

DPS/LA Routing	
PELLena	ALBryant
JHCaldwell	AWJee
EWright	
Remarks:	
File: JA	

Mr. Charles G. Guzman
 Public Safety Officer
 US A.I.D./PSD
 APO New York 09879

Dear Charlie:

Thanks for your letter of July 11. We found your situation report on police/military activities very informative. We frequently are called upon to discuss the current situation in Uruguay and reports of this type are most helpful.

We are pleased that the program has not been affected by these recent events.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely yours,
 Original signed by
 Lauren J. Goin
 Lauren J. Goin
 Director
 Office of Public Safety

ABRYANT/JFManopoli/mel: 7/25/73

Authority: WDB 451601
 By: WDP NARA Date: 8/30/01



UNITED STATES MISSION TO URUGUAY
AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

AMERICAN EMBASSY - MONTEVIDEO

MISION ECONOMICA DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS EN LA REPUBLICA ORIENTAL DEL URUGUAY

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APO NEW YORK 09879

July 11, 1973

Mr. Lauren J. Goin, Director
Office of Public Safety
Agency for International Development
Department of State
Washington, D. C. 20523

Dear Jack,

I am enclosing a copy of a situation report prepared by PSD on Police/Military activities since the recent changes in the Uruguayan Government took place. This was prepared at the request of several Embassy offices and distributed to the Country Team.

Things are slowly getting back to normal but the police expect much trouble in the future. Will keep you posted on major events. Our program has not been affected and continues as usual.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Charlie

Charles C. Guzmán
Chief Public Safety
Advisor

Enclosure: a/s

cc: Mr. Albert Bryant, OPS/LA

Authority: *WDB 431601*
By: *WDP* NARA Date: *8/30/01*

PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION

POLICE REPORT

SITUATION

Prior to June 27 the Montevideo Chief of Police (COP) organized a planning and advisory team of young, middle ranking police officers. There are two (2) representatives from each police division, specialized units such as Metropolitan and Republican Guards and "Grupos de Apoyo" and NDII. Although their main area of concentration had been Crime Prevention through study of reorganizing the Police, planning for "any eventuality" began on or about June 27, 1973.

This "special staff" has occupied the briefing room adjacent to the Chief's office. The staff is answerable only to the COP.

Working with the Special Staff is an Army Major and Lt. Colonel. Their special assignment is to coordinate activity through the COP and his staff to insure that there is no overlapping between military and police operations.

Deoccupation of businesses, banks, factories, etc. has been effected by both police and military personnel. Orders to do so are passed down from the MOI (Bolentini) to unknown (possibly Army Staff) military authority who have intelligence available on places needing to be rehabilitated. The military authority then assigns the duty to an armed forces branch or to the police. Within the police, the Republican and Metropolitan

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Guard and the NDII have been the most active in this particular area. (Other Divisions continue to work routine police duties). Sometimes they are supported by the military, e.g. El Popular was served with a suspension notice on June 28 but voluntarily failed to close shop and abandon the premises. Police effected arrests while military stood by.

Insofar as routine patrol duties is concerned, plans of April 14, 1972 have been reimplemented. The Joint Security Forces returned radio equipment to the Police Communications Center as of June 30, 1973. Although operations are on separate radio frequencies, coordination, especially during an emergency situation, e.g. disturbances of July 9, exist. Cordoning areas, arrests, backups and joint activity is ordered from this control center as directed from the special staff's planning and operations office.

There have not been any mixed (mil/police) patrol units. Each service is assigned to his own equipment and supervisor. Apparently the reason for this being that last year when this was done, military and police personnel were unable to get along except in cases of special emergencies and in the presence of eminent danger. The same applied to intelligence personnel until July 10, 1973.

As of July 10, orders were received at the office of the Chief of Police to reintegrate military operations with NDII department heads and vice versa. Apparently unknown activity

on an intensified basis is being anticipated by military authorities and coordinated operations have been ordered as of noon on this date. Again, this is a return to plans followed as of April 1972 and which were later suspended.

Activity for July 9, 1973

In early morning hours (0540-0650) two CUTCSA buses were attacked by separate groups at separate hours with small but heavy steel bars. These were thrown at buses as they traveled along Colonia at Arenal Grande. Windshields and window glass was broken but there were no reported injuries.

