



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

Individual Items Of This Report Are
UNCLASSIFIED Unless Otherwise Indicated

This Is An Information Report, Not Finally Evaluated Intelligence

RECEIVED

(b)(3):10 USC 424

COUNTRY: ARGENTINA (AR)

REPORT NO:

(b)(3):10 USC 424

2 1980

AR 15-28

TITLE: Political/Military - Argentine Disappeared (U)

DATE OF INFO: 800507

(YY MM DD)

(b)(3):10 USC 424

REPORT DATE: 800514

(YY MM DD)

(b)(3):10 USC 424

ORIGINATOR:

(b)(3):10 USC 424

REQ REFERENCES:

(b)(3):10 USC 424

SOURCE: US Embassy Cable

112

SUMMARY: (U) This report forwards an Amemb cable which addresses the Argentine disappeared issue.

ORIG COMMENTS: A. ~~(S)~~ One of the first ingredients needed for a return to a civilian government in Argentina is a guarantee for the military that they will not, at a later date and under a civilian government, be prosecuted for abuses which took place during the dirty war against subversive elements.

B. ~~(S)~~ This guarantee has been called by some military as the Ley de Olvida (The law to Forget). This report tends to indicate that at least one political party now acknowledges the fact that they have to cooperate if they want to get back into the power circle. It is essential that the military be negotiating from a position of strength when they return the power (to make the Ley de Olvida work). In this formula an improved economic situation and a reduction in inflation appear essential.

C. ~~(S)~~ This report is also of interest in its analysis that the majority of the population does not show much interest in the disappeared issue. This is backed up by RO's personal experience. Most Argentines acknowledge that abuses take place in war. The Argentine approach to the disappeared issue is in keeping with the way the Argentine population views most social issues. If it doesn't affect you directly keep your nose out of it.

5
4
3
2
1

(b)(3):10 USC 424

CLASSIFIED BY
REVISED ON 14 MAY 2000

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
DIA FOIA & Declassification Services Offices
Date: Oct 19, 2018

DECLASSIFICATION
DATA

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

**INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT
SUPPLEMENTAL DATA**

Individual Items Of This Report Are
UNCLASSIFIED Unless Otherwise Indicated

REPORT NO:

(b)(3):10 USC 42

PROJECT NO: None

COLL MGMT CODES: None

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: DIRC ☐ Y ☒ N

(b)(3):10 USC 424;(b)(6)

PREPARED BY:

(name, rank/grade, position)

APPROVED BY: (name, rank/grade, position, signature)

REQUEST EVALUATION: ☐ Y ☒ N
Request Evaluation Releasable To:

1 ENCLOSURE(S): (b)(3):10 USC 424;(b)(6)

1. Amemb Buenos Aires

Cable 3831 (e) 3 pgs

MICROFICHE BY RTS-3B

SUBJECT/LOCATION CODES
(For DIA Use Only)

102100
3021003
20 710
105324 } AR
103100

DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR:
DIA (Original)

DIA

(b)(3):10 USC 42

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
DIA FOIA & Declassification Services Offices
Date: Oct 19, 2018

5
4
3
2
1

(b)(3): 10 USC 424

INDICATE
☐ COLLECT

FROM

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

CLASSIFICATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

72415

~~SECRET~~

TAGS:

SUBJECT:

ACTION:

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO:

USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMB
DCM
POL 3
ECON
POL/R

ICA
SCI
SY
CHRON
RE

(b)(3):10 USC 424

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ BUENOS AIRES 3831

ROME FOR VATICAN OFFICE

1. (U) OVER THE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS RICARDO BALBIN, LEADER OF THE RADICAL PARTY, HAS ON THREE OCCASIONS PUBLICLY ADDRESSED THE ISSUE OF THE ARGENTINE DISAPPEARED. ON EACH HE HAS DELIVERED THE SAME HARSH MESSAGE: "THEY ARE NOT

