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## 2. SITUATION OF SUBVERSION IN ARGENTINA

### a. General

In Argentina an unconventional war has taken place. A war that is the result of the struggle for world power. And I say "war" because war is the name given to every armed conflict between two forces which struggle for political goals.

From one side there was the Government and its institutions supported by a large majority of the people, and from the other a certain number of terrorist organizations having in common:

- Marxist ideology, and
- the systematic use of violence as a means to achieve power.

We call this intestine war "Antisubversion struggle" to avoid the aspiration of these illegal organizations to be recognized as belligerents, which would give them great advantages internationally.

Terrorist organizations, as you will see during this presentation, have never acted as political parties, but have used violence to an extreme degree (kidnappings, murders, attacks with explosives, organized attacks against Security Forces and Armed Forces, sabotage operations, etc.) as most important means to achieve power.

The above mentioned organizations have complex clandestine structures that encompass a leadership, propaganda and indoctrination "political apparatus", an "armed apparatus", which aspires to become the cadres of the future opposition regular army, and a "finance apparatus".

It should then be understood that in Argentina what is being fought and punished are not the ideas but outlaw facts.

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As an example we can mention the case of the Communist Party which, during all the struggle has not been declared illegal. Only some of its members, when they have violated Law 21,323 on "Suspension of Political Activities" or have participated in terrorist or related facts have been arrested. All the foregoing, notwithstanding the Communist Party being considered a cooperating element to terrorist subversion.

b. Origin and Development of the Principal Terrorist Organizations

This subject is very much related to the appearance in the Continent of the first Communist country: CUBA in 1959. Terrorist organizations in Argentina are closely connected with other American terrorist organizations, and also with those from other continents.

The origin of said organizations is to be found at the TRI-CONTINENTAL CONFERENCE, held in HAVANNA, CUBA, in 1966, with the participation of the COMMUNIST PARTIES OF AMERICA, ASIA and AFRICA.

At its end a group of Latin American delegates decided to hold another conference which was called LATIN AMERICAN SOLIDARITY ORGANIZATION (LASO). After some discussions it met for the second time in 1967 deciding the following :

- To sponsor revolutionary armed struggle in Latin America.
- To promote a combined strategy of revolutionary movements.
- To obtain the solidarity of American peoples (defense of the Cuban Revolution and help given to those who are promoting the armed struggle against the government of their countries), so as to thus establish Communism.

In 1967, in order to implement the decisions taken at the Latin American Solidarity Organization revolutionary groups of Latin Americans started military training.

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In 1966, the NATIONAL LIBERATION ARMY (NLA), ARGENTINE SECTION, was established on the basis of the goals being set up, and in order to support CHE GUEVARA's intention of turning BOLIVIA into a Communist country, through force, taking into account its social situation and its geopolitical importance (it has frontiers with all the countries of the Southern Cone). It was formed by 3 columns or groups, whose members had different origins.

After CHE GUEVARA's death, it lost its main purpose, and the members of the National Liberation Army split in different groups that were fed with other Marxists who were radicalized by them. Robberies and anonymous attacks are prepared.

Thus, in 1970, 3 major terrorist organizations became known because of the commitment of important facts:

- MONTONEROS: It kidnapped, tortured and murdered former president of the Republic, PEDRO EUGENIO ARAMBURU.
- THE REVOLUTIONARY ARMED FORCES (FUERZAS ARMADAS REVOLUCIONARIAS (FAR): seized the town of GARIN, in the Province of Buenos Aires.
- THE WORKERS REVOLUTIONARY PARTY (PARTIDO REVOLUCIONARIO DE LOS TRABAJADORES) (PRT) decided to create the People's Revolutionary Army (Ejército Revolucionario del Pueblo) (ERP) as its armed branch. In September it seized a police station and murdered several policemen who were present and did not resist.

In 1971 and 1972, among others, the following facts took place: the murder of the 2nd Army Commander, Major General JUAN CARLOS SAN-CHIZ, and the kidnapping and later murder of the chairman of the Fiat Corporation in Argentina.

