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FM (b)(3):10 USC 424

TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASH DC

INFO RULPALJ/USCINCSO QUARRY HTS/SCJ2-AD/

RULPAKA/193RD INF BDE FT AMADOR CZ

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ NOFORN 609 JULY 77

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

1. ARGENTINA (AR)

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

3. ~~CC~~ POLITICAL - CONCEPTS OF INTERIOR MINISTRY OFFICIALS

4. N/A

5. 770722

6. 770726

7. 770722, BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

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

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

10.

11. NO

(b)(3):10 USC 424

15. DIRC: NO; NOFORN TO AVOID EMBARRASSMENT TO HOST GOVT

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16. SUMMARY: ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ [Sec. 3.3(b) (1)] LUNCHEON WITH
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR OFFICIALS [b(3):10 USC 424] US POLICY OF
HUMAN RIGHTS AND ITS IMPACT ON ARGENTINA WERE DISCUSSED.
ARGENTINES CONTINUE TO CONDUCT RELATIONS WITH US ON TWO
LEVELS.

22. DETAILS: 1. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Sec. 3.3(b) (1)

[REDACTED] HAD LUNCH

[REDACTED] WITH [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AND SEVERAL OF HIS
ASSISTANTS. THE INVITATION WAS EXTENDED THROUGH ARMY
FOREIGN LIAISON OFFICER WHO ALSO ATTENDED.

2. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ ATMOSPHERE WAS INFORMAL AND CONGENIAL, BUT
US POLICY ON HUMAN RIGHTS WAS OBVIOUSLY ON THEIR MINDS.
WHEN THE SUBJECT WAS FINALLY BROUGHT UP IT WAS IN A VERY LOW
KEY. HOSTS EXPRESS THE FOLLOWING SENTIMENTS AND OPINIONS
WHICH HAVE BEEN HEARD ON MANY PREVIOUS OCCASIONS:

A. ARGENTINES ARE AT WAR, AND DURING WARTIME SOME
VIOLENT ACTIONS MUST BE TAKEN (US BOMBS ON HIROSHIMA AND
NAGASAKI CITED AS EXAMPLES) AND SOME LIBERTIES MUST BE
SUSPENDED IN ORDER TO PRESERVE THE OVERALL FABRIC OF
SOCIETY;

B. WHILE PUNISHING FRIENDS SUCH AS ARGENTINA AND
URUGUAY, WHO HAVE BEEN FIGHTING FOR THEIR LIVES AGAINST
COMMUNISM, THE US IS MAKING FRIENDLY OVERTURES TOWARD
CUBA, A COUNTRY IN WHICH HUMAN RIGHTS ARE IGNORED AND IN
WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL IS COMPLETELY SUBJECTED TO THE STATE.
HOSTS POINTED OUT THAT WHILE US WOOS CUBA, CASTRO CONTINUES
TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO LEFTIST FORCES IN AFRICA.

C. WHEN SUBVERSION IS SUFFICIENTLY DEFEATED ARGENTINA
WILL BE ABLE TO RETURN TO A RULE OF LAW, BUT TO EXPECT
CIVILIAN POLICE AUTHORITIES AND COURTS TO CONTEND WITH THE
PROBLEMS POSED BY ACTIVE TERRORISM IS UNREALISTIC. HOSTS
POINTED OUT THAT US INSISTENCE ON DUE PROCESS AND DEPENDENCE
ON NORMAL JUDICIAL SYSTEM REFLECTED THE COMPLETE LACK OF
UNDERSTANDING OF THE SITUATION EXISTING IN ARGENTINA TODAY.
THEY WENT ON TO LAMENT THAT THE US PROBABLY WOULD NEVER
UNDERSTAND SINCE THE US HAS NEVER BEEN FACED WITH A SERIOUS
SUBVERSION PROBLEM WHICH THREATENED ITS VERY EXISTENCE.

3. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ AT ONE POINT [Sec. 3.3(b) (1)] ASKED TO
WHAT EXTENT WE HAD DETECTED COMMUNIST SUBVERSION IN US
UNIVERSITIES. HE INDICATED THAT THEY VIEWED SUBVERSION IN
ARGENTINE UNIVERSITIES AS A SERIOUS PROBLEM AND ONE WHICH STILL
HAD TO BE RESOLVED. WHEN WE REPLIED THAT THE PRESENCE OF
LEFTIST, AS WELL AS RIGHTIST, POLITICAL THOUGHT IN US

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UNIVERSITIES WAS NOT GENERALLY PERCEIVED AS A SERIOUS THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY, OUR HOSTS CHUCKLED AND IMPLIED THAT WE SHOULD NOT BE SO NAIVE.

4. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ AT THE END OF THE LUNCHEON Sec. 3.3(b) (1) STATED THAT HE HAD INVITED US TO GET ACQUAINTED AND TO INITIATE A FRANK EXCHANGE OF IDEAS Sec. 3.3(b) (1) HE SAID THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE MEETING PERIODICALLY TO KEEP OUR LINES OF COMMUNICATIONS OPEN.

COMMENT: ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ WHILE THE LUNCHEON CONVERSATION WAS INTERESTING, IT REVEALED NOTHING NEW. WHAT IS IMPORTANT, HOWEVER, IS THAT THIS IS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT SEEKING TO EXCHANGE IDEAS WITH Sec. 3.3(b) (1)

Sec. 3.3(b) (1) IN ADDITION TO THEIR NORMAL CONTACTS, IT CONFIRMS PREVIOUS REPORTING THAT THE GOA IS ATTEMPTING TO CONDUCT THEIR RELATIONS WITH THE USG Sec. 3.3(b) (1)

THIS MSG HAS BEEN COORD W/EMBASSY

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