

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

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SECT 01 OF 42475

SECTS 1420F2

ACTION

DIA:

DISTR

CJCS DJS J3(10) J5(02) J31NMCC SECDEF(07) SECDEF:  
ASD:ISA(10) :DIA(20) NMIC  
- CMC CC WASHINGTON DC  
- CNO WASHINGTON DC  
- CSA WASHINGTON DC  
- C I A  
- SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC  
- NSA WASH DC  
FILE(1)

(050)

~~NOFORN~~

TRANSIT/101102Z/101434Z/003:32TOR1301406

DE RUESHAA [redacted] 1301345 (b)(3):10 USC

ZNY ~~CCCCC~~

P 101102Z MAY 78

FM (b)(3):10 USC 424

TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC

INFO RULPALJ/USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ/SCJ2-AD

RULPAFA/24 COMPW/IN HOWARD AFB CZ

RUEAHQA/HQ USAF WASHDC/XDXXW

BT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 1 OF (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424

SUBJECT: THIS IS (b)(3):10 USC 424

1. COUNTRY: ARGENTINA (AR)
2. REPORT NUMBER: (b)(3):10 USC 424
3. TITLE: (U) MILITARY TRAINING: ARGENTINE AIR FORCE CANCELS FMS TRAINING FOR FY 78
4. PROJECT NUMBER: N/A
5. DATE OF INFORMATION: 7804
6. DATE OF REPORT: 780505
7. DATE AND PLACE OF ACQUISITION: 7805
8. REFERENCES: [redacted]
- IR [redacted]
9. ASSESSMENT: (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424
10. ORIGINATOR: [redacted]
11. REQUEST EVALUATION: OMIT

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12. PREPARING OFFICER: (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424  
13. APPROVING AUTHORITY

14. SOURCE:

15. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: ~~DISC; NO NOFORN~~  
~~TO AVOID EMBARRASSMENT TO HOST GOVT~~

16. SUMMARY: ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ ARGENTINE AIR FORCE HAS DECIDED TO CANCEL \$400,000 FMS MILITARY TRAINING CASE. PERCEPTIONS OF USG HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY AS A DOMESTIC POLITICAL ISSUE.

22. DETAILS: ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF FOR OPERATIONS OF THE ARGENTINE AIR FORCE (ARGAF) GENERAL STAFF HAS NOTIFIED THE AFSEC OF THE MILGP THAT THE ARGAF HAS DECIDED TO CANCEL THE FMS CREDIT CASE FOR \$400,000 OF MILITARY TRAINING, ACCORDING TO THE 780419 LETTER TO CHIEF, AFSEC, THE REASON FOR THE CANCELLATION IS THAT THERE IS NOT ENOUGH TIME REMAINING BETWEEN THE DATE OF THE LETTER AND THE END OF THE US FISCAL YEAR, WHEN THE CASE WILL EXPIRE.

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2. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ IN DISCUSSIONS WITH OFFICERS AT JUNIOR, FIELD, AND SENIOR GRADE LEVELS DURING THE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS, [REDACTED] THE ARGAF HAS TAKEN THIS ACTION AS A RATIONAL, UNEMOTIONAL REACTION TO THE USG POLICIES GENERATED BY HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS. SENIOR OFFICERS HAVE TOLD TO THAT THE TRAINING ITSELF CAN BE OBTAINED FROM SEVERAL SOURCES, AND THAT THERE ARE THIRD COUNTRY ATTACHES AND SALESMEN WAITING IN LINE TO SELL EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING.

(b)(3):10 USC 424;Sec. 3.3(b)

[REDACTED] IN THE SHORT TERM, TRAINING IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES MAY BE CHEAPER TO THE ARGAF, BUT THAT IN HIS JUDGEMENT THE LONG TERM COST OF NOT EXPOSING YOUNG OFFICERS TO THE AMERICAN SOCIETAL AND MILITARY VALUE SYSTEMS WOULD BE VERY EXPENSIVE TO BOTH HIS NATION AND THE UNITED STATES.

Sec. 3.3(b)(1)

[REDACTED]  
IN HIS JUDGEMENT IT WOULD BE SEVERAL YEARS BEFORE THE ARGENTINE MILITARY AGAIN ARE PERMITTED TO PURCHASE TRAINING IN THE US. SOURCE B EXPLAINED THAT HIS NATION COULD NOT CHANGE ITS DOMESTIC POLICIES JUST TO PLEASE THE UNITED STATES. EVEN IF MAJOR POLICY CHANGES ARE MADE FOR DOMESTIC REASONS, AND THESE CHANGES RESULT IN ELIMINATING POINTS

