smooth one.

Please accept this letter as a small token of my appreciation for your performance.

With warm personal regard,

Robert C. Hill  
Ambassador

SA-N: *J*ERosenthal/mip.-  
X 166, 4-10-75

Clearance: DCM: *JJM*ortllor



Buenos Aires, Argentina  
April 4, 1975

Miss Dorothy Burke  
American Embassy  
Buenos Aires

I wish to thank you for your very helpful assistance at the Embassy Control Center during the recent and tragic kidnapping and assassination of Consular Agent John Patrick Egan.

The period February 26th to March 2nd, 1975, was first an anxious and later a sad time for all of us. Nevertheless, Embassy Buenos Aires had to continue to function. Your contribution in the Control Center helped make that function a smooth one.

Please accept this letter as a small token of my appreciation for your performance.

With warm personal regard,

Robert C. Hill  
Ambassador

SA-N: EB Rosenthal/mip.-  
X 166, 4-4-75

Clearance: DCM: J. Montalor

Buenos Aires, Argentina  
April 4, 1975

Miss Debora Crume  
American Embassy  
Buenos Aires

I wish to thank you for your very helpful assistance at the Embassy Control Center during the recent and tragic kidnapping and assassination of Consular Agent John Patrick Egan.

The period February 26th to March 2nd, 1975, was first an anxious and later a sad time for all of us. Nevertheless, Embassy Buenos Aires had to continue to function. Your contribution in the Control Center helped make that function a smooth one.

Please accept this letter as a small token of my appreciation for your performance.

With warm personal regard,

Robert C. Hill  
Ambassador

SA-N: EB<sup>A</sup>Rosenhal/mip.-  
X 166, 4-4-75/m

Clearance: DCM: JMMONTLOR

Buenos Aires, Argentina  
April 4, 1975

Miss Phyllis Carpenter  
American Embassy  
Buenos Aires

I wish to thank you for your very helpful assistance at the Embassy Control Center during the recent and tragic kidnapping and assassination of Consular Agent John Patrick Egan.

The period February 26th to March 2nd, 1975, was first an anxious and later a sad time for all of us. Nevertheless, Embassy Buenos Aires had to continue to function. Your contribution in the Control Center helped make that function a smooth one.

Please accept this letter as a small token of my appreciation for your performance.

With warm personal regard,

Robert C. Hill  
Ambassador

SA-N: EBRosenthal/mip.-  
X 166, 4-4-75

Clearance: DCM: J. J. Montllor

Buenos Aires, Argentina  
April 4, 1975

Miss Catherine Paul  
American Embassy  
Buenos Aires

I wish to thank you for your very helpful assistance at the Embassy Control Center during the recent and tragic kidnapping and assassination of Consular Agent John Patrick Egan.

I want you to know how valuable I consider the long hours you put in at the Control Center. As usual, you managed superbly; in this case not only as the ever present, ever efficient secretary to the Deputy Chief of Mission, but also as the volunteer secretary to the various duty officers. Although I personally thanked you, I would hope that you would accept this letter as a special note of appreciation for all that you did.

With warm personal regard,

Robert C. Hill  
Ambassador

SA-N: EBRosenthal/mip.-  
X 166, 4-4-75

Clearance: DCM: JSMottlor

Buenos Aires, Argentina  
April 4, 1975

Peter Jones, Esq.  
Assistant Commercial Attaché  
American Embassy  
Buenos Aires

I wish to thank you for your very helpful assistance at the Embassy Control Center during the recent and tragic kidnapping and assassination of Consular Agent John Patrick Egan.

As duty officer when the Embassy first learnt of the Egan kidnapping, you had the particular responsibility of providing the initial information to Washington and to me. Equally important, it was your responsibility to activate the Control Center, where you also served several tours of duty. Your performance in all these activities was outstanding and contributed materially - and specially in the initial hectic hours - to the smooth functioning of the Control Centers both here and in the Department of State.

Please accept this letter as a token of my appreciation for your excellent work performance under a difficult situation.

With warm personal regard,

Robert C. Hill  
Ambassador

SA-N: EBRosenthal/mip.-  
X 166, 4-4-75

b Clearance: DCM: JJMoller

Buenos Aires, Argentina  
April 4, 1975

Mrs. Beatrice L. Roberts  
American Embassy  
Buenos Aires

I wish to thank you for your very helpful assistance at the Embassy Control Center during the recent and tragic kidnapping and assassination of Consular Agent John Patrick Egan.

The period was first an anxious and later a tragic time for all of us, and a hectic one throughout. Both at the Chancery and the Residence you were, as usual, my strong right arm; in addition, I know of the many extra hours you spent assisting at the Control Center. Although I have personally thanked you, I would hope that you would accept this letter as a token of my appreciation for your performance during the Egan case.

