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FM (b)(3):10 USC 424

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SUBJ: THIS IS IR NO. (b)(3):10 USC 424

THIS IS AN INFO REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTEL

1. (U) COUNTRY: ARGENTINA (AR)
2. (U) REPORT NUMBER: (b)(3):10 USC 424
3. (U) TITLE: TERRORISM - ASSESSMENT AND FORECAST OF INCREASED TERRORIST ACTIVITY (U)
4. (U) N/A
5. (U) DATE OF INFORMATION: 790929-791002
6. (U) DATE OF REPORT: 791026
7. (U) DATE AND PLACE OF ACQUISITION: 790929-291002, BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA
8. (U) REFERENCE: (b)(3):10 USC 424
9. (U) ASSESSMENT: (b)(3):10 USC 424
10. (U) ORIGINATOR: [REDACTED]

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- 11. (U) REQUEST EVALUATION: [REDACTED]
- 12. (U) PREPARING OFFICER: [REDACTED]
- 13. (U) APPROVING AUTHORITY: [REDACTED] (b)(3): 10 USC 424
- 14. (U) SOURCE: [REDACTED]
- 15. (U) SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: OIPC-NO; NOFORN CAVEAT APPLIED TO PREVENT EMBARRASSMENT TO HOST GOVERNMENT AND POSSIBLE RELEASE TO TERRORIST INFORMATION SOURCES

15. ~~(S//NOFORN)~~ SUMMARY: THIS REPORT PROVIDES INFORMATION ON CURRENT TERRORIST (MONTONERO) STRENGTH AND ACTIVITY IN ARGENTINA. AN ARGENTINE GENERAL PROVIDED INFORMATION WITH RESPECT TO STRENGTH, OBJECTIVES, AND ORGANIZATION OF RECENT MONTONERO INFILUX. SEVERAL INDICATORS OF INCREASED TERRORIST ACTIVITY EXIST. AN INCREASE OF TERRORIST INCIDENTS NOW WOULD COME AT A SENSITIVE TIME AND COULD CAUSE A SETBACK IN ARGENTINE EFFORTS TOWARD ATTAINING CONDITIONS NECESSARY TO RETURN TO NORMALCY.

22. ~~(S//NOFORN)~~ DETAILS: A. ~~(S//NOFORN)~~ DURING A RECEPTION, SOURCE "A" PROVIDED INFORMATION WITH RESPECT TO THE INFILUX OF MONTONEROS AND THE POSSIBLE UPSURGE OF TERRORIST ACTIVITY. HE INDICATED THAT MONTONERO COMBAT STRENGTH IN THE RECENTLY ESTABLISHED ORGANIZATION (TEA - SPECIAL AGITATION TROOPS AND TEI - SPECIAL INFANTRY TROOPS) WAS APPROXIMATELY ONE-HUNDRED (100); ABOUT THIRTY (30) IN THE COMBATANT ELEMENT (TEI) AND ABOUT SEVENTY (70) IN THE TEA. SOURCE "A" INDICATED THAT THE COMBAT ELEMENTS HAD BEEN TRAINED IN LEBANON, HAD BEEN INFILTRATING AS TOURISTS WITH FALSE IDENTITY SINCE LAST APRIL. HE SAID THE GROUP LEADER IS PAUL CLEMENTE ((YAGER)) AKA "ROQUE" AND THAT ((MENDIZABAL)) - WHO WAS KILLED IN 7929, HAD BEEN THE POINT MAN SENT TO ARGENTINA TO ASSEMBLE THE GROUPS AND GET OPERATIONS STARTED.

B. ~~(S//NOFORN)~~ SOURCE "A" FURTHER SAID THAT MENDIZABAL WAS LOCATED IN A BAR IN CHACARITA, SAN MARTIN, PROVINCE OF BUENOS AIRES WHEN THEY LOCATED HIM. BECAUSE HE WAS ARMED WITH GRENADES AND PISTOL, THEY ATTEMPTED TO DISABLE HIM BY SNIPER FIRE - BUT THE SHOT WAS FATAL. IN THE CASE OF ((CROATTO)), HE WAS CONFRONTED IN A HOUSE. CROATTO THREW A GRENADE WHICH EXPLODED WOUNDING AN ARMY CAPTAIN IN THE ARM AND WOUNDING A SMALL GIRL WHO LATER LOST SIGHT IN ONE EYE. CROATTO ALSO FIRED AT THE OFFICERS, WOUNDING A LIEUTENANT SERIOUSLY (HEAD WOUND WITH PROBABLE BRAIN DAMAGE). THE CAPTAIN SHOT CROATTO TWICE, THEN CROATTO USED HIS PISTOL TO SHOOT HIMSELF. (THIS ACCOUNT IS CONSISTENT WITH REPORT BY CITE AMEMR BUENOS AIRES 8660, SUBJ: CURRENT INTELLIGENCE).

C. ~~(S//NOFORN)~~ SOURCE INDICATED THAT TEN OR TWELVE OF THE TERRORIST HAVE BEEN CAPTURED, AND THAT MR. ((GONZALES)),

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WHO WAS PICKED UP WITH HIS WIFE, WAS PROBABLY DEAD. HE HAD BEEN A MEMBER OF THE AGITATION TEAM AND HAD BROADCAST MONTONERO THREATS ON LOCAL TELEVISION AND RADIO, AND HAD HELPED PLAN SEVERAL ATTACKS (BUENOS AIRES HERALD ANNOUNCED ON 791024 THAT MRS. GONZALES HAD BEEN SENTENCED BY A WAR COUNCIL TO EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS PRISON FOR TERRORIST ACTIVITIES).

D. ~~(S/N0600N)~~ SOURCE "B" PROVIDED SEVERAL INDICATORS OF INCREASED ACTIVITY, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] (ONE DOCUMENT PROVIDED IS BEING TRANSLATED AND WILL BE PROVIDED BY SEPARATE REPORT).

~~(S/N0600N)~~ COMMENT: THE FACT THAT INTELLIGENCE SOURCES WERE ON THE TRAIL OF THE MONTONEROS WHEN THE ((KLEIN)) BOMBING OCCURRED, ATTESTS TO THE FACT THAT TERRORISTS DO HAVE THE CAPABILITY TO CONDUCT ISOLATED SPECTACULAR ATTACKS. CONSIDERING THE REACTION OBTAINED FROM HARDLINERS BY THE KLEIN BOMBING, IN CONJUNCTION WITH ((TIMERMAN)) RELEASE, MORE TERRORIST ACTS COULD CAUSE SERIOUS SETBACKS IN THE EFFORT TO RETURN TO NORMALCY.

THIS MSG COURD W/AMEMB.

~~REVH: 26 OCT 1999~~

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