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Intelligence Information Cable

WARNING NOTICE
SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

● ROUTINE

IN 994810

PAGE 1 OF 5 PAGES

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SECRET

CITE [redacted]

DIST 29 JULY 1976

POLITICAL MATTERS

FOIA(b) (3) - 50 USC 3024(i) (1) - Intelligence Sources and Methods

REPORT CLASS ~~SECRET~~ - WARNING NOTICE - SENSITIVE

INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED - [redacted]

[redacted]

COUNTRY: ARGENTINA

FBI (E)

SUBJECT: CAPTURE BY THE AUTHORITIES OF DOMINGO MENA, A HIGH-LEVEL LEADER OF THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY ARMY (ERP), WHICH LED TO THE INCIDENT RESULTING IN THE KILLING OF MARIO SANTUCHO, ERP COMMANDER

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[redacted]

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2. [redacted] MEDICAL DOCTOR, L O P E Z

ARGUELLO (FNU), WHO HAD KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE PEOPLE'S

58 OCT 7 1976

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IN 994810

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PAGE 2 OF 5 PAGES

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all
Argentina

REVOLUTIONARY ARMY (ERP), APPROACHED THE ARGENTINE ARMY AND OFFERED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THE WHEREABOUTS OF TOP-LEVEL ERP LEADER DOMINGO M E N A IN EXCHANGE FOR THE RELEASE OF LOPEZ' MISTRESS WHO WAS UNDER DETENTION. THE ARMY AGREED, AND, BASED ON LOPEZ' INFORMATION, IN MID-JULY 1976 THE SECURITY FORCES LOCATED AND PICKED UP MENA AND HIS WIFE IN A RESTAURANT IN BUENOS AIRES. MENA WAS QUESTIONED ABOUT THE WHEREABOUTS OF MARIO ROBERTO S A N T U C H O, *deceased* COMMANDER OF THE ERP, AND OTHER ERP LEADERS, BUT HE REFUSED TO REVEAL ANY INFORMATION WHICH WOULD LEAD TO THE CAPTURE OF THESE INDIVIDUALS. THE AUTHORITIES, HOWEVER, ON SEARCHING MENA, DISCOVERED A PIECE OF PAPER WITH AN ADDRESS ON VENEZUELA STREET IN VILLA MARTELLI, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] A UNIT OF THE SECURITY FORCES WAS DISPATCHED TO INVESTIGATE THE ADDRESS WHICH TURNED OUT TO BE THE HIDEOUT OF SANTUCHO. A SHOOTOUT OCCURRED, RESULTING IN THE DEATH OF SANTUCHO AND ERP LEADER BENITO U R T E A G A, *deceased* AS WELL AS THE DETENTION OF A WOMAN WHO WAS SANTUCHO'S MISTRESS AND ANOTHER WOMAN NAMED D E L F I N O (FNU).

[REDACTED]

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IN 994810



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PAGE 3 OF 5 PAGES

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Argentina



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4. AS A RESULT OF THE KILLING OF SANTUCHO AND URTEAGA, AS WELL AS THE CAPTURE OF MENA, MENA WAS ASKED BY THE AUTHORITIES WHO WOULD LOGICALLY MOVE INTO THE LEADERSHIP POSITIONS OF THE ERP AND ITS POLITICAL ARM, THE REVOLUTIONARY WORKERS PARTY (PRT). MENA SAID THAT THE PRT AND THE ERP ARE IN EFFECT THE SAME ORGANIZATION WITH THE SAME LEADERS AND MEMBERSHIP BUT THAT POLITICAL ACTIVITIES ARE CARRIED OUT UNDER THE NAME OF THE PRT AND TERRORIST OPERATIONS UNDER THE NAME OF THE ERP. MENA SAID THAT JUAN SANTIAGO MANGINI WILL PROBABLY BECOME THE HEAD OF THE ERP/PRT AND THAT FACUNDO URTEAGA, BROTHER OF BENITO URTEAGA, WHO HAS BEEN IN SPAIN, MAY WELL RETURN TO ARGENTINA TO BECOME MANGINI'S DEPUTY. ACCORDING TO MENA, FACUNDO URTEAGA IS MORE POLITICALLY ASTUTE THAN WAS BENITO URTEAGA. MENA SPECULATED THAT EMILIO A L L WILL TAKE CHARGE OF THE ACTUAL TERRORIST OPERATIONS CARRIED

