

RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

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ACTION ARA-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-08	ACDE-00	ACQ-01	DODE-00	DOEE-00	SRPP-00
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	P-00	CIO-00	SP-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00
	PMB-00	DSCC-00	DRL-04	G-00	NFAT-00	SAS-00	/019W

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R 281839Z MAY 98
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1506
FBI WASHDC
INFO DOJ WASHDC
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
CIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 BUENOS AIRES 002710

E.O. 12958: DECL: 5/27/08
TAGS: PREL, OVIP, AR

SUBJECT: FBI DIRECTOR FREEH'S VISIT TO BUENOS AIRES

CLASSIFIED BY V. MANUEL ROCHA, CHARGE. REASONS: 1.5
(B,D).

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PAGE 02 BUENOS 02710 01 OF 03 282048Z
1. (U) SUMMARY: FBI DIRECTOR FREEH DISCUSSED A WIDE RANGE

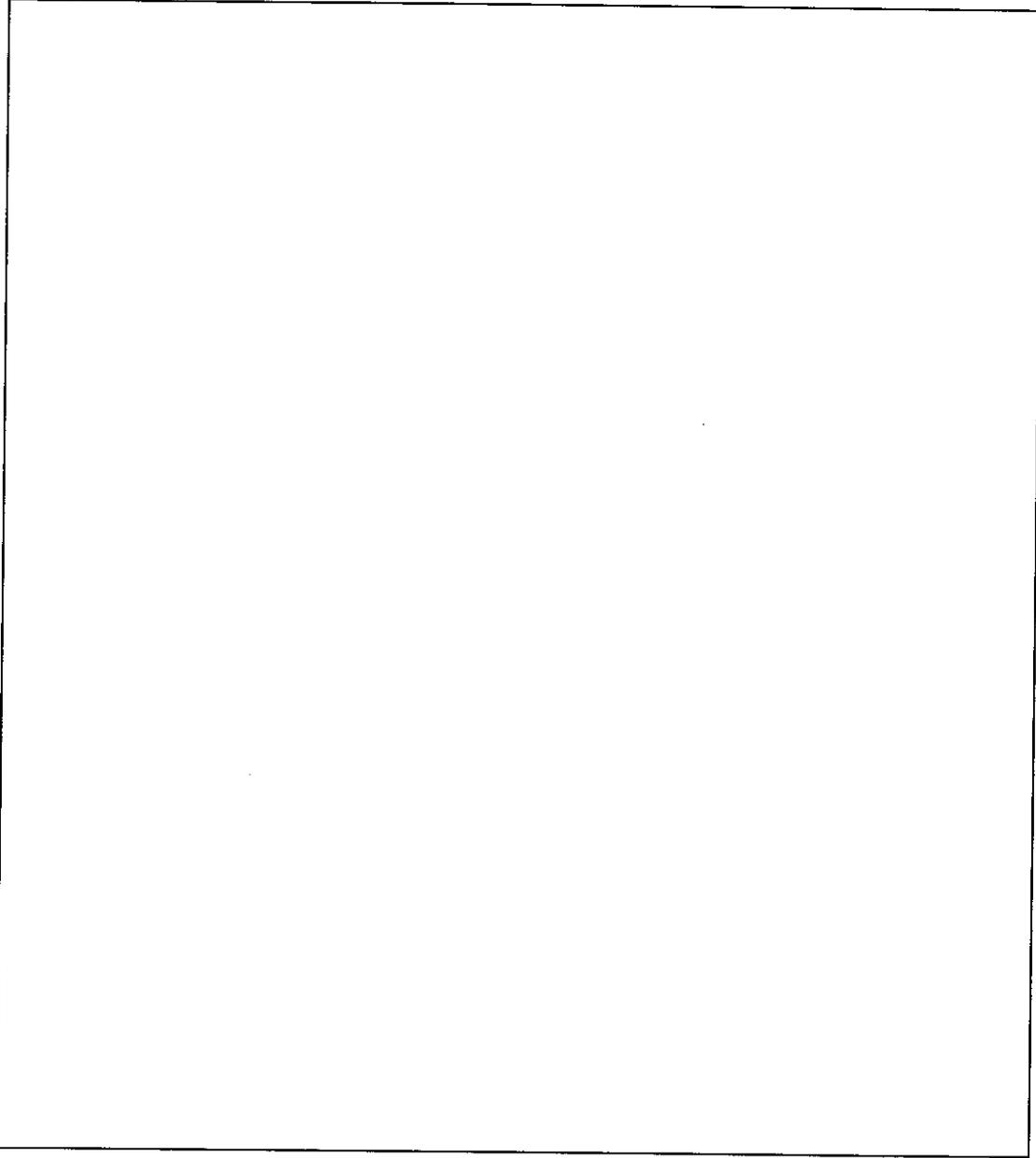
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J OLSON
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(B), 1.4(D)
DECLASSIFY AFTER: 27 MAY 2023
DATE/CASE ID: 17 NOV 2011 200705645

