

# DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
MESSAGE CENTER

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
DIA FOIA & Declassification Services Offices  
Date: Oct 18, 2018

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ACTION

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FM (b)(3):10 USC 424

TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASH DC/DS-6A/DIR-3B3

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SUBJ: THIS IS IR (b)(3):10 USC 424

1. ARGENTINA (AR)

2. (b)(3):10 USC 424

3. (U) HOSTILITIES & INSURGENCIES - TERRORIST  
SITUATION IN CORDOBA

4. N/A

5. 770219

6. 770224

7. 770219, BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

(b)(3):10 USC 424

9. (b)(3):10 USC 424

10.

11.

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12. (b)(3):10 USC 424

13.

14.

15. DIRC: NO; NOFORN TO AVOID EMBARRASSMENT TO HOST GOVT  
16. SUMMARY 1. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ ON 19 FEBRUARY 1977, SOURCE  
STATED THAT THE TERRORIST PROBLEM IN THE CITY OF CORDOBA  
WAS VIRTUALLY NON-EXISTANT.

Sec. 3.3(b)(1)

ATTRIBUTED MOST OF SUCCESS TO GOOD  
INTELLIGENCE, POSITIVE ACTION BY THE TROOPS AND THE  
EXCELLENT LEADERSHIP OF MG MENENDEZ, III CORPS COMMANDER.  
HE COMMENTED THAT CORDOBA HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN A HOTBED  
OF GUERRILLA ACTIVITY BUT NOW HAS BEEN PACIFIED AND IS A  
RELATIVELY PEACEFUL CITY. HE INDICATED THAT THE  
TERRORIST'S INFRASTRUCTURE HAD BEEN SIGNIFICANTLY  
DISRUPTED AND THOSE GUERRILLAS THAT HAVE  
SURVIVED THE MILITARY'S ANTI-SUBVERSIVE CAMPAIGN  
HAVE PROBABLY MIGRATED TO BUENOS AIRES. THE SOURCE  
DID NOT DISCOUNT THE POSSIBILITY THAT A FEW SUBVERSIVES  
MIGHT STILL REMAIN IN THE VICINITY OF THE PROVINCIAL  
CAPITAL AND COULD CARRY OUT ISOLATED ATTACKS OF  
TERRORISM, BUT CLASSIFIED THE THREAT AS MARGINAL.  
2. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ SOURCE STATED THAT THE LAST MAJOR ACTION  
IN WHICH Sec. 3.3(b)(1) OCCURRED IN NOVEMBER 1976, HIS  
BRIGADE LEARNED OF THE PRESENCE OF THREE LEADERS OF A  
MONTONERO CELL WHO WERE HIDING IN A CORDOBA SUBURB.  
TROOPS FROM THE IV BRIGADE CORDONED OFF THE BLOCK  
CONTAINING THE HOUSE AND EVACUATED ITS INHABITANTS.  
THEY LEARNED FROM THE NEIGHBORS, THAT IN ADDITION TO THE  
TERRORIST LEADERS, THERE WERE SEVERAL WOMEN AND AT  
LEAST SIX CHILDREN IN THE RESIDENCE. THE TROOP COMMANDER  
INVITED THE SUBVERSIVES TO SURRENDER OVER A BULL HORN  
AT WHICH TIME THE CHILDREN EXITED THE HOUSE. WHEN THE  
CHILDREN WERE OUT OF RANGE, THE GUERRILLAS COMMENCED  
FIXING WITH AUTOMATIC WEAPONS. THE SOURCE ADDED THAT  
UNLIKE MANY ARMY ORGANIZATIONS, III CORPS UNITS  
SPECIFICALLY THE IV BRIGADE, WILL NOT ENGAGED THE  
TERRORISTS WITH SMALL ARMS. THE COMMANDER MOVED IN  
RECOILLESS RIFLES AND BAZOOKAS AND TERMINATED THE FIRE  
FIGHT ALMOST AS QUICKLY AS IT BEGAN. A SEARCH OF THE  
AREA FOLLOWING THE GUN BATTLE REVEALED LARGE QUANTITIES  
OF US DOLLARS, FRENCH FRANCS AND BRITISH POUNDS. THE  
ARMY CONFISCATED THE MONEY, PART OF WHICH WAS USED FOR

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GARRISON RENOVATION AND OTHER CIVIC PROJECTS.  
COMMENT: ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ SOURCE WAS CONVINCED THAT THE  
BATTLE AGAINST TERRORISM IN THE PROVINCE OF CORDOBA  
WAS TERMINATED. THERE WAS NO QUESTION IN HIS MIND  
THAT THE PROVINCE WAS SAFER THAN BUENOS AIRES. WHETHER  
HIS ASSESSMENT IS ACCURATE REMAINS TO BE SEEN. RECENT  
TERRORIST ACTIVITY WOULD SUGGEST THAT HE IS CORRECT  
SINCE THE MAJORITY OF GUERRILLA ACTIONS OF LATE HAVE  
FOCUSED ON THE FEDERAL CAPITAL AND SURROUNDING SUBURBS.

Sec. 3.3  
(b) (1)

Sec. 3.3(b) (1) COMMENT: ~~(C/NOFORN)~~

THE EXPLOSION WHICH DESTROYED THE  
CORDOBA MOVIE THEATER SHOWING "VICTORY AT ENTEBBE"  
RECENTLY, WAS NOT AN ANTI-SEMITIC ACT, AS GENERALLY  
BELIEVED. INSTEAD, IT WAS AN ARMY OPERATION EXECUTED  
TO DESTROY THE SHOP LOCATED ADJACENT TO THE ENTRANCE  
OF THE THEATER. THE SHOP BELONGED TO TERRORISTS WHO,  
Sec. 3.3(b) (1) HAD BEEN CONNECTED  
WITH A TERRORIST PLAN TO KIDNAP THE DAUGHTER OF MGEN  
MENENDEZ, III CORPS COMMANDER.  
THIS MSG HAS BEEN COORD WITH EMBASSY.

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