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SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

PAGE 4 OF 5 PAGES

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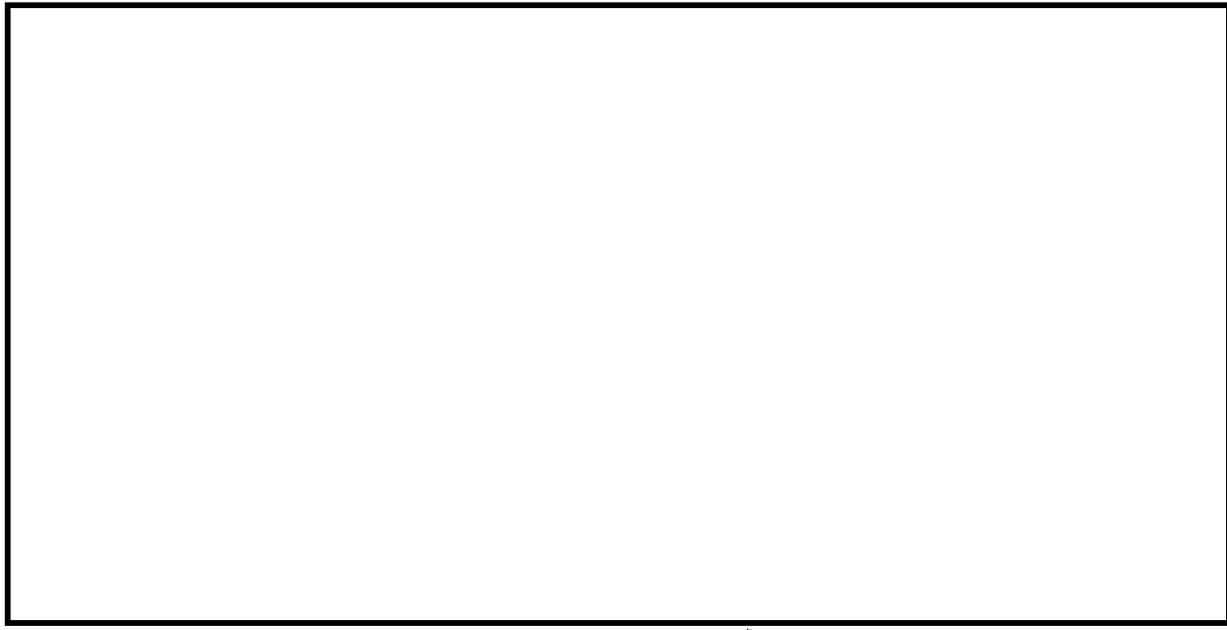
Argentina

OUT BY THE ERP. MENA ALSO STATED THAT ENRIQUE

~~G O R R I A N R I A N M E R L O~~ WILL REMAIN A RANKING
ERP/PRT LEADER.

5. MENA STATED THAT UNDER THE NEW ERP/PRT LEADERSHIP UNIFICATION OF THE ERP WITH THE MONTONEROS CAN BE EXPECTED TO MOVE MORE RAPIDLY AND THAT IN GENERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE MONTONEROS AND THE ERP/PRT WILL BE BETTER THAN HAD EXISTED WITH SANTUCHO. MENA CONCEDED THAT THE ERP/PRT HAD SUFFERED CONSIDERABLY AS A RESULT TO GOVERNMENT ACTIONS AND IS DEFINITELY IN A WEAKENED STATE AT THE PRESENT TIME.

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SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

PAGE 5 OF 5 PAGES

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