In 1973 elections took place and Peronism rose to power. MONTONEROS, one of the terrorist organizations, had stated that it belonged to that political movement. Infiltration started in all segments of the Government up to the time they were expelled from the movement by General PERON himself; General PERON, who had tried to use them from exile.

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The PRT-ERP, taking into account its total Marxist-Leninist ideology continued carrying out, with some success, attacks to military units with the complicity of some conscript privates.

In 1974 the activity continued. The PRT-ERP started preparing the area for rural guerrilla.

The ERP together with other terrorist organizations, the TUPAC KATARI from Uruguay, the NATIONAL LIBERATION ARMY (EJERCITO DE LIBERACION NACIONAL) from Bolivia and the REVOLUTIONARY LEFTIST MOVEMENT (MOVIMIENTO DE IZQUIERDA REVOLUCIONARIA) from Chile made up a structure to coordinate the struggle in LATIN AMERICA. It was called REVOLUTIONARY COORDINATING BOARD (JUNTA COORDINADORA REVOLUCIONARIA), having the purpose of getting the adherence of other organizations and to create guerrilla simultaneous focus in AMERICA.

MONTECARLOS is expelled from the Peronist movement by PERON himself, since he considered them MARXISTS infiltrated in his movement. It returned to clandestinity and attacked the government it pretended to support in order to achieve their goals. In September it kidnapped two businessmen collecting for their ransom 60 million dollars.

In 1975 terrorist action is even greater. About 10 subversive facts are committed every day.

The ERP, in the rural area of Tucuman seized villages for short periods of time and hoisted the Communist banner. Its leader, SANTUCHO made known his intention of declaring it a "Liberated Area" in order to separate it from the national territory together with the North West therefore turning it into the Sierra Maestra of SOUTH AMERICA.

MONTECARLOS, had started to manufacture hand grenades, submachine guns, Energia type grenades of the 70 and 40 mm type, electronic fuses etc.

In this same year, 1975, terrorists carried out among other operations 546 murders, 1070 explosive attacks, 175 extorsive kidnappings, 12 seizures of villages and 15 seizures of police and army units.

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In February 1975, the constitutional president, due to an open request of the Armed Forces that saw national security at stake, ordered the Army to operate in TUCUMAN against the rural guerrilla due to the serious situation of that province.

Later on, by the end of 1975, the same constitutional government, due to the fact that the Police Forces in all the country had been overcome, grants the Army the primary responsibility in the anti-subversion struggle.

In 1976, the terrorist organizations which still had a lot of infiltrated personnel in certain government levels and in the Civil Service, kept on their operations in the urban environment. In TUCUMAN (rural area), 2,500 army men had isolated the terrorists from the villages and started their annihilation. The Army had 23 officers, 10 non-commissioned officers and 11 privates who had died in chashes in the forest.

At this stage it is convenient to make it clear that in order to achieve victory with a minimum of casualties, the normal procedure was modified. The new one consisted in isolating the area and penetrating the forest, so as to carry out ambushes in the supply roads and those roads connecting with the urban area, prior the annihilation of the urban supporting structure.

In March 1976, facing very serious political and economic crisis the Armed Forces took over power and soon afterwards the subversive situation started to change.

In 1977, the terrorist organizations lost, in addition to the 3/4 of their personnel, nearly all its logistic and propaganda infrastructure (more than 20 underground printing presses, several weapon factories 5 factories of hexogen plastic explosive, factories of electronic devices, etc. were found).

In view of this situation, the escape of terrorists abroad started. First, were the heads and the principal ideologists, and then members of intermediate levels of the terrorist organizations, whose position in Argentina was unbearable at that time. Due to this new situation,

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a new stage of terrorist subversion started with attacks to the Government through an indirect way and from abroad, taking advantage of the facilities offered by the democratic international community and the support of Marxist organizations and governments.

This will be discussed later on.

