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SUMMARY:					(Leave Bit
(c/NFD/LIMDIC) Go successes in the	Tucuman (264	ces nave sco 98-6513W) CO	rea son IN Oper	e recent ration. Them	re
are widely varying	ng estimates	of number of	guerri	llas killed.	
some of whom may remains frustrate					er
operating in the	zone and rec	ent guerrill	a activ	vities may	
spark joint mili	tary anti-su	bversive cam	paign.		
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TOPON CO ZVOIG					
1. (2/NDD) Arm manhunt in Tucum	my and police	forces init:	iated a	massive	7 9
attack on the ai	rfield there	. On 28 Aug	75 the	guerrillas	. 60 :
bombed the runwa	ay at the Tuc	uman airport	during	the take-	1
off of an Air Fo Gendarmerie boro	ier guards.	Five troops	lost th	eir lives in	
the attack. Acc	cording to a	reliable sou.	rce. 9	terrorists	5.
who were respons captured and "el	liminated".	Meanwhile the	e press	reports tha	it hhis
10 guerrillas ha	ave been kill	ed in separa	te acti	ons following	18 64 8.
clashes which be	28				
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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT REPORT NO. (b)(3):10 USC 424 PAGE PAGES CONTINUATION SHEET CRIGINATOR (b)(3):10 USC 424 (Classification and Control Markings) Jeans Block t) One newspaper claims that 800 guerrillas have been killed, wounded or captured since the Army moved into Tucuman last February. This figure reportedly surprised many observers since General Vilas had announced in late May that 350 guerrillas fell into this category. One source Sec. 3.3(b) (1) (SAMPO/LIMPLE) Source who has been actively involved in the Army's Tucuman operation reports that the Army has no idea of the number of guerrillas operating in the A.O. He stated that captured documents indicate that the subversives from all over Argentina are called upon to serve in Tucuman and that a rotation system is being employed. The guerrillas are well-equipped, but ammunition is not issued until just before an operation. According to the source, the terrorists fear infiltration. Recently, when four truck loads of subversives were returning from a local village (they were there to hold a parado and make a recruiting film) they unexpectedly ran upon several soldiers working on a school. The troops opened fire. killed four and wounded others. Although the guerrillas were armed, the only ammunition available was in the lead vehicle, which returned fire. (S/NPD/LIMBIS) A source revealed that prisoners taken into custody following contact are segregrated into three groups: (1) confirmed guerrillas (2) collaborators (3) sus-Confirmed guerrillas are interrogated and then (this confirms reported practices in [R's (b)(3):10 USC 424 killed (b)(3):10 USC 42). Collaborators are turned over to authorities for prosecution and suspects are reportedly released. Other individuals (who may have been identified as terrorists by Intelligence) are seized at right by soldiers in civilian cress. They are killed or "just disappear". When queries are made concerning their where-abouts, the Army claims imporance. (b)(3):10 USC 424 (e/NPD) The "phantom" guerrilla helicopter continues its sporatic flights throughout the A.O. Apparently there is only one HELO (previously two\were reported (- Note IR) operating in the province. One Army Officer reports is painted black, delivers supplies and makes night leaflet drops. The helicopter crew was evidently obtaining gasoline from the Salta (24478-6525W) Airport. The Army reports that they captured a terrorist who was working at the airfield, stealing gasoline, doctoring reports and providing fuel to the terrorists. The helicopter problem is a real thorn in the Army's side. Three Air Force fighter aircraft were stationed in Tucuman (26498-6513W) to destroy it but were unsuccessful. One of the leading Army Air Defense Officers was recently in Cordoba coordinating some sort of maneuver there and is expected to return in two weeks. The recent Army shuffle of commanders has not weakened the leadersh The new Corps with the destroyer

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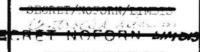
CONTINUATION SHEET CONTINUATION SHEET Commander, 30 Menendez, is a hard liner like the former commander, BG Delia Larocca. The V Infantry Brigace Commander was not changed. This organization has been responsible for the majority of the CCIN Operations in Tucuman. Its CO. General Vilas is regarded as a good commander and is respected by his subordinates. CMT 1. (CAMPATHELE): The Army as well as other security forces appear to have stepped up their anti-guerrilla operations. It is believed that they have had reasonable success and have caused considerable disruption within the

OMT 1. (S/MPD/ITMEND): The Army as well as other security forces appear to have stepped up their anti-guerrilla operations. It is believed that they have had reasonable success and have caused considerable disruption within the guerrilla infrastructure. The figure of 500 guerrilla casualties is probably an exaggeration. There is, however, little doubt now that the terrorists' fate is sealed once captured.

CMT 2. (S/NIP/SIMBIS): The recent surge in security force activity in Tucuman could be a response to three bizarre successes: (1) the murder of Army Opt Keller on 24 Aug 75 (Note IR (b)(3):10 USC 424), (2) the bombing of the Navy frigate. "Santisima Trinidad" (Note IR (b)(3):10 USC 424), and (3) the destruction of the Air Force C-130H (Note IR (b)(3):10 USC 424). These events could have back-fired on the terrorists. The latter two incidents were apparently designed to force the Military to premptively move against the Peron Regime during the latest crisis. On the contrary, they stirred up a hornet's nest. The Navy saw its first nationally constructed man-of-war hit by a bomb at her berth in Rio Santiago (34518-7754W). Concurrently, the Air Force was bloodled by the guerrillas for the first time. The Air Force takes great pride in its C-130H fleet and the terrorists left one burning and destroyed at the end of the Tucuman runway.

CMT 3. (SAMP/LEMBIS): The new Army hierarchy has made it clear that they want no envolvement in politics. According to one local editorial, they are ready and willing to "take on a mission that is appropriately theirs". The Navy and Air Force apparently share the Army's conviction. The upsurge in terrorist activities, coupled with damaged Air Force and Navy prides. could crystalize joint Armed Forces operations against the insurgents. The generals have been unsuccessful at this game in the past, but now conditions are ripe for joint operations. The guerrillas may be in store for some hard times in the months ahead.

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL Authority: EO 13526 DIA FOIA & Declassification Services Offices Date: Oct 17, 2018



Page determined to be Unclassified Reviewed DIAFOIA & Declassification Services Offices IAW EO 13526, Section 3.5 Date: Oct 17, 2018

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