With warm personal regard,

Robert C. Hill  
Ambassador

SA/N:EBRosenthal:mip  
X 166 4-4-75

Clearance : DCM:JJMontllor

Buenos Aires, Argentina  
April 4, 1975

George S. Beckett, Esq.  
Regional Security Officer  
American Embassy  
Buenos Aires

The activities of February 26th through March 2nd, 1975, relating first to the senseless kidnapping, through the tragic murder, and concluding with the solemn funeral of our Consular Agent in Córdoba, John Patrick Egan, placed a tremendous work load on the entire U.S. Government establishment in Argentina.

As the Embassy Security Officer who went to Córdoba, you had a particularly difficult task during these days. Your ability to coordinate with local law enforcement officers to assist in first the search and later the investigation of the murder, and yet to keep this Embassy fully informed of developments, represented a high caliber of professional efficiency. Although the incident ended in tragedy and sadness for all of us, I would hope you would take this letter as a token of my appreciation for a job well done.

With warm personal regard,

Robert C. Hill  
Ambassador

SA-N: EBRosenthal/mip.-  
X 166, 4-4-75

Clearance: DCM: JJMontKlor

Buenos Aires, Argentina  
April 4, 1975

George O. Huey, Esq.  
Consul General of the United States of America  
Buenos Aires

The activities of February 26th through March 2nd, 1975, relating first to the senseless kidnapping, through the tragic murder, and concluding with the solemn funeral of our Consular Agent in Córdoba, John Patrick Egan, placed a tremendous work load on the entire U.S. Government establishment in Argentina.

As Consul General you were sent to Córdoba to be my senior representative on the spot. The speed with which you established rapport with the provincial officials, the concern and later the sympathy which you demonstrated to Mrs. Egan, and, finally, the promptness with which you informed this Embassy of developments in Córdoba, reflect the highest traditions of duty in the Foreign Service.

Although the incident ended in tragedy, a sadness for us all, we all know you did all that was humanly possible in the face of unsurmountable odds. Please accept this letter as a token of my appreciation for a job very well done.

With warm personal regard,

Robert C. Hill  
Ambassador

SA-N: EBRosenthal/mip.-  
X 166, 4-4-75

Clearance: DCM: JJMontllor



Buenos Aires, Argentina  
April 4, 1975

Arthur V. Diggle, Esq.  
Information Officer  
American Embassy  
Buenos Aires

The activities of February 26th through March 2nd, 1975, relating first to the senseless kidnapping, through the tragic murder, and concluding with the solemn funeral of our Consular Agent in Córdoba, John Patrick Egan, placed a tremendous work load on the entire U.S. Government establishment in Argentina.

As my USIS representative in Córdoba during this time, you had the difficult and delicate function of serving both as the official liaison officer between the U.S. Government and the press, and the unofficial liaison officer between Mrs. Egan and the media. Developments were fast breaking and the reports from the media were often inaccurate. It is to your credit that you were not only able to obtain and disperse the facts to the journalistic community, thus killing promptly early and incorrect misstatements which could have turned into ugly rumor, but also you were able to keep this Embassy fully informed of the facts. Although I have personally thanked you, I would hope that you would take this letter as a token of my appreciation for a job well done.

With warm personal regard,

Robert C. Hill  
Ambassador

SA-N: EBRosenthal/mip.-  
X 166; 4-4-75

Clearance: DCM: J. Montalor

Buenos Aires, Argentina  
April 4, 1975

Miss Linda Benincasa  
American Embassy  
Buenos Aires

I wish to thank you for your very helpful assistance at the Embassy Control Center during the recent and tragic kidnapping and assassination of Consular Agent John Patrick Egan.

The period February 26th to March 2nd, 1975, was first an anxious and later a sad time for all of us. Nevertheless, Embassy Buenos Aires had to continue to function. Your contribution in the Control Center helped make that function a smooth one.

Please accept this letter as a small token of my appreciation for your performance.

With warm personal regard,

Robert C. Hill  
Ambassador

SA-N: EBRosenthal/mip.-  
X 166, 4-4-75

Clearance: DCM: JJMontalor

Buenos Aires, Argentina  
April 4, 1975

Roger R. Gamble, Esq.  
Labor Attaché  
American Embassy  
Buenos Aires

I wish to thank you for your very helpful assistance at the Embassy Control Center during the recent and tragic kidnapping and assassination of Consular Agent John Patrick Egan.

