

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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16. SUMMARY:
 (S) This report forwards an American Embassy Buenos Aires memorandum of conversation describing FRG Ambassador's views on his country's arms sales to Argentina and FRG internal problems with arms sanctions.

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20. ENCLOSURES:
 1 Enclosure
 1. Amembassy Memorandum, 15 Oct 79, 1 cy, (S), 2 pgs

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21. This IR contains 1 pages.

Ambassador Jaenicke then went into a long discourse on the futility of international sanctions. He said he had been in Rome in 1936 and observed the failure of the League of Nations' sanctions against Italy. He went on to cite the lack of success of sanctions against Rhodesia, South Africa and the Soviet Union. He asserted that there was absolutely no way in which denying arms to the Argentines would save a single life here. I observed that our policy also served to distance us from the GOA and prevent our identification with a regime with a terrible human rights record. The Ambassador agreed but said the matter created a most difficult problem for German trade.

Comment: The Ambassador's statement that the FRG was concerned "whether the FRG should continue with its naval construction program" is of interest. We had been under the impression that this contract was firm and that the Germans had no second thoughts about it. If they do, the British are aching to replace them.

Distribution: Buenos Aires
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