As a summary of terrorist activity, it should be taken into account that from 1969 to 1979 we recorded 21,462 attacks carried out by Marxist terrorists organizations in Argentina.

c. Terrorist organizations operations abroad

The international environment is the one in which MONTONEROS is developing most of its aggressive actions against Argentina, especially through interviews, publications, contacts with Human Rights international organizations and important political and cultural people, etc

With respect to the situation of the countries where they live, here we have some cases.

1) CUBA

- Centre of terrorist expansion.
- This is the seat of its principal leaders. It is used to organize meetings at top level structures, for it gives them confort and security besides other facilities.
- Financing handlings are facilitated (support with remittances by diplomatic couriers).

2) MEXICO

A great number of fugitive or "optioned" terrorists took refuge in this country, in view of the large number of facilities given as regards means of-support, work and contacts. Also they have an easy access to the mass media and universities which are basic to their international psychological operations in favour of their goals.

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There are several buildings which with different names, are used publicly to criticize fallaciously the National Government. Well-known Argentina terrorists meet there.

There is a factory of TV jamming equipment, a printing plant and equipment for forging documents.

Political courses of study are given, as well as agitation training.

3) NICARAGUA

MONTONEROS helped the Sandinist National Liberation Front (Frente Sandinista de Liberación Nacional) (FSLN) with a million dollars, a medical brigade and a group of the "Montonero Army" called "General JOSÉ DE SAN MARTÍN", some of whose leaders are acting in the staff of the Sandinist National Liberation Front.

They also helped the Sandinist National Liberation Front with propaganda given through the "Radio Noticias del Continente" (Continental Radio News), set up in COSTA RICA.

When the Revolutionary Junta entered in MANAGUA, Argentine terrorists FIDLENICH and VACA NAVAJA were present in the celebration dressed in combat gear.

4) COSTA RICA

In June 1979 a long range broadcasting started its operation. It is owned by MONTONEROS. Its purpose was to cover LATIN AMERICA with its own broadcasts. Its name was "Radio Noticias del Continente" (Continental Radio News) and it disseminated news from international agencies, with false comments in which they attacked directly the Argentine Government, its Armed Forces and its Security Forces. The broadcasting often disseminated statements and documents of the band. As from March 7, 1981 its license was cancelled and the equipment was moved to NICARAGUA.

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5) EUROPE

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In Europe Montoneros operate basically through accusations about the infringement of human rights and the lack of certain freedoms in Argentina. They have got in touch with important political personalities, especially Social Democrats and obtained the partial support of labour organizations. Left wing (or hardly informed) mass media sponsor their propaganda and fallacies about Argentina's reality.

SPAIN, FRANCE and ITALY are the most important countries for the terrorist bands operations.

6) LEBANON

MONTONEROS are in a close contact with the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), mainly with AL FATAH. Its Special Forces are trained in their camps. They are also given weapons and they have some contacts facilitated in some Arab and African countries. The band has set up an explosive factory near the SIDON port.

d. Solidarity Organizations Operations

Of all the solidarity organizations which respond to the outlines followed by our terrorists abroad, we can mention the following :

- 1) The Argentine Commission for Human Rights (ACHR) (Comisión Argentina por los Derechos Humanos (CADHU). Having its headquarters in PARIS, it was established through agreements among elements of the PRT-ERP, Montoneros and other Argentine bands. It has a branch in SPAIN and other in MEXICO.
- 2) Argentine Information and Solidarity Centre (Centro Argentino de Información y Solidaridad) (CAIS). It has its headquarters in PARIS. It is Trotskyite. Its mission is to unify the propaganda and agitation apparatus of terrorism abroad. It has supporting groups such as the Support Committee to the Struggles of the Argentine People. (Comité de Sostén a las Luchas del Pueblo Argentino (CSIPA).

