DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
MESSAGE CENTER

VZCZCMAY141
MULT
ACTION
DIA
DISTR
IAADB(01) J3(09) J5 J3:NMCC SECDEF(07) SECDEF: ASD:ISA(15)
ATSD:AEC(01) ASD:PA&E(01) 11:DIAM(20) NMIC
CMC CC WASHINGTON DC
CSAF WASHINGTON DC
CON WASHINGTON DC
CIA
SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC
NSA WASH DC
FILE

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
DIA FOIA & Declassification Services Offices
Date: Oct 18, 2010

TRANSL/0861401/0861459/000158TOR0861439
DE RUESEAA #0059 0861401
ZHY ECDEC
R 271310Z MAR 79
FM [(b)(3):10 USC 424]
TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASH DC//DB3E//
INFO RULPALU/USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ//SC2J=AD//
RUEKJCS/DEPT OF DEFENSE WASH DC//OSD-ISA//

SUBJ THIS IS [(b)(3):10 USC 424]
1. (U) COUNTRY: ARGENTINA (AR)
2. (U) REPORT NUMBER: (b)(3):10 USC 424
3. (U) TITLE: HUMAN RIGHTS AND RETURN TO LAW=AN ATTORNEY'S VIEW
4. (U) PROJECT NUMBER: N/A
5. (U) DATE OF INFORMATION: 790328
6. (U) DATE OF REPORT: 790321
7. (U) DATE AND PLACE OF ACQUISITION: 790320, BUENOS AIRES
8. (U) REFERENCE:
9. (U) ASSESSMENT: (b)(3):10 USC 424
10. (U) ORIGINATOR:
11. (U) REQUEST EVALUATION: NO
12. (U) PREPARING OFFICER:
13. (U) APPROVING AUTHORITY: (b)(3):10 USC 424
14. (U) SOURCE: (b)(3):10 USC 424
15. (U) SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: DIREC NO NOFORM TO AVOID

PAGE 1

CONFIDENTIAL
EMBARGO TO HOST GOVERNMENT

16. (U) SUMMARY: THIS IR FORWARDS VIEWS ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE RETURN TO THE RULE OF LAW IN ARGENTINA. IT IS SIGNIFICANT IN THAT THE VIEWS REFLECTED MIGHT PORTRAY THOSE OF A LARGE SEGMENT OF BUENOS AIRES BAR ASSOCIATION'S MEMBERS.

22. (CONFIDENTIAL) DETAILS: (ALL PARAGRAPHS EXCEPT 1. SOURCE) 1. SOURCE, AT MOST LAWYERS IN THE COUNTRY, IS FAR FROM ESTABLISHING THE RULE OF LAW AND THE RETURN TO A DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL STATE. IT WILL TAKE A MUCH LONGER TIME, HE CONTINUED, TO ESTABLISH THE DEMOCRATIC CONDITIONS THAT EXIST, FOR EXAMPLE, IN COUNTRIES SUCH AS THE U.K.

2. THERE ARE NO HUMAN RIGHTS IN ARGENTINA, SAID SOURCE, IT IS VERY UNFORTUNATE FOR THE COUNTRY AND A SCANDAL TO ITS JUDICIAL SYSTEM THAT INCIDENTS, SUCH AS THE RECENT REMOVAL BY AN ARMY PATROL OF A NCO FROM A VILLA DEVOTO PRISON WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE JUDGE WHO HANDLED THE CASE, STILL CONTINUE. THEY ARE DAMAGING TO THE REPUTATION OF THE ARMY FORCES, A TRAMPLING ON THE COUNTRY'S JUDICIAL SYSTEM, AND ADVERSELY AFFECT AND DETRACT FROM GENUINE EFFORTS WHICH HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO BRING ARGENTINA BACK TO NORMALCY.

3. SOURCE THEN BEGAN TO ELABORATE AND CLARIFY SOME OF HIS REMARKS. MANY OF THE INCIDENTS HAVE BEEN THE RESULT OF OVERZEALOUSNESS BY SOME WHO WITNESSED AND VIVIDLY REMEMBER THE CHAOTIC STATE OF AFFAIRS OF SOME YEARS BACK, HE SAID. AS FOR POLITICAL PARTIES, THEIR ORGANIZATION ON RESTRUCTURING OF THE OLD ONES, SOURCE BELIEVES, WILL TAKE MUCH TIME TO ESTABLISH, FOR MANY OF US, HE SAID, THERE IS HARDLY A CHOICE TO MAKE AT THIS EARLY STAGE. "WE ARE JUST NOW BEGINNING TO Emerge FROM WHAT WAS PRACTICALLY A CIVIL WAR AND THE DISRUPTIVE ECONOMIC POLICIES BROUGHT BY PERON AND POST." 349, 569134, 3.5 THE MILITARY BROUGHT SOME SEMBLANCE OF STABILITY AND HAVE GIVEN US SOME HOPE THAT THE COUNTRY'S DISARRAYED STATE OF AFFAIRS CAN BE CORRECTED," SAID SOURCE.

4. FOR NOW, THEN, THE PEOPLE, FROM STUDENTS TO PROFESSIONALS, SUPPORT IT. "MOST OF US," HE CONTINUED, "REALIZE THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS AT, FOR EXAMPLE, CURBING INFLATION, WHILE GRUMBLINGS ARE HEARD FROM SOME QUARTERS CRITICIZING (ECONOMIC MINISTER) MARTINEZ DE HOZ'S POLICIES. THE PEOPLE ALSO KNOW THAT IF (PRESIDENT) VIDELA IS FORCED TO RIDE HIMSELF OF MARTINEZ DE HOZ, THE MINISTRY OF THE ECONOMY WOULD GAIN A NEW FACE WITHOUT THE GOVERNMENT HAVING TO DRAMATICALLY ALTER ITS ECONOMIC POLICIES."

5. IN CONCLUSION, SOURCE STATED THAT POLITICAL REORGANIZATION...
CONFIDENTIAL

The country distrusts, will not accept or follow the old ones, like Balbin. The reorganization is tied to development of new leaders in whom a people long weary of politicians can place their trust.

(2)(3)-10 USC 424

EMBASSY COMMENT: (U) NCO mentioned para 2 above was recently returned by army to civil prison in response to order of supreme court. See state dept. buenos aires telegrams 2244 and 2250.

EMBASSY COORDINATED, DEC 22 WAR 1966.

BT

#0069

ANLNOTES

EM 117

NNWM

2715002