

Argentina Prepares For "Tartan Army"

Argentina is preparing its defensive positions to cope with invasions by Scotland's "Tartan Army" of soccer fans due for the World Cup in June.

British Embassy officials have been to the central Argentine city of Cordoba, where Scotland will be based for its first round matches, to discuss how police will handle possible hooliganism by the Scottish fans.

The Argentine police have a reputation for being tough on soccer troublemakers. But organisers of the championship are anxious that any incidents should be handled with kid gloves so as not to worsen Argentina's already tarnished human rights image.

Sources at the British Embassy said temporary consulates named by professional diplomats and part-timers will be set up in Cordoba and Mendoza — where one first round match is being played — to handle any problems that may arise involving the volatile Scots.

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