As of 1400 hours downtown activity remained stable. Local transportation remained normal as did activity at most public offices with the exception of most banks. However, large crowds began to converge in the area of Agraciada, Rio Negro, Convencion, Colonia and 18 de Julio. Police estimates of crowds is anywhere between 700-2000.

At approximately 1500 hours demonstrators in medium to small groups moved up to concentrate about Plaza Independencia. Smaller groups became unruly. At about 1530 hours a foot patrol team backed by a mobile unit was stoned by demonstrators. Thereafter shooting broke out at different places from unknown sources.

Confrontations between police/military and demonstrators were many and lasted until 1830-1900 hours. Police reported a large number of shots fired at them and military. Gas was

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extensively used in these confrontations which occurred along 18 de Julio between Plaza Independencia and Yaguarón Streets and streets adjacent and lateral to 18 de Julio. Damage to downtown area has not been estimated by the police but is considered to be negligible considering the activity and duration of the disturbance.

A bus which carried passengers at Plaza Independencia was attacked by some 80 demonstrators in an attempt to overturn it but police prevented this. In other incidents an AMDET bus, a privately owned car and pickup truck were firebombed by a group of about 6 men.

At approximately 1700 hours all businesses in the downtown area were ordered closed. This was done through the use of PA systems mounted on police and military units on patrol duty. Normalcy was returned to the downtown area between 1830 and 1900 hours.

Confirmed by Police Official Reports

Arrests from yesterday's activity are reported to be in excess of 200-250. This includes the radio reported arrest of 100 persons at the El Popular offices. An additional 16 persons said to be TV Channel 12 employees were arrested at Gen. Aguilar 1233 for illegal assembly.

Police reports also indicate that the following were wounded.

1. Police Agent. Head wound from flying missile at 18 de Julio

and Convención. Treated and dismissed.

2. Police Corporal. Left arm and right leg wounds from bird or buck shot sustained at 18 de Julio and Paraguay. Admitted to Military Hospital but wounds considered to be non serious.
 3. NDII, Dept. 6 Agent. Bullet wound to chest or upper abdomen area. Admitted to Military Hospital in non critical condition.
 4. Female aged 17. Bullet wound to right leg at 18 de Julio and Cuareim. Hospital de Clínicas.
 5. Male aged 23. Same as above.
 6. Male aged 40. "Grenade schrapnel" wound to right thigh at 18 de Julio and Cuareim. Hospital Maciel.
 7. Female aged 19. Head wound from flying missile at 18 de Julio and Yaguarón. Hospital Maciel.
- Police have no confirmed death reports from last night's activity.

Unconfirmed reports

Rumors are that 3-5 persons were killed at Plaza Libertad by a military unit that opened fire with a .30 calibre machine gun on a crowd of demonstrators. This occurred when demonstrators apparently shot and wounded a military officer. The latter may have died later.

Several arrests were made by a military unit night of 9th at about 2350 hours. This occurred when two vehicles were spotted and followed to El Pais offices. One vehicle was disguised to appear as a military patrol unit. Occupants were apparently

going to firebomb the newspaper offices. One of the arrestees is reported to be a tupamaro.

COMMENT: As of 1300 hours July 10 the Montevideo Police received new orders which called for increased coordination between the military and the police on operations. There were no guidelines available immediately but indications are that this will mostly be intelligence gathering and operations of "special" nature.

Comments from the Executive Coordinator, NDII officials and other ranking officers from the Police indicate that they are dissatisfied with the way things are going. They are not happy with the military and blame them for the chaos that exists and firmly believe that things will get worse.

As of late July 10 police and military were preparing for further troubles on this date and next day. Also, police reports indicated that two other persons had been reported wounded as a result of skirmishes of the 9th. Two males aged 31 and 43 were reported in critical condition with bullet wounds to the head.

It was also clarified that on the night of the 9th a Taxi Fleet Truck had been stolen by the MRO. It was found the morning of the 10th in front of the El Pais offices with a Tupamaro type grenade launcher pointed at the second floor offices. The owner was arrested as an accomplice and has been identified as a tupamaro by a young military officer working at the Jefatura. Apparently the other story that two vehicles had been found with one resembling a military unit was not a correct story.