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3) Solidarity Committee of Relatives of Prisoners, Dead, and Disappeared Due to Political Reasons in Argentina (Comité de Solidaridad de Familiares de Presos, Muertos y Desaparecidos por Razones Políticas en Argentina (COSOFPAM). Formed by exiled terrorists and their relatives living abroad, it responds to the solidarity apparatus of MONTONEROS. It has headquarters in ITALY, MEXICO and SPAIN.

4) Anti-Imperialist Movement for Socialism in Argentina (Movimiento Anti-Imperialista por el Socialismo en Argentina (MASA). It is made up of terrorists who fled from Argentina, mainly belonging to the ERP. It has its headquarters in the U.S.A. Some steps were taken by the Foreign Affairs Ministry before the American Government, which answered that it could not take any action on it due to the Democratic freedoms which are in force in its territory.

All these organizations in defence of human rights, made up in great majority by the same terrorists, propel the Anti-Argentine Campaign, which, due to political reasons or due to the ignorance of the Argentine reality, has the support of not only Marxist governments and institutions, but also of organizations, personalities and even of governments of Non-Communist Western countries.

e. Conclusions

- The terrorist subversion which we have suffered with great intensity in the recent years is not an isolated Argentine phenomenon, but an additional expression of the constant action and the expansion experienced by Communism throughout the world. Its operations in Argentina are but a part of the world strategy for the conquest of world power carried out in the American Continent where, under variegated forms, it develops its aggression directed to the seizure and conquest of our peoples.

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- There has been a war of unconventional features between the mass of the population, represented by its government and its institutions, and some minority groups with little representativity having in common Marxism-Leninism (in some cases covered by national positions and doctrines), and their reporting to power centres abroad.
- That war, which was not wanted by the Armed Forces, was not originated either in an unfavourable social situation in the majority of the population (extreme poverty) or in a situation of abuse of power (despotic tyranny), but it was rather the consequence of a decision at international level, taken in Cuba in 1967 by the Latin American Solidarity Organization (Organización Latinoamericana de Solidaridad) (Cinco).
- The maximum intensity of the terrorist attack-which was the consequence of the development of its armed structures - was directed towards the Peronist government, which was freely elected, obliging the then President of the Republic (Mrs PERON) to issue a Decree Law for the Armed Forces to start operations in Tucuman against terrorist organizations. This was compulsory because those organizations had overcome all provisions of peacetime legal system and the capacity of Police and Security Forces to defeat them.

Later, through an instruction of the DEFENCE COUNCIL and due to the foregoing, the Armed Forces were assigned primary responsibility in the Antisubversion Struggle.

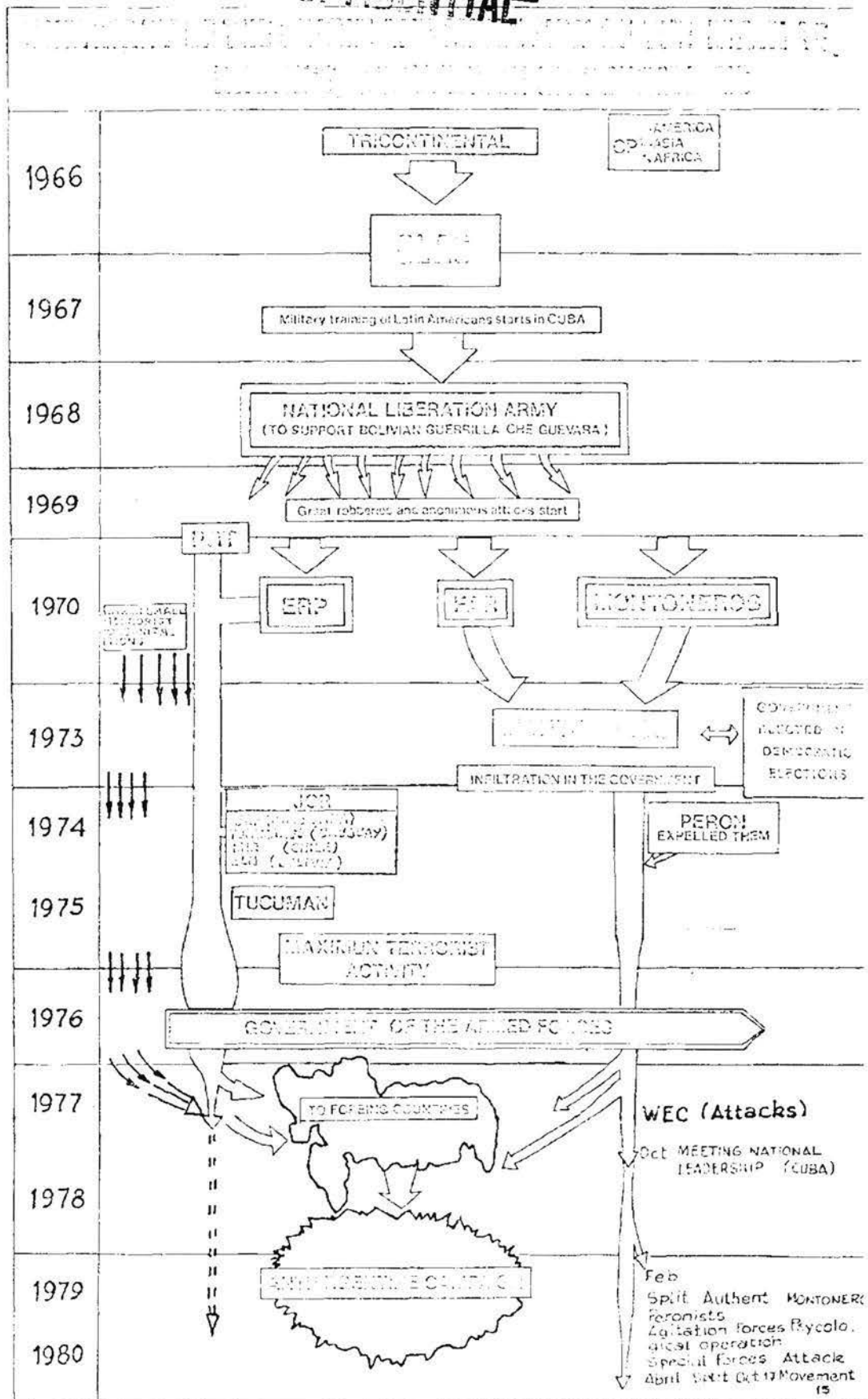
- The main leaders of the terrorist bands that could not structure their organization in Argentina and fled the country have been developing for many years a campaign against the National Government and its institutions in order to isolate Argentina and urge the return to formal democracy, without having solved the national problems originated by the continual crisis of our Republic, so as to achieve suitable conditions to strike again.
- It should be taken into account that this campaign against Argentina was largely possible due to the following :
  - Human rights policy implemented by the USA.
  - Strong lefts in the parliaments and mass media of Europe.

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- Influence of Marxist personalities and of organizations infiltrated by Marxism, or those that without willing it are favouring Communism.
  - Lack of information of international public opinion about Argentina's reality.
- we can definitely state that they are not, as they want us to believe "opposing politicians in exile" persecuted by the Government. They are terrorists, either fugitive or "optioned" (those whose guilt could not be proved and have made use of the "option" constitutional right). Also they can be collaborators of terrorists who have "take advantage of democracy to attack democracy".

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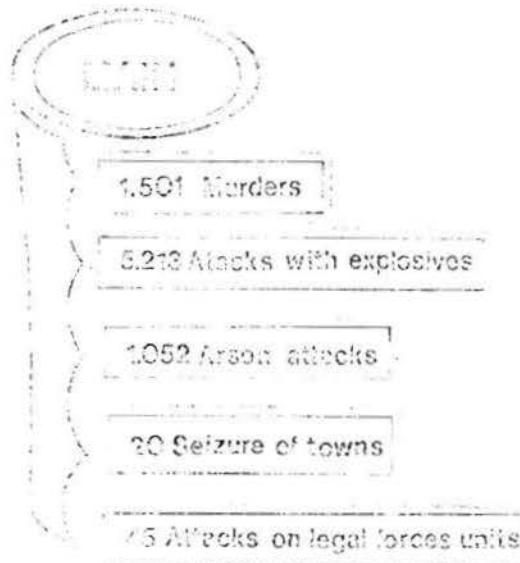
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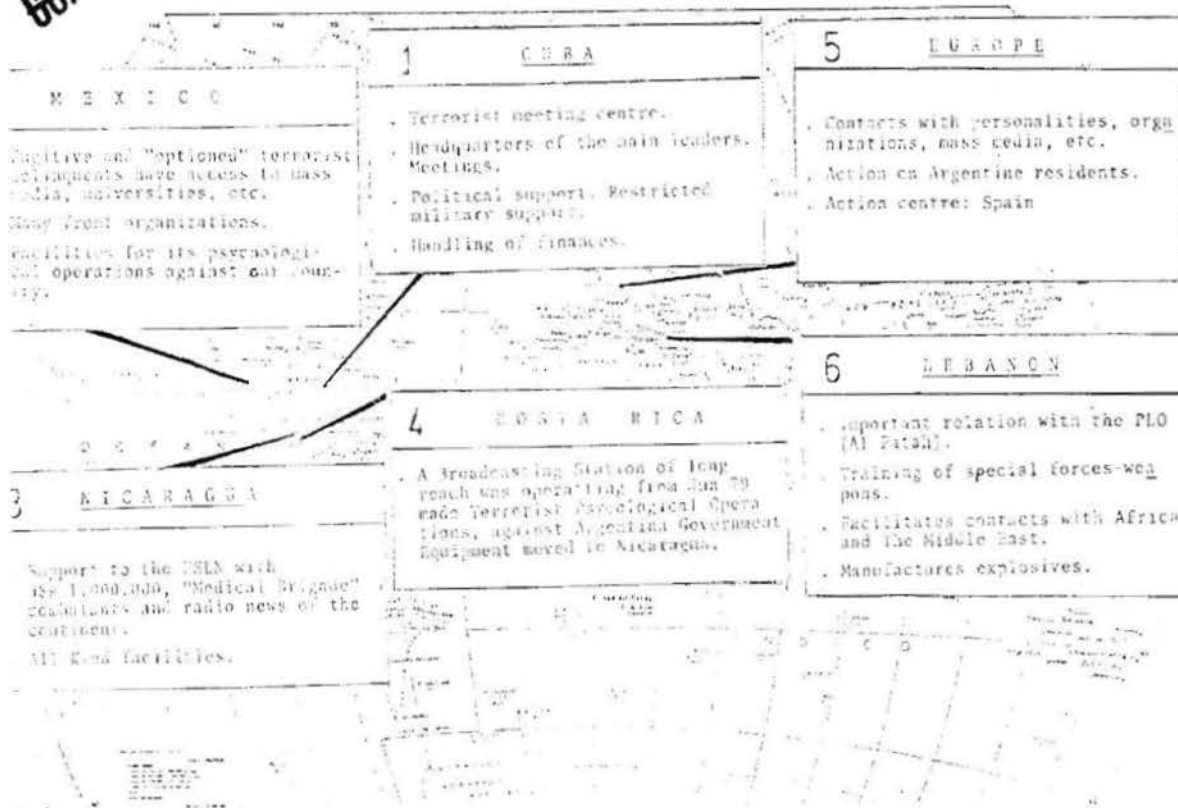