4 SING, THEY ARE DEAD." THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN ACCOMPANIED WITH RECOMMENDATIONS BY BALBIN THAT THE FAMILIES OF THE DISAPPEARED CEASE LOOKING FOR THE LOVED ONES AND BEGIN TO ACCEPT WHAT "EVERY ARGENTINE KNOWS," THAT THEY ARE NOT COMING HOME. BALBIN STATED TOO THAT THE "MISSING PERSONS CASE IS CLOSED" AND HIS CONCERN TODAY IS "ALLEVIATING THE PAIN AND PREVENTING ANOTHER GENERATION FROM SUFFERING." IN OTHER WORDS, THE COUNTRY SHOULD CONCERN ITSELF WITH THE

RAFTED BY:

POL:TBFRIEDMAN:SB

DRAFTING DATE

5/7/80

TEL. EXT.

278

CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY:

POLCOUNS:WHHALLMAN

FRANCES:

POL:AGFREEMAN

DCM:MCHAP*DN

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
DIA FOIA & Declassification Services Offices
Date: Oct 19, 2018

ENLL TD

(b)(3):10 USC 424

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

3831

FUTURE AND NOT RAKE OVER THE PAST.

2. (U) THE MOTHERS OF THE DISAPPEARED, AMONG OTHERS, PUBLICLY CHALLENGED BALBIN. THEY CALLED UPON HIM TO REVEAL THE SOURCE OF HIS INFORMATION IF HE KNOWS FOR A FACT THAT THEY ARE DEAD. THEY ALSO STATED THAT IF BALBIN REALLY BELIEVES THAT THE DISAPPEARED ARE DEAD THEN HE SHOULD SAY THAT THEY WERE "ASSASSINATED" BY THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT SINCE THE DISAPPEARED WERE TAKEN BY THE SECURITY FORCES. IN THE FACE OF THIS CHALLENGE, BALBIN HAS REFUSED TO RETREAT ON HIS BASIC ASSERTION OF THE FATE OF THE DISAPPEARED AND THE NEED TO PUT THIS EXPERIENCE BEHIND THE COUNTRY.

3. ~~(C)~~ COMMENT: BALBIN IS THE LEADING DEMOCRATIC CENTRIST POLITICIAN IN ARGENTINA. HIS REMARKS ARE DESIGNED CHIEFLY TO CALM AND REASSURE THE MILITARY THAT IT HAS NOTHING TO FEAR FROM A FUTURE RADICAL GOVERNMENT--THE RADICALS WILL CONDUCT NO NUREMBERG, BALBIN IS SAYING. IN DOING SO BALBIN IS REFLECTING, AS WELL, THE VIEW OF MANY OTHER NON-MILITARY ARGENTINES WHO FEEL THAT UNLESS THE PAST IS FORGOTTEN THE COUNTRY WILL BE CONDEMNED TO RELIVE IT.

4. ~~(C)~~ BALBIN'S TREATMENT OF THE ISSUE, TOO, REFLECTS THIS AMBITIOUS POLITICIAN'S CONCLUSION ON HOW CONCERNED MOST OF THE ARGENTINE PUBLIC IS WITH THE GROSS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS OF THE GOA. THOUGH HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS NOURISH THE HOPE THAT THE ARGENTINE PUBLIC

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
DIA FOIA & Declassification Services Offices
Date: Oct 19, 2018

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

OPTIONAL FORM 152a (H)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WILL EVENTUALLY BE AROUSED ON THE ISSUE, BALBIN, LIKE
MOST OF THE PRACTICING POLITICIANS STILL AROUND, HAS
MADE QUITE ANOTHER JUDGMENT: HE CANNOT BE HURT WITH
THE PUBLIC BY SEEKING TO BURY THE ISSUE, EVEN IF DOING
SO PUTS HIM ON A COLLISION COURSE WITH THE MOTHERS AND
OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS.

3831

CASTRO

RAY

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
DIA FOIA & Declassification Services Offices
Date: Oct 19, 2018

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~