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ACTION DSE-00

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INFO LOG-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-00 SCL-01 CIAE-00
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LOC-01 PM-10 PA-02 ED-04 SP-02 PRS-01 DS-01
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R 221506Z APR 86
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1874
AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 03569

DEPT FOR DS/OSP/OSU; DS/IC/TAG; ARA/SC

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: ASEC, SCUL, AR
SUBJ: DEMONSTRATION AT U.S. STAND - INTERNATIONAL
- BOOK FAIR, BUENOS AIRES

FOLLOWING TEL SENT FROM BUENOS AIRES TO USIA WASHDC
16 APR SGD VALLIMARESCU HEREWITH REPEATED FOR
YOUR INFORMATION:

QUOTE

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 03410

USIA
FOR AR (LEE), E/CBF, M/SP

E.O. 12356: N/A
SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR - DEMONSTRATION AT U.S.
STAND

1. A NOISY BUT PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION PROTESTING U.S.
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ACTIONS AGAINST LIBYA TOOK PLACE IN FRONT OF THE U.S.
STAND AT THE BUENOS AIRES INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR
TUESDAY APRIL 15 AT APPROXIMATELY NINE P.M. ABOUT 150
PERSONS, MOSTLY YOUNG PEOPLE, SHOUTED ANTI-U.S. SLOGANS,
DISTRIBUTED MIMEOGRAPHED LEAFLETS AND MADE MENACING
GESTURES BUT CAREFULLY AVOIDED DAMAGING THE INSTALLATION
OR TOPPLING BOOK SHELVES.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ROBERT O HOMME
DATE/CASE ID: 22 DEC 2009 200903792

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2. BOOK FAIR AUTHORITIES HAD BEEN NOTIFIED AT APPROXIMATELY SEVEN P.M. THAT SUCH A DEMONSTRATION WOULD TAKE PLACE. BOOK FAIR PRESIDENT CASTIGLIONE PERSONALLY WENT TO THE STAND AND STOOD ALONGSIDE U.S. AND ARGENTINE EMPLOYEES FOR THE DURATION OF THE DEMONSTRATION. RBO EDWARD FRANCO AND CULTURAL SPECIALISTS FEDERICO GONZALEZ DEL PINO AND ALICIA FERREIROS WERE IN THE STAND AT THAT TIME.

3. THREE POLITICAL GROUPS WERE IDENTIFIED AS ORGANIZERS OF THE DEMONSTRATION FROM LEAFLETS THEY DISTRIBUTED: THE COMMUNIST PARTY'S YOUTH SECTION, THE "MOVEMENT TOWARD SOCIALISM," AND THE REVOLUTIONARY WING OF THE JUSTICIALIST (PERONIST) PARTY. THE LAST, CLAIMING TO REPRESENT THE "MONTONERO" GUERRILLA UNITS ACTIVE IN THE CIVIL STRIFE OF THE LATE 1960S AND 70S, RECENTLY ANNOUNCED ITS COMEBACK AS A LEGITIMATE POLITICAL ENTITY WITHIN THE PERONIST PARTY.

4. THE ONLY VIOLENT ACT OCCURRED WHEN A VISITOR TO THE STAND CALLED ON THE DEMONSTRATORS TO QUOTE PROTEST WHAT IS HAPPENING IN AFGHANISTAN UNQUOTE. THE VISITOR WAS SHOVED INTO THE CROWD BY AN UNKNOWN PERSON, WITH THE RESULT THAT THE CROWD SURGED FORWARD KNOCKING OVER A DECORATIVE COLUMN WHICH SLIGHTLY INJURED HIM AND A YOUNG UNCLASSIFIED

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WOMAN VISITOR.

5. BRITISH ACTRESS JULIE CHRISTIE, CURRENTLY STARRING IN A FILM BEING SHOT IN ARGENTINA, WAS IN THE FOREFRONT OF THE DEMONSTRATORS, SHOUTING ANTI-U.S. SLOGANS IN ENGLISH -- ONE WAS "DEATH TO REAGAN" -- AND OBVIOUSLY ENJOYING THE SCENE. CURIOUSLY, CHRISTIE HAD VISITED THE STAND ABOUT 30 MINUTES PRIOR TO THE DEMONSTRATION AND HAD CHATTED AMIABLY WITH THE WIFE OF ACAO NICOLAS ROBERTSON.

6. AS THE DEMONSTRATORS LEFT THE FAIR GROUNDS THEY REMOVED THE U.S. FLAG FROM THE ROW THAT INCLUDED THE STANDARDS OF THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES AND PROCEEDED TO BURN IT AS THE CHANTING OF SLOGANS CONTINUED.

7. FAIR AUTHORITIES HAVE INFORMED POST THAT THERE WILL BE ANOTHER DEMONSTRATION ON SUNDAY APRIL 20, OFFICIALLY DESIGNATED AS "U.S. DAY" AT THE FAIR. EVERY COUNTRY REPRESENTED HAS A SPECIAL "DAY", WHOSE OFFICIAL PROGRAM

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USUALLY INCLUDES SPEECHES BY THE FAIR'S PRESIDENT AND THE COUNTRY'S AMBASSADOR, THE SINGING OF ARGENTINA'S AND
THE OTHER COUNTRY'S NATIONAL ANTHEM, AND A CULTURAL
PRESENTATION BY THE COUNTRY OF THE DAY. OUR
PARTICIPATION IN SUNDAY'S EVENTS, AND ESPECIALLY THE
LEVEL AT WHICH THE MISSION WILL BE REPRESENTED, ARE
CURRENTLY BEING EXAMINED.VALLIMARESCU
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