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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CONFIDENT LA-L/NOFORN 0636 JUL 77	
SUBJ: THIS IS (b)(3):10 USC 424	
1. ARGENTINA (AR)	*
2 • (b)(3):10 USC 424	
3. (U) INSURGENCY - MISSING LAWYERS	
4. N/A	
5. 770722	
7. 770725 7. 770723, BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA	
8. (b)(3):10 USC 424	
9. 3-3	
10. (b)(3):10 USC 424	
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12. (0)(3) 10 050 424	
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15. DIRCE: NO - NOFORN TO AVOID EMBARRASSMENT TO HOST

GOVT

16. SUMMARY: (C/NOFORN) MISSING LAWYERS ARE SAID TO BE IN THE HANDS OF THE MONTONEROS. A MEMBER OF THE ARGENTINE ARMY CLAIMS TO HAVE EVIDENCE THAT WILL LEAD TO THE RESCUE OF THE LAWYERS AND THE CAPTURE OF THEIR KIDNAPPERS.

22. DETAILS: (C/NOFORN)

Sec. 3.3(b) (1)

DURING A LUNCHEON

SOURCE MENTIONED THAT THE ARGENTINE ARMY HAD SOME POSITIVE LEADS ON THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE LAWYERS THAT HAD BEEN KIDNAPPED IN THE AREA OF MAR DEL PLATA, AND WOULD SOON BE TAKING ACTION TO FREE THEM. ACCORDING TO SOURCE, THE LAWYERS WERE KIDNAPPED BY A CELL OF THE MONTONEROS. AS A RESULT OF THE RECOVERY OF ONE OF THE KIDNAPPED LAWYERS DURING A RECENT SHOOTOUT, THE ARMY HAS BEEN ABLE TO DETERMINE WHICH GROUP PROBABLY HAS THE REST. AND WILL SOON BE ABLE TO FREE THEM. SOURCE SAID THAT THIS WOULD BE A MAJOR VICTORY FOR THE GOA, AND WOULD GREATLY IMPROVE ITS IMAGE. COMMENT: (C/NOFORN) THIS COMMENT IS THE FIRST INDICATION Sec. 3.3(b) (1) FROM ANY OF THE ARMED FORCES THAT THEY WERE AWARE OF WHO HAD KIDNAPPED THE LAWYERS, OR WHERE THEY MIGHT BE.

Sec. 3.3(b) (1)

THE GOA IS VERY AWARE THAT USG IS FOLLOWING THE CASE OF THE LAWYERS, AS WELL AS THE MISSING ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA. THEY KNOW THAT CONTINUED SILENCE CONCERNING THE LAWYERS IS PREJUDICIAL TO THE ARGENTINE IMAGE, AND HAVE SAID THEY WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO SOLVE THE CASE PRIOR TO THE UPCOMING VISIT OF ASST SECRETARY TODMAN, AND THE TWO CODELS WHICH WILL VISIT ARGENTINA IN AUGUST.

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CUMMENT: (C/MOFCRN)

Sec. 3.3(b) (1)(b)(3):10 USC 424

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