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 FM SECSTATE WASHDC
 TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 6143
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SY			I. F.		

STATE 078969

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, AR

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS IN ARGENTINE SUPREME COURT

BEGIN UNCLAS

1. APRIL 7 WASHINGTON POST CARRIES FOLLOWING STORY DATED BUENOS AIRES: "ARGENTINE COURT CHALLENGE. THE PARENTS OF A MAN WHO DISAPPEARED HERE FIVE MONTHS AGO ARE ASKING ARGENTINA'S SUPREME COURT TO ORDER THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT TO DISCLOSE INFORMATION IT MAY HAVE ON HIS WHEREABOUTS.

DR. JOSE LEVITAN'S PETITION REGARDING HIS SON, CLAUDIO AUGUSTO LEVITAN, 23, CONTENDS THE HIGH COURT'S STATUS IS EQUAL TO THAT OF THE MILITARY JUNTA. THE CASE IS BELIEVED TO BE THE FIRST CHALLENGE OF ITS KIND TO THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT, ACCORDING TO WASHINGTON POST CORRESPONDENT KAREN DEYOUNG."

END UNCLAS BEGIN

2. DURING DERIAN VISIT, JUAN DE ONIS REPORTED THAT PERMANENT ASSEMBLY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IS PLANNING TO PETITION SUPREME COURT ON BEHALF OF 600 INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE BEEN DENIED HABEAS CORPUS. ASSEMBLY APPARENTLY HOPES THAT COURT WILL APPOINT A JUDGE TO INVESTIGATE SITUATION AND THIS WILL LEAD TO INFORMATION ABOUT 600 CASES OR TO DETERMINATION BY COURT THAT LEGAL PROCESSES ARE NOT FUNCTIONING IN ARGENTINA. