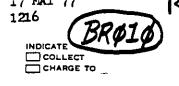
## DEPARTMENT OF STATE



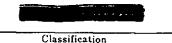
	AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
	GDS
FO 11652: TAGS: SUBJECT:	MPOL PINS SHIM AR Admiral Massera sees terrorism as part of World War
ACTION:	SECSTATE WASHDC
	BUENOS AIRES 3627
	1. In a fire coting speech commemorating Navy Day (May 15), Junta
	member and Navy Commander Admiral Massera stated that the origin
DOM POL3 POL/R ECOM	of the terrorist menace in Argentina lay in a Thirty Year-old, against the "destructive gospel of totalitarianism," world war/with which the Western World, "intoxicated with indif-
USIS RF	ference," was unable to cope. "Perhaps too many spurious pacts;
CHRON	too many political concessions in the name of a peace which no
	longer exists, have been weakening the moral energy of its
	ideas," he continued in a colorful passage which gives the flavor
	of the entire address.
	2. In a conversation, May 14, with an Emboff, Marine Corps
	Commandant Admiral Fracassi covered much of the same ground,
	stressing that the Argentine Armed Forces were in a life-or-death
	struggle with the terrorists ("it's either them or us") and
	deploring that the US did not understand that this struggle was
	part of the international Marxist conspiracy. Fracassi estimated
DRAFTED BY:	that while 90% of the ERP's forces has been wiped out 10%
	NS:AGFreeman 1 5/16/77 121 CHARGE:MChaplin
CLEARANCES:	POL/REDSmock . The DAO: CaptRodgers Time
	<b>—</b>
	OPTIONAL FORM 153 (Formerly FS-413) CLASSIFICATION January 1975
60153-101	80F/78 Dept. of State 17//85 —
	ARGENTINA PROJECT (320000071)
	U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
	Release ( ) Excise ( ) Deny
•	Exemption(s):  Declassify: ( ) In Part In Full
•	() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to
	Date Declassify on Reason

of the Montonero force remained intact. The thrust of Fracassi's remarks was that the insurgency was nowhere near its end and a major part of the struggle still lay ahead-

3. Third Corps Commander General Memendez announced May 11 that the armed groups of the Montoneros and the ERP have been totally wiped out in the area under Third Corps jurisdiction and that "only scattered criminals remain." (The Third Corps covers the provinces of Mendoza, Cordoba, La Rioja, Catamarca and the northwest.) The present danger, according to Menendez, is that "subversive criminals will refuge among the people.

They will try to infiltrate labor unions, various social levels, parishes and churches to subvert and agitate the people, seeking to eventually obtain their total support." Menendez said he believes the people will not support the subversives, but warned that since the criminal is disguised, the people as well as the Army must be alert to point out those individuals so they can be punished.

4. COMMENT: While nothing was said in either Massera's address, Memendez' speech or the conversation with Fracassi that we have not heard before, we believe that their remarks are indicative of the mood in the Armed Forces and could be the harbinger of a plan to enter into a new phase in the antiguerrilla conflict of going after the ideologues and intellectuals deemed to be the inspiration behind the terrorist movement (i.e., university professors, highschool teachers,



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OPTIONAL FORM 153A (Formerly FS-413A) January 1975 Dept. of State priests, etc.), about which we have received hints for some time. It should be stressed that we have not heard that a decision of this nature has been reached by the Junta, but Massera's remarks could be intended to provide the rarionale for inducing the government to make such a decision.

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