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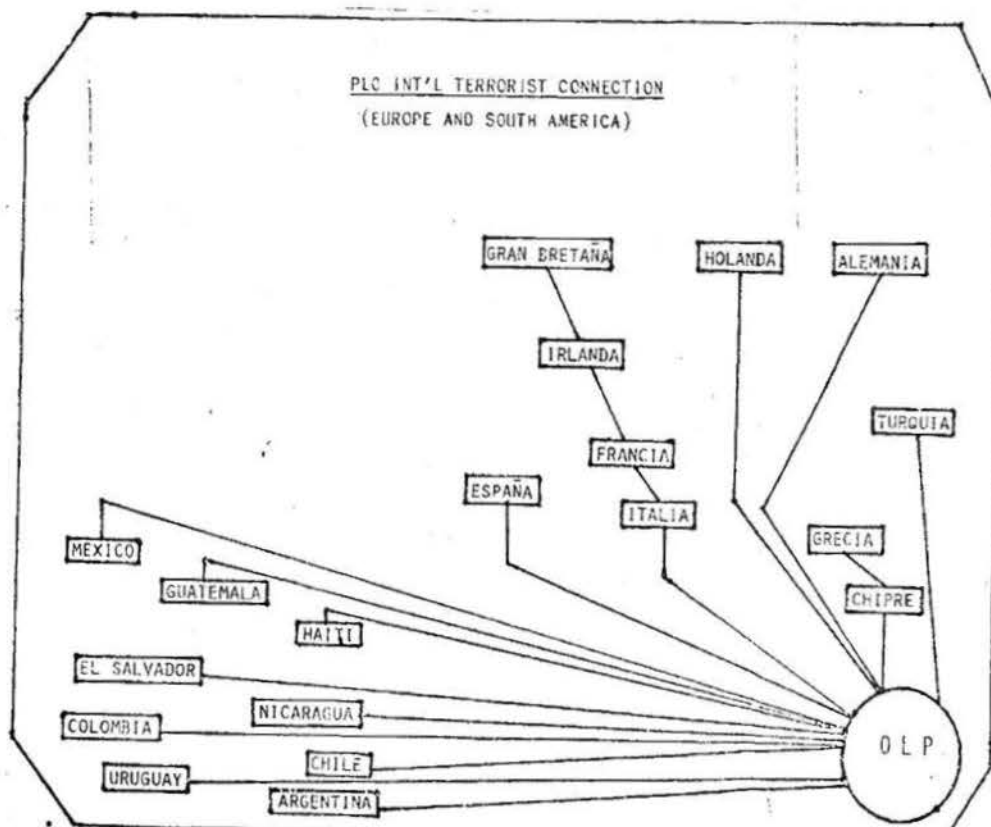
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MAIN GEOGRAPHIC PLACES WHERE MONTONEROS IS OPERATING



