

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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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.

~~XGDS-2~~

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