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OF LAW ENFORCEMENT ISSUES WITH SENIOR ARGENTINE LEADERS DURING HIS MAY 11-13 VISIT TO BUENOS AIRES. FREEH MET WITH PRESIDENT MENEM, MINISTER OF INTERIOR CORACH, MINISTER OF JUSTICE GRANILLO OCAMPO, SECRETARY OF INTELLIGENCE ANZORREGUY, DRUG CZAR AMADEO, AS WELL AS ALL THE SENIOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS. THE GOA OFFICIALS EXPRESSED THEIR APPRECIATION FOR THE CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE FBI AND ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES. THE DIRECTOR ALSO GAVE A MAJOR SPEECH AT THE CASA ROSADA DEALING WITH INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM. END SUMMARY.

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PRESIDENT MENEM

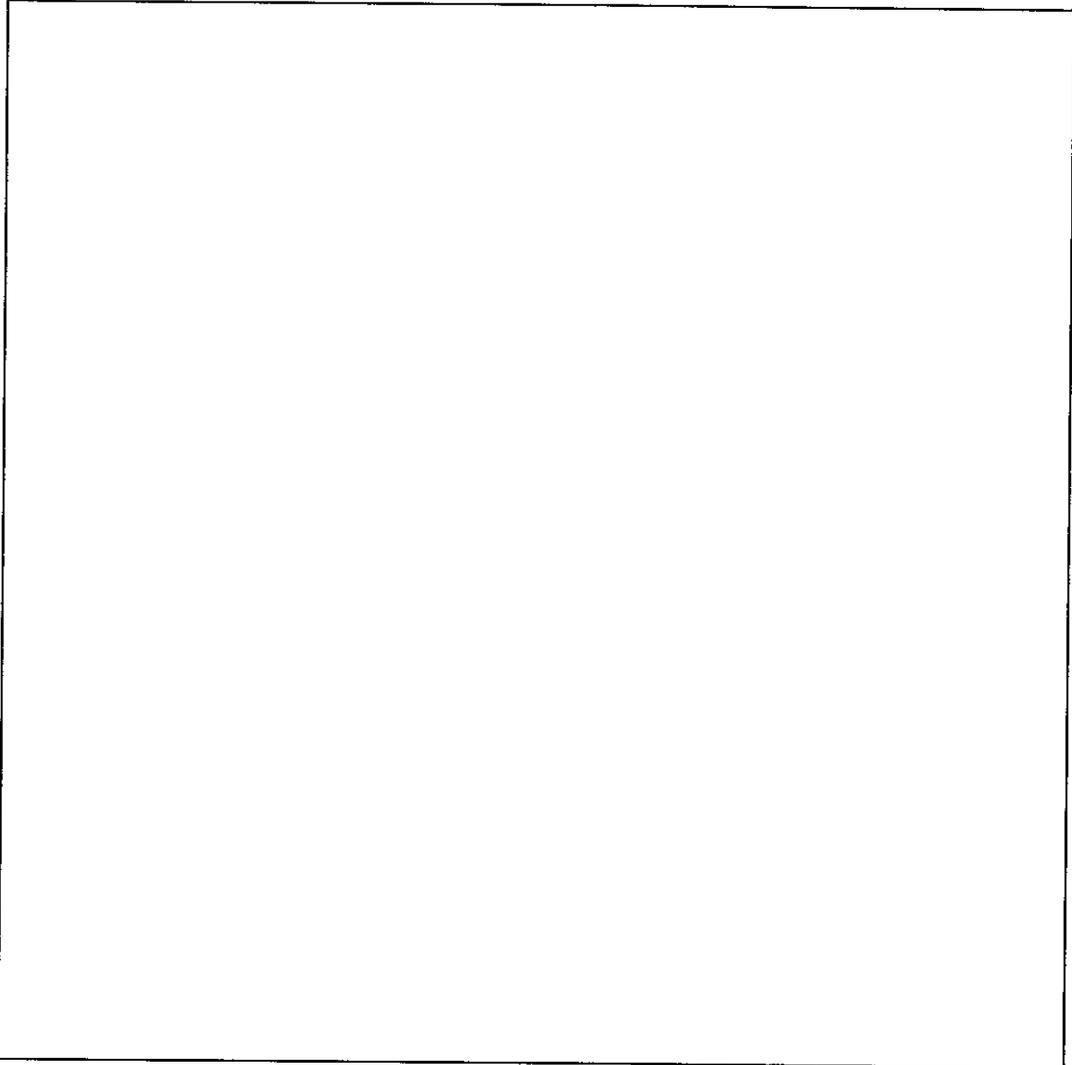


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AMIA MEETING

6. (SBU) THE DIRECTOR PAID AN EMOTIONAL VISIT TO THE SITE OF THE AMIA BOMBING, LAYING A WREATH AND TOURING THE AREA. FREEH THEN WENT TO HEADQUARTERS OF THE DELEGATION OF ARGENTINE-ISRAELI ASSOCIATIONS (DAIA) TO SPEAK WITH LEADERS OF THE LOCAL JEWISH COMMUNITY. DAIA PRESIDENT RUBEN BERAJA WELCOMED THE DIRECTOR, NOTING THE IMPORTANT SYMBOLISM OF HIS VISIT TO THE AMIA SITE. THE DIRECTOR EXPRESSED HIS CONDOLENCES TO THE LOCAL JEWISH COMMUNITY AND TO THE FAMILY MEMBERS OF VICTIMS OF BOTH ATTACKS WHO WERE REPRESENTED AT THE MEETING. HE PLEDGED THAT ALL THE RESOURCES OF THE FBI WOULD REMAIN AVAILABLE FOR ANY

