

UNCLASSIFIED

Department of State

1/23/79

INCOMING TELEGRAM

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DOCUMENTED CASES. (A COPY BEING POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT.)
CASTRO

AT 082

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ISO-08 AF-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-06
NA-05 CIAE-08 DODE-08 PH-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-09 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-08
AID-05 /128 W

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R 231855Z JAN 79
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9202
INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ

BUENOS AIRES 3654

E.O. 12865: GDS 1/23/85 (HARRIS, F. ALLEN) OR-P
TAGS: SHUM, AR
SUBJECT: WJ VISIT OF IAHRC - HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATION'S
PREPARATIONS AND CONCERNS

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

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 _____

1. ENTIRE TEXT.

2. AN INDEPENDENT TASK FORCE OF PERMANENT ASSEMBLY
LAWYERS HAS BEEN ORGANIZED BY DRS. COATE-MACDONELL AND
MIGNONE AND HAS BEGUN PREPARING A "WHITE PAPER" ON ALL ASPECTS
OF THE ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION FOR THE IAHRC.
THE PAPER WILL EMPHASIZE THE LACK OF LEGAL REMEDIES AND
PROCEDURES TO PROTECT HUMAN RIGHTS IN ARGENTINA, THE VERY
SAME ISSUE WHICH WE HAVE BEEN TOLD GOVERNMENT MEMBERS FEEL
THEY CAN BEST USE TO DEFEND THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

3. HUMAN RIGHTS LEADERS ARE OPENLY EXPRESSING CONCERN
ABOUT THE ABILITY OF IAHRC TEAM TO ABSORB THE HUGE AMOUNT
OF CASE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AND ALSO LOOK INTO SUCH BROAD
PRIORITY TOPICS AS CLANDESTINE PRISONERS, RIGHT TO TRIAL,
PRISONER MISTREATMENT, TORTURE, AND THE THOUSANDS OF "DESAPARECIDOS"
IN THE NINE OR TEN DAYS ALLOTTED FOR THE
OAS GROUP'S STAY IN ARGENTINA. GIVEN THE LARGE NUMBER
OF DISAPPEARANCE CASES IN ARGENTINA (WHICH THE HUMAN
RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS NOW UNIFORMLY ESTIMATE AT AROUND
15,000), IF ONLY A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF THOSE CASES WERE
TO BE ACTUALLY DISCUSSED OR INVESTIGATED BY IAHRC MEMBERS
WHILE HERE, THIS WOULD OCCUPY A MAJOR AMOUNT OF THE OAS
TEAM'S TIME.

4. THE CURRENT FOCUS FOR THE IAHRC VISIT WITHING THE
PERMANENT ASSEMBLY IS ON THE CLANDESTINE PRISONERS.
ASSEMBLY MEMBERS BELIEVE THAT MOST OF THE DETENTION AND
INTERROGATION FACILITIES PRESENTLY IN OPERATION ARE
LOCATED ON MILITARY BASES--AREAS WHICH PROBABLY WILL BE
OFF LIMITS TO THE COMMISSION. ALTHOUGH THE ASSEMBLY
ACTIVISTS DISCOUNT THE PROSPECT OF FIRSTHAND "DISCOVERIES"
BY THE COMMISSION, THEY ARE HOPING THAT THE "THREAT" OF
SITE VISITS WILL PUT PRESSURE ON THE ARMED SERVICES TO
RECOGNIZE AND/OR RELEASE THE CLANDESTINE PRISONERS THEY
ARE HOLDING. (COMMENT: ALTHOUGH WE HAVE RECEIVED SEVERAL
REPORTS OF THE CLOSING OF INTERROGATION FACILITIES--NAVY
MECHANICS SCHOOL, "LA PERLA" AND "LA RIVERA" IN CORDOBA--
WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THERE ARE THE LARGE NUMBERS OF
SURVIVING PRISONERS RUMORED TO BE HELD BY THE MILITARY.

5. TO FACILITATE THE DISAPPEARANCE CASE WORK OF THE
COMMISSION A PERMANENT ASSEMBLY TASK FORCE, WORKING
IN CLOSE COOPERATION WITH THE LEAGUE FOR THE RIGHTS
OF MAN AND THE ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
(MEMH), HAS PREPARED A LIST OF ALL THE DISAPPEARANCE
CASES REPORTED TO THE THREE ORGANIZATIONS. AS OF
JANUARY FIRST THE COMPUTERIZED LIST CONTAINED 4,497

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