

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
MESSAGE CENTER

DECLASSIFIED IN PART
Authority: EO 13526
DIA FOIA & Declassification Services Offices
Date: Oct 17, 2018

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ACTION DIA:

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(b)(3):10 USC 4

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

1. AR

2. COMMENTS OF SENIOR ARGENTINE POLITICAL FIGURES ON MILITARY AND SECURITY SITUATIONS IN ARGENTINA (U)

3. N/A

4. 1975 SEP 6-11

5. 1975 SEP 6-11 BUENOS AIRES

6. B-2

7. A.) PERSONAL CONTACT

B.) AMERICAN EMBASSY PERSONNEL

8.

(b)(3):10 USC 424

9. 1975 SEP 12

10. 4

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

12.

13.

Sec. 3.3(b) (1)

PAGE 1

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TERRORISM AND THE GUERRILLAS IN TUCUMAN. LUDER RESPONDED THAT HE EXPECTED A NUMBER OF POSITIVE ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY THE ARMED FORCES AND POLICE, IN THE NEAR FUTURE. WHEN [REDACTED] SUGGESTED THAT A MUCH BROADER BASED PROGRAM MIGHT BE NEEDED THE SENATOR AGREED, BUT WENT ON TO EXPLAIN THAT, GIVEN THE POLITICAL MAKE-UP OF THE CONGRESS, IT WAS UNREALISTIC TO EXPECT TOO MUCH IN THE WAY OF LEGISLATION OF A REPRESSIVE NATURE.

Sec. 3.3(b) (1)

2. ~~(C/NFO)~~ DURING A RECENT CALL BY AMBASSADOR HILL ON MINISTER OF DEFENSE JORGE GARRIDO [REDACTED]

Sec. 3.3(b) (1)

THE MOD EMPHASIZED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS THAT THE ACTION TAKEN BY GOA ON 8 SEP 79 DECLARING THE MONTONEROS ILLEGAL WAS ONLY THE FIRST STEP IN AN AGGRESSIVE CAMPAIGN TO ELIMINATE TERRORISM IN THE CITIES AND DEFEAT THE RURAL GUERRILLAS. LATER THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, MAJOR GENERAL (RET) CARD, POINTED OUT THAT THE TEN MILLION DOLLARS OF US FMS CREDITS WOULD NOT BE ADEQUATE TO PURCHASE THE COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, HELICOPTERS, AND OTHER SOPHISTICATED ITEMS NEEDED TO SUPPORT AN AGGRESSIVE ANTI-TERRORISTS/GUERRILLA CAMPAIGN.

3. ~~(C/NFO)~~ EX-FOREIGN MINISTER VIGNES, DURING A RECENT VISIT WITH A HIGH EMBASSY OFFICIAL, EXPRESSED GREAT SATISFACTION WITH THE APPOINTMENT OF BRIG. GEN VIDELA AS ARMY CINC. HE PRAISED VIDELA'S PROFESSIONAL ABILITY, STRENGTH, AND MORAL FIBER AND REMARKED THAT THE ARMED FORCES WERE NOW MORE UNIFIED THAN AT ANY TIME IN THE PAST TWO YEARS AND THEY DO NOT WANT TO ASSUME POLITICAL POWER. HE WENT ON TO EXPRESS HIS CONFIDENCE IN AIR FORCE CINC FAUTARIO, BUT APPEARED RATHER COOL TOWARD NAVY CINC MASSERA. HE PREDICTED THAT THERE WOULD BE SOME IMPORTANT POLITICAL CHANGES IN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS.

4. ~~(C/NFO)~~ FOLLOWING A RECENT MEETING WITH EX-DEFENSE MIN. SAVINO, A HIGH EMBASSY OFFICIAL REPORTED THAT SAVINO IS PLEASED WITH THE APPOINTMENT OF THE NEW ARMY CINC. HE ALSO INDICATED THAT HIS OWN POLITICAL FORTUNES MAY SOON BE IMPROVING.

5. ~~(C/NFO)~~ CMT: THERE APPEARS TO BE ALMOST UNIVERSAL SATISFACTION WITH THE APPOINTMENT OF GENERAL VIDELA AS ARMY CINC, WITH HIS POLICY TO REMOVE THE ARMY FROM THE POLITICAL ARENA, AND WITH THE UNITY WHICH THE ARMED FORCES HAVE ACHIEVED. ALSO, THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT AN AGGRESSIVE CAMPAIGN AGAINST TERRORISTS AND GUERRILLAS IS NOW BEING PLANNED. WHILE IT WILL PROBABLY INCLUDE A MUCH MORE ACTIVE ROLE FOR THE ARMED FORCES, PRECISELY WHAT FORM IT WILL TAKE AND WHAT NEW AUTHORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO THE MILITARY

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REMAINS TO BE SEEN.

MSG COORDINATED IN EMB.

~~NOFORN TO AVOID EMBARRASSMENT TO DOD. OOS DEC 31 1994~~

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PAGE 3

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