FURTHER COOPERATION NECESSARY. HE WARNED THAT TERRORIST CASES WERE VERY COMPLICATED AND THAT IT WAS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO PREDICT WHEN, IF EVER, THEY WOULD CONCLUDE. BERAJA RAISED REPORTS THAT THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT HAD TOLD THE GOA THAT IT HAD HEARD OF A POSSIBILITY OF AN

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	SGHD-00	PMB-00	DSCC-00	DRL-04	G-00	NFAT-00	SAS-00

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ATTACK PRIOR TO THE AMIA BOMBING. FREEH WAS UNAWARE OF ANY SUCH RUSSIAN REPORT.

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7. (SBU) BERAJA ASKED IF A TERRORIST NETWORK EXISTED IN LATIN AMERICA. FREEH SAID YES. BERAJA EXPLAINED THAT MERCOSUR WAS NOT JUST A TRADE AGREEMENT. THE MEMBER NATIONS ALSO HAD A DUTY TO UPHOLD THE LAW AND PROTECT THEIR CITIZENS' WELFARE. HE ADVISED FREEH THAT A BRAZILIAN CITIZEN NAMED WILSON DOS SANTOS, WHO SEEMED TO HAVE IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE AMIA CASE, REMAINS AT LARGE. DOS SANTOS REPORTEDLY TOLD THE ARGENTINE CONSULATE IN MILAN OF A PLANNED ATTACK IN ARGENTINA WEEKS BEFORE THE AMIA BOMBING. FREEH SAID HE WOULD RAISE THE ISSUE IN BRASILIA THE NEXT DAY.

