

RELEASED IN FULL

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ACTION ARA-00

INFO	LOG-00	ADS-00	INR-07	SS-00	CIAE-00	DODE-00	H-01
	NSCE-00	NSAE-00	HA-09	L-03	TRSE-00	PM-10	PA-01
	OMB-01	INRE-00	USIE-00	SP-02	SNP-01	C-01	SSE-01
	PRS-01	DS-01	SCT-02	P-02	T-01	/044 W	

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 01873

E.O. 12356 DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, PTER, US, AR
SUBJ: ARGENTINE IMPACT OF QUAYLE-CAPUTO MEETING:
- U.S. SIDES WITH THE GOOD GUYS

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT).

2. VICE PRESIDENT QUAYLE'S FEBRUARY 14 MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER CAPUTO IN WASHINGTON WAS OVERWHELMINGLY WELL RECEIVED IN ARGENTINA. FAVORABLE PRESS COVERAGE CONTINUES MORE THAN A WEEK AFTER THE EVENT. GOA PUBLIC LINE AND PRESS REPORTING EMPHASIZE MEETING AS SIGN OF STRONG AND VISIBLE U.S. SUPPORT FOR ARGENTINE DEMOCRACY IN THE AFTERMATH OF LA TABLADA UPRISING. SIMULTANEOUS DELIVERY TO CAPUTO OF PRESIDENT BUSH'S LETTER TO ALFONSIN FURTHER REINFORCED THE IMAGE.

3. CAPUTO INDICATED PRIVATELY ON DEPARTURE FOR WASHINGTON, MADRID, PARIS AND GENEVA THAT HE HOPED TO GENERATE STRONG FOREIGN SUPPORT FOR DEMOCRACY AFTER LA TABLADA. HE WAS APPARENTLY FULLY SATISFIED WITH HIS WASHINGTON STOP. FURTHER, IN WASHINGTON HE CAME CLOSER TO CONDEMNING PUBLICLY NICARAGUAN PARTICIPATION IN THE LA TABLADA ATTACK THAN HE EVER HAD PREVIOUSLY. HE DID NOT ALLEGE

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OFFICIAL SANDINISTA GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT, BUT REFERRED TO NICARAGUA BY NAME AND NOTED SOME LA TABLADA GUERRILLAS HAD TRAINED THERE.

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