

# DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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~~Unauthorized Disclosure Subject to Criminal Sanctions~~

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Classification/Control Markings

This report contains unprocessed information. Plans and/or policies should not be evolved or modified solely on basis of this report.

1. COUNTRY: URUGUAY (UR)

2. REPORT NUMBER:

3. TITLE: (U) TERRORISM-POISONING OF OPPOSITION LEADER'S WIFE

4. PROJECT NUMBER: N/A

(b)(3):10 USC 424

5. DATE OF INFORMATION: 780906

6. DATE OF REPORT: 780925

(b)(3):10 USC 424

(b)(3):10 USC 424

7. DATE & PLACE OF ACQUISITION: 780906, Buenos Aires

8. REFERENCES:

(b)(3):10 USC 42

9. ASSESSMENT: SOURCE [ ] INFO [ ]

10. ORIGINATOR:

11. REQUEST EVALUATION [ ] QPQ [ ]

(country)

12. PREPARING OFFICER:

13. APPROVING AUTHORITY:

(b)(3):10 USC 424

14. SOURCE: Amembassy Montevideo Telegram 2969

15. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

D YES ☐  
R  
C NO ☒

16. SUMMARY:

(U) This IR forwards Amembassy Montevideo Telegram 2969 concerning the death of the wife of an Uruguayan opposition leader by apparent terrorist poisoning.

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(b)(3):10 USC

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17. SUBJECT AND AREA CODES:  
103220 103174  
103210 103174

18. DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR:  
DIA (original)

DIA (DS-6A)

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Authority: EO 13526

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Date: Oct 19, 2018

19. DOWNGRADING AND DECLASSIFICATION DATA:

CLASSIFIED BY [ ]  
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF EO 11652  
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED  
AT TWO YEAR INTERVALS. DECLASSIFIED ON 31 DEC 84

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20. ENCLOSURES:

1 Enclosure

1. Amembassy Montevideo 2969, DTG 061341Z Sep. 78, 1 cy, 2 pgs (C)

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21. This IR contains 1 pages.

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FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7162

INFO RUESAS/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION 1504

RUESUZ/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 1866

RUESBA/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 7158

RUESNA/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO 1547

RULPALJ/USSOUTHCOM QUARRY HTS CZ

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TO	ACT	INF	TO	ACT	INF
AMB			ADM		
DCM			SY		
			NOOIO		
POL			PER		
ECOM			GSO		
POL/R			B&F		
CONS			CRO		
ICA			TCU		
LABOR			LEOAT		
			DEA		
			FAS		
			FAA		
			CHRON		
			HF		

~~E.O. 11652: GDS~~

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, UY

SUBJ: PROMINENT OPPOSITION LEADER'S WIFE DIES OF APPARENT  
TERRORIST POISONING

(b)(3):10 USC  
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1. THE WIFE OF BLANCO TRIUMVIRATE MEMBER MARIO HEBER USHER  
DIED OF APPARENT POISONING MID-DAY SEPT. 5 AFTER DRINKING  
FROM ONE OF THREE "GIFT" BOTTLES OF WINE ADDRESSED TO PARTY  
LEADERS DAYS PREVIOUSLY.

2. ACCORDING TO BLANCO DELEGATION WHICH CALLED ON POLOFF  
SHORTLY FOLLOWING DEATH, BOTTLES WERE FOUND ON BACK DOOR-  
STEP OF EX-LEGISLATOR LUIS A. LACALLE HERRERA ON MORNING  
OF AUGUST 29. ADDRESSED TO LACALLE, HEBER, AND FELLOW TRI-  
UMVIR CARLOS JULIO PEREYRA, THEY WERE ACCOMPANIED BY NOTE  
READING: "THURSDAY THE 31ST AT MID-DAY LET US DRINK TO  
THE NATION IN ITS NEW STAGE." NOTE WAS SIGNED "M. DE N."  
AS THIS WAS PERIOD OF HEAVY RUMORS REGARDING IMMINENT POLITICAL  
CHANGES, RECIPIENTS ASSUMED BOTTLES WERE A FRIENDLY TIP-OFF  
OR JEST FROM A PARTISAN.

(b)(3):10 USC  
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3. OF THREE BOTTLES, THE FIRST WAS OPENED ON SEPT. 3 BY LACALLE, BUT THROWN AWAY BECAUSE OF A "PREMONITION" OF HIS WIFE. SECOND BOTTLE OPENED WAS HEBER'S. WHEN HE WAS UNEXPECTEDLY UNABLE TO LUNCH AT HOME SEPT. 5, HIS WIFE REPORTEDLY DRANK A SMALL AMOUNT ALONE, BECAME VIOLENTLY ILL AND, IN A MATTER OF MINUTES, FELL DEAD. REMAINDER OF THIS BOTTLE WAS TAKEN BY POLICE, WHILE PEREYRA'S UNOPENED BOTTLE (WITH SMALL HOLE IN CORK INDICATING POSSIBLE INJECTION OF FOREIGN SUBSTANCE) WAS TURNED OVER TO HIGH-LEVEL JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES. RESULTS OF AUTOPSY ARE NOT YET KNOWN. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO LACALLE, PRIVATE LAB TESTS OF BOTTLE HE RECEIVED SHOWED EVIDENCE OF POISON.

4. EARLY MORNING SEPT. 6, AUTHORITIES ISSUED THREE COMMUNIQUE WHICH APPEARED IN ALL MORNING DAILIES SUBSTANTIALLY CONFIRMING INFORMATION PROVIDED BY BLANCOS, INCLUDING FACT THAT BOTTLES CONTAINED HIGHLY TOXIC PHOSPHATE-BASED POISON --FOSDRIN. COMMUNIQUE ALSO CALLED ON POPULATION FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO POSSIBLE SUSPECTS IN CRIME.

5. COMMENT: BLANCO PARTY MEMBERS ARE ALREADY CONVINCED THAT MRS. HEBER WAS VICTIM OF A TERRORIST ACT, AND THAT ITS PERPETRATORS ARE THE ULTRA-RIGHTISTS. THE GOU'S MODERATES, WHO GAINED GROUND OVER THE EXTREMISTS IN THE GEN. PRANTL AFFAIR, NOW FACE ANOTHER CRISIS. THEY MUST MOVE RAPIDLY AND FORCEFULLY BY A POLITICAL ACT AND/OR THROUGH THEIR INVESTIGATION OF THIS CASE TO PROVE TO DOUBTERS THAT THEY ARE SEEKING THE PERPETRATORS. OUR INFORMATION IS THAT THE POLICE ARE TAKING THIS CASE VERY RPT VERY SERIOUSLY. WIRE SERVICES ARE GIVING THE STORY HEAVY PLAY. EXILES ABROAD WILL UNQUESTIONABLY SEIZE UPON IT TO ADD ANOTHER BLOT TO URUGUAY'S IMAGE.

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