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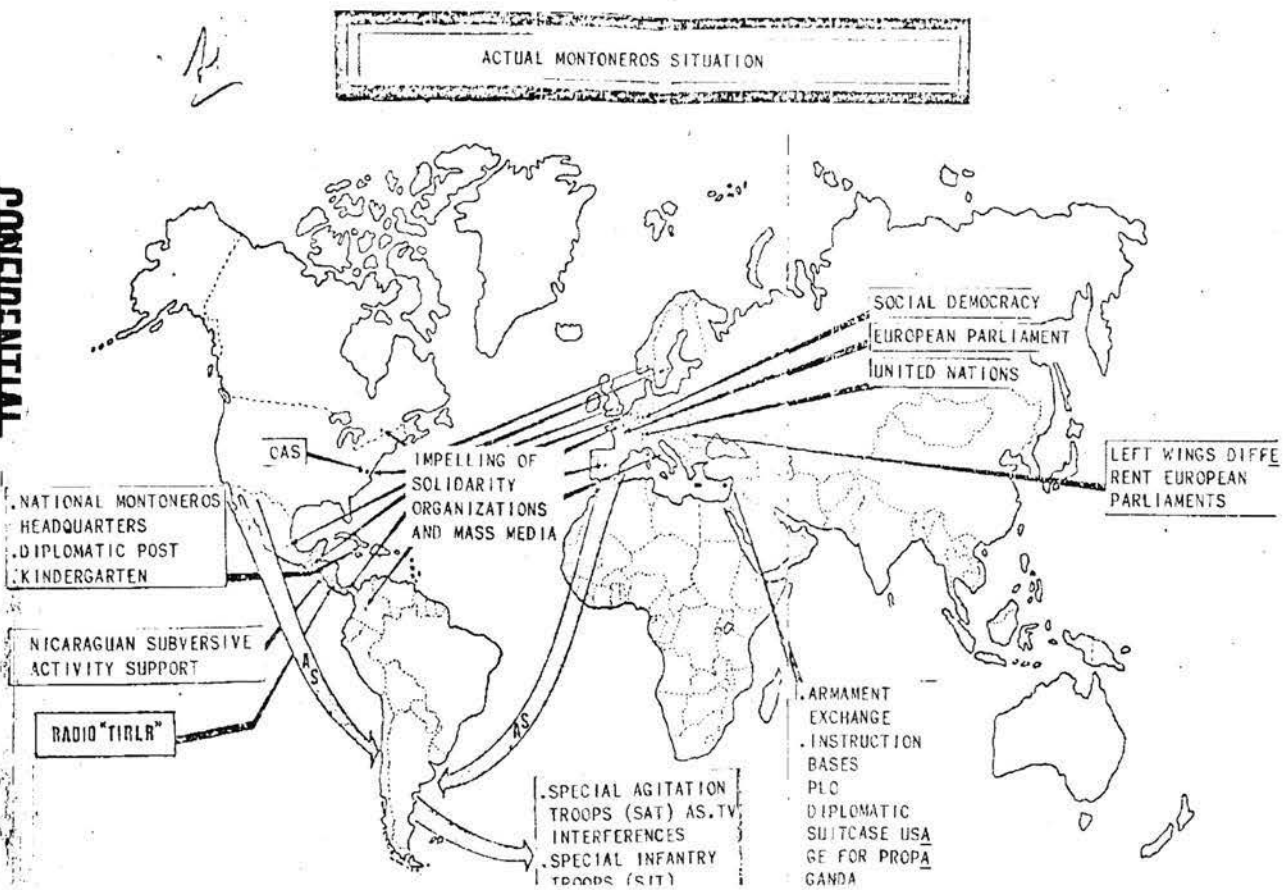
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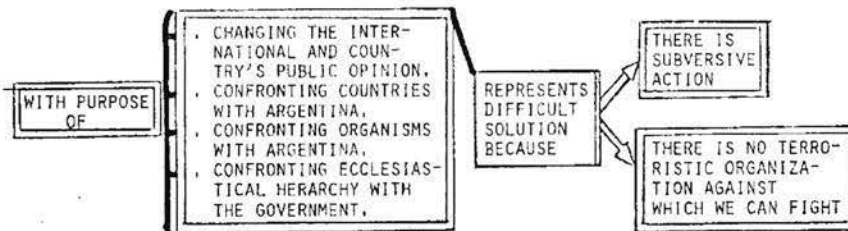
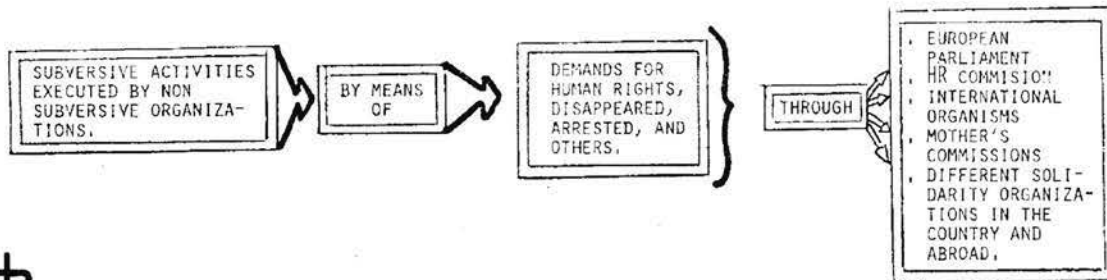
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