8. (SBU) A FAMILY MEMBER ASKED WHAT THE FBI COULD DO IN AN INVESTIGATION IN ARGENTINA. FREEH EXPLAINED THE LEGAL RESTRICTIONS PLACED ON THE BUREAU REGARDING FOREIGN POLICE COOPERATION INVESTIGATIONS. OSCAR HANSMAN, PRESIDENT OF AMIA, ASKED IF THE ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES ARE BETTER PREPARED FOR ANOTHER SUCH ATTACK. FREEH SAID HE HAD RAISED THIS WITH HIS OFFICIAL HOSTS. HE BELIEVED THE GOA RESPONSE WOULD BE BETTER TODAY THAN IT WAS IN THE PAST. HE SAID THE FBI WOULD BE PREPARED TO OFFER IMMEDIATE FORENSIC ASSISTANCE. THE BEST PREVENTION WOULD BE CONTINUED CLOSE BILATERAL COOPERATION.

JUDGE GALEANO

9. (SBU) AMIA INVESTIGATOR JUDGE JUAN GALEANO THANKED FREEH FOR THE FBI'S ASSISTANCE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF HIS

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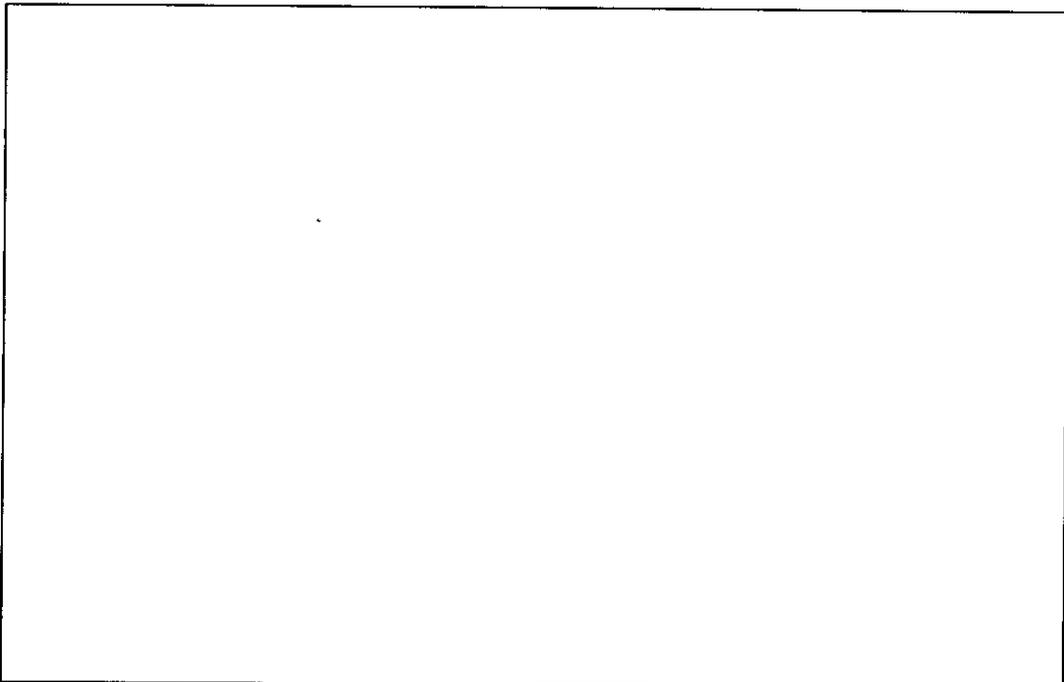
CASE. HE REMARKED THAT THE USE OF INTELLIGENCE MATERIALS
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HAS BEEN CRUCIAL IN HIS INVESTIGATION. FREEH SAID THAT
HE WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AMIA
CASE. GALEANO BELIEVED THAT HE COULD ADVANCE HIS
INVESTIGATION EVEN FURTHER IF THE FBI WERE TO ASSIGN
ANOTHER AGENT TO BUENOS AIRES TO WORK FULL TIME ON THE
AMIA CASE AND RELATED COUNTER-TERRORISM ISSUES.

JUSTICE MINISTER GRANILLO OCAMPO



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