

Intelligence Information Cable WARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

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FURTHER DISSEMINATION AND USE OF THIS INFORMATION SUBJECT TO CONTROLS STATED AT BEGINNING AND END OF REPORT.

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

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DIST 25 AUGUST 1976

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	COUNTRY	ARGENTINA				~	
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	SUBJECT	RESPONSIBI	LITY OF	THE FEDER	AL POLICE	FOR	
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(classification)

NEAR PILAR NORTH OF BUENOS AIRES. THE PRESS QUOTED
"INFORMED SOURCES" AS STATING THAT THE KILLINGS APPEARED
TO BE IN REPRISAL FOR THE MURDER ON 19 AUGUST 1976 BY
LEFTIST TERRORISTS OF RETIRED GENERAL OMAR A C T I S.
HEAD OF THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE FOR THE 1976 WORLD CUP
SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIPS TO BE HELD IN BUENOS AIRES.)

2. OPERATING LEVELS OF THE ARGENTINE FEDERAL POLICE
WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR KILLING THE THIRTY INDIVIDUALS BOTH AS
REPRISAL FOR THE KILLING OF GENERAL ACTIS. AS WELL AS A WARNING TO
LEFTIST EXTREMISTS NOT TO ENGAGE IN FURTHER ACTS OF VIOLENCE
DURING THE 22 AUGUST PERIOD. THE FEDERAL POLICE HAD
EARLIER RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT THERE MIGHT WELL BE
COORDINATED ATTACKS BY THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY ARMY
(ERP) AND THE MONTONEROS TO COMMEMORATE THE 22 AUGUST
DATE. THE POLICE, THEREFORE, CONSIDERED THAT THE PUBLIC
DISPLAY OF THE THIRTY BODIES IN RESPONSE TO THE KILLING
OF GENERAL ACTIS WOULD CAUSE THE ERP AND THE MONTONEROS
TO REASSESS THE ADVISABILITY OF ENGAGING IN FURTHER
TERRORIST ACTIONS IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THE THIRTY
INDIVIDUALS KILLED HAD BEEN UNDER FEDERAL POLICE DETENTION

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FOR ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT WITH THE MONTONEROS.

THE BODIES WERE LEFT SO PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED AND HAS ORDERED THAT THIS NOT OCCUR IN THE FUTURE. V:DELA CONSIDERS THAT SUCH A TYPE OF SITUATION REFLECTS ADVERSELY ON THE GOOD NAME OF ARGENTINA BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY.

VIDELA'S OBJECTION IS NOT THAT THE THIRTY PEOPLE, WHO HERE PURPORTEDLY INVOLVED WITH THE MONTONEROS, WERE KILLED. 3.3(b)(1) BUT THAT THE BODIES APPEARED PUBLICLY. COMMENT:

3.3(b)(1)

PRESIDENT VIDELA IS EXTREMELY ANGRY

OVER THE APPEARANCE OF THE THIRTY BODIES IN PILAR AND SIXTEEN BODIES AT ANOTHER SITE, CONSIDERING THAT THE SITUATION SERIOUSLY DAMAGES THE COUNTRY'S IMAGE DOMESTICALLY AND ABROAD BY SUGGESTING THAT THERE IS A LACK OF ORDER 3.3(b)(1)

AND CONTROL IN ARGENTINA.

3.3(b)(1)

VIDELA IS IN AGREEMENT THAT SUBVERSIVES SHOULD BE KILLED, BUT THAT THE ENTIRE MATTER SHOULD BE DEALT WITH DISCREETLY.)

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. COMMENT:

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THE FEDERAL

POLICE HAD GONE ON A STATE OF ALERT 15 AUGUST WHICH WAS
TO LAST THROUGH 23 AUGUST BECAUSE INDICATORS HAD BEEN
RECEIVED THAT LEFTIST TERRORIST INCIDENTS HIGHT OCCUR DURING
THE 22 AUGUST PERIOD. 22 AUGUST 1972 IS THE DATE OF THE
KILLING OF A NUMBER OF EXTREME LEFTISTS DURING AN ALLEGED
ATTEMPTED BREAK FROM TRELEW PRISON. AND THE DATE HAS
SINCE BEEN COMMEMORATED BY RADICAL LEFTIST GROUPS WITH
A WAVE OF TERRORIST ACTIVITY.)

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