Your several hours of duty at the Control Center were of major importance in keeping me and Washington fully informed of events in this fast breaking incident. Although I have personally thanked you, I would hope that you would accept this letter as a token of my appreciation for your contribution during this time.

With warm personal regard,

Robert C. Hill  
Ambassador

SA-N: EBRosenthal/mip.-  
X 166, 4-4-75

Clearance: DCM: J. J. Montalor

Buenos Aires, Argentina  
April 4, 1975

Edward B. Rosenthal, Esq.  
Special Assistant on Narcotics  
American Embassy  
Buenos Aires

I wish to thank you for your very helpful assistance at the Embassy Control Center during the recent and tragic kidnapping and assassination of Consular Agent John Patrick Egan.

The long hours you put in at the Control Center were of invaluable service during this hectic time. Although I thanked you personally, I would hope you would accept this letter as a token of my appreciation for your contribution in this joint effort.

With warm personal regard,

Robert C. Hill  
Ambassador

SA-N: EBRosenthal/mip.-  
X 166, 4-4-75

Clearance: DCM: JJMontllor

Buenos Aires, Argentina  
April 9, 1975

Mr. Sidney Reitman  
Metaphorist  
Georgetown Square (A-2)  
Poughkeepsie, New York  
12603

Dear Mr. Reitman :

Thank you for your letter of March 2, giving us  
your metaphorical analysis report of the letter  
allegedly written by Consular Agent John P. Egan.  
It is a very interesting analysis.

Your efforts to provide assistance to the Embassy  
are appreciated during these trying times.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Hill  
Ambassador

SY:GSEBeckett:ac  
X 148 4-9-75

DCM:JMontllor

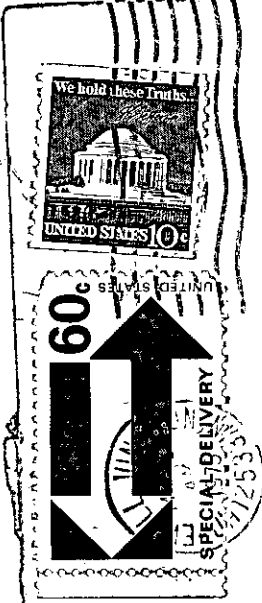
Georgetown Square (A-2)  
Poughkeepsie, New York 12603

**AIR MAIL**  
**Special Delivery**

Ambassador Robert C. Hill  
U. S. Embassy  
Buenos Aires  
Argentina

Confidential  
Special Delivery-Air Mail

MAR 18 1975



M E T A - metaphorical analysis by the creator of the method.  
Georgetown Square (A-2) Poughkeepsie, New York 12603 (914) 454-8980

March 2, 197

META (Metaphorical Analysis): REPORT

To: Ambassador Robert C. Hill  
U. S. Embassy  
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Dear Ambassador Hill:

I have subjected to metaphorical analysis the word train allegedly written by the late John Patrick Egan, that is, the note found in a bar in Cordoba at the time he had been executed by the Marxist Montoneros. The note was published in today's N. Y. Times. META Analysis is a linguistic discipline I have created in 1969 which analyzes for the supra-meaning of word trains (written or spoken). Here are my findings:

- (1) Egan did not compose the word train which appears over his signature.
- (2) The word train was written by an educated American within the Marxist Montoneros group.
- (3) The note should be construed as a warning that further terrorist actions and killings are being planned by the Montoneros.

#### THE KEY METAPHORS

Egan, who was not a Marxist, would not have used the noun phrase "a people's prison". That modifying adjective is an exclusively Marxist term. And most certainly he would not have written the fourth sentence (as I derive its supra-meaning). The supra-meaning states:

- (A) I, writer = (B) give Ambassador a feeling of guilt and complicity in Egan's execution.

I do not believe that a person like Egan would have used such a supra-meaning against you. That is the thinking of the executioner, not the victim. The potential victim

could have chosen any number of other supra-meanings, but he would not have come to his benefactor with an implied charge of guilt in his portending death. So the note was composed by the killers.

WHY THE TRUE NOTE WRITER WAS AN EDUCATED AMERICAN

Only an educated American could have devised a series of metaphors like: a life of uncertainty, perfectly well, enough power, to comply, your influence, my life is in your hands, and other metaphors of a like nature. These metaphors are the mark of a highly literate American undoubtedly trained in a U. S. university or college. This man is also a good writer.

PROGNOSIS

The note was displayed in a bar (to be found by the police) roughly at the same time Egan's execution took place. Hence, the terrorists were not looking to negotiate. Their desire was to deliver a fait accompli -- a death in the form of a warning. Unfortunately, the prognosis in such a situation is most dire. These are vicious, amoral men who will most probably strike again.

SUGGESTION

Look for a well-educated American in sympathy with (and close to) the Marxist Montoneros. He is a good writer. I suspect we are dealing with a man, not a woman.



SIDNEY REITMAN, Metaphorist  
Written at: Poughkeepsie, New York



For The Ambassador

Per your request file  
there is attached a list of Egan  
Ministers — Senior Argentine  
Officers and Foreign Ambassadors  
who signed the Condolence Book.

Adams<sup>3</sup>/<sub>10</sub>

There were others — Australian  
etc. — probably signatures  
illegible

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship  
Embajador Alberto J. Vignes

Minister of National Defense  
Adolfo Mario Savino

Commanding General of the Navy  
Almirante Emilio Eduardo Massera

Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs and Worship ad interim  
Embajador Francisco Molina Salas

Chief of Protocol of State  
Embajador Jorge A. Giraldes

Foreign Ambassadors

Ambassador of Chile  
Ambassador of the Dominican Republic  
Ambassador of Portugal  
Ambassador of Iran  
Ambassador of Brazil  
Ambassador of Norway  
Ambassador of Ireland  
The Nuncio  
Ambassador of Indonesia  
Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany  
Ambassador of Sweden  
Ambassador of South Africa  
Ambassador of Italy  
Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of Spain  
Ambassador of Perú  
Director of the Commercial Office of Taiwan  
Ambassador of Yugoslavia  
Ambassador of Panama  
Ambassador of Honduras  
Representative of the Ambassador of Venezuela

Buenos Aires, Argentina

March 26, 1975

Mrs. John Patrick Egan  
Gral. Paz 3399  
Arguello  
Cordoba, Argentina

*My dear Mrs Egan*

Your very thoughtful note of March 20 was very much appreciated. I sincerely hope that your visit to the United States and the time spent with your family and friends there has helped ease the pain.

When you return to Argentina, perhaps you will come through Buenos Aires and have a moment to come by the office.

With all best wishes.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Hill  
Ambassador

March 20, 1975

The Honorable Robert C. Hill  
The Ambassador of the United States  
Buenos Aires, Argentina

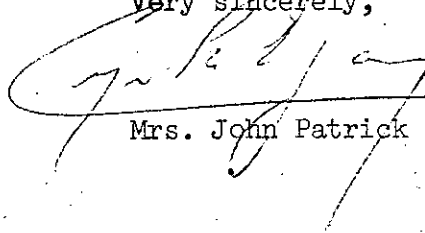
Dear Mr. Ambassador:

Thank you for your expression of sympathy about the loss of my husband, John Patrick Egan, Consular Agent of the U.S.A. in Cordoba.

I am, of course, filled with grief over the tragic death of my husband. It is some consolation to remember John as a dedicated American citizen who had chosen to live in South America and who gave his life for his country.

Thank you again, Mr. Ambassador, for your compassionate words in this time of our sorrow.

Very sincerely,



Mrs. John Patrick (Cyrila) Egan

~~LIMITED OFFICIAL USE~~

Buenos Aires, Argentina

March 21, 1975

OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

Mr. Robert D. Barber  
Assistant Director (Security)  
U. S. Information Agency  
Washington

*file*

Dear Bob,

Two reported actions of a Mr. Frank Chiancone leave me more than a little annoyed. I quote from Frank Ortiz's letter of March 10 to Ambassador Hill concerning a State/USIA meeting that had taken place on March 7: "USIA also felt perhaps more could have been done for Mr. Egan. Mr. Chiancone seemed to believe that the Embassy was opposed to any negotiations."

Now I am sure you have read all the cable traffic on the case and know of the Ambassador's repeated visits to the Foreign Minister, the immediate dispatch of the Embassy team to Cordoba, where they were in continuous contact with the police - in short, the fact that this Embassy focussed on nothing but Egan from the time it learned of his abduction until his death. Just what more could have been done? As for Mr. Chiancone's apparent belief, let's face it, Egan was dead from the moment they picked him up. The Montenero's demands were impossible to meet and they knew it. There was nothing to negotiate. Anyone who helps spread the base canard that the Embassy was opposed to negotiations is doing a disservice not only to this Embassy but the U. S. Government.

The other irritation is based on a Memcom of the same meeting which states, in part, that "Mr. Chiancone volunteered that in light of events there may be a reduction in force of USIA personnel." On whose authority did Mr. Chiancone volunteer this statement in front of a group of State Department officers? I, sure as hell, have never been consulted. Bob, I am fully aware of your responsibilities in IOS and I definitely appreciate IOS's interest in not only my security but that of my family.

~~LIMITED OFFICIAL USE~~