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OF CONFLICT IN BILATERAL RELATIONS, (READ HUMAN RIGHTS) THE EXPERIENCES OF CHILE AND URUGUAY DEMONSTRATE THAT THE USG, PARTICULARLY THE CONGRESS, IS VERY SLOW TO RECOGNIZE AND REACT TO ANY CHANGE. ROUCE B THEN SAID THAT THE USG IS VERY QUICK TO REACT TO NEWS ACCOUNTS OF HUMAN RIGHTS INCIDENTS THAT APPEAR IN THE WASHINGTON PRESS, BUT VERY LOATH TO ACCEPT THE EVIDENCE OF THE TRENDS THAT SHOULD BE MORE MEANINGFUL THAN SPECIFIC ISOLATED EVENTS. SOURCE B THEN NOTED THAT IN HIS JUDGEEMENT, AND IN THE JUDGEEMENT OF MANY OF HIS MILITARY COLLEAGUES, THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE NO LONGER IS OF SPECIFIC INTEREST TO THE AMERICAN PUBLIC. RATHER, IT HAS BECOME A WASHINGTON SPECIFIC ISSUE UPON WHICH POLITICAL CAREERS ARE BEING MADE AND BROKEN. SOURCE SAID THAT THE DISMISSAL OF ASSIST SEC TODMAN IS AN EXAMPLE OF A CEREER THAT WAS DESTROYED BY THE INTRA GOVERNMENTAL STRUGGLES FOR POWER.

COMMENT: ~~(S/NOFORN)~~ THE ARGAF CANCELLATION OF THE FMS TRAINING CASE REFLECTS REALIZATION THAT THERE IS NO HOPE FOR OBTAINING TRAINING IN THE UNITED STATES FOR THE TIME BEING. SOURCE IMPLIED THAT THE ATTITUDE AMONG SENIOR ARGAF LEADERSHIP WAS ONE OF RESIGNATION, AND HOPE THAT THE SITUATION WOULD NOT BE PERMANENT.

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APPARENTLY THE ARGAF CONSIDERS THAT THE SAME TRAINING CAN BE OBTAINED FROM OTHER SOURCES WITH LITTLE IN CO VENIENCE. SOURCES COMMENT ABOUT THE LONG RANGE EFFECTS OF NO CONUS TRAINING HAS BEEN REPEATED TO [REDACTED] SEVERAL FLAG OFFICERS OF ALL THREE SERVICES. SOURCES OBSERVATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AS A VEHICLE FOR USG INTERNAL POLITICAL POWER STRUGGLES REFLECTS THE PERCEPTIONS [REDACTED] HEARD FROM SEVERAL OTHER ARGAF OFFICERS SINCE APPEARANCE OF MEDIA REPORTS CONCERNING ASSIST SEC TODMANS REPLACEMENT. SOURCES POSITION WITHIN THE GOA ADDS IMPORT TO HIS PERCEPTIONS.

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SECT 02 OF 42475

ACTION

DIA:

DISTR

CJCS DJS J3(10) J5(02) J3;NMCC SECDEF(07) SECDEF:

ASD:ISA(10) :DIA(20) NMIC

- CMC CC WASHINGTON DC

- CNO WASHINGTON DC

- CSA WASHINGTON DC

- C I A

- SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC

- NSA WASH DC

FILE(1)

(050)

(b)(3):10 USC 424

TRANSIT/101102Z/101435Z/003:33TOP1301347

DE RUEBHAA [redacted] 1301350

ZNY ~~SECRET~~

P 101102Z MAY 78

FM (b)(3):10 USC 424

TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC

INFO RULPALJ/USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ/SCJ2-AD

RULPAFA/24COMPW/IN HOWARD AFB CZ

RUEAHQA/HQ USAF WASHDC/XOXXW

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~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ NOFORN SECTION 2 OF (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 42

(b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 42 COMMENT: ~~(C/NFORN)~~ IR (b)(3):10 USC 424 REPORTED CANCELLATION OF ARGENTINE ARMY AND NAVY ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING AND PLANS FOR SENDING PERSONNEL TO US FOR TRAINING. SIMILAR BUT INDEPENDENT ACTION BY ALL THREE SERVICES IN THE SAME TIME FRAME SUGGESTS THAT THE DECISION WAS MADE JOINTLY BY THE RULING LUNTA OR PERHAPS AT THE LEVEL OF THE SECRETARIES GENERAL. UNFORTUNATELY, SOURCES B S VIEW THAT CURRENT US HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY IS BASED ON INTERNAL US POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS IS ALSO STILL HEARD FROM A SURPRISING NUMBER OF SENIOR OFFICERS IN THE ARMY AND NAVY. THAT ATTEMPTS BY EMBASSY OFFICERS TO EXPLAIN THE BROAD BASED SUPPORT IN THE US FOR OUR HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN CONVINCING SENIOR MILITARY OFFICERS THAT CURRENT EMPHASIS BY THE

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US ON HUMAN RIGHTS IS NOT A FAD, BUT A LONG RANGE  
EFFORT WHICH WILL NOT "GO AWAY." HOWEVER, THIS REPORT  
SHOWS THAT SOME SENIOR ARGENTINE MILITARY OFFICERS  
CONTINUE TO QUESTION THE SINCERITY OF THE POLICY.  
THIS MSG COORD W/AMEMBASSY ~~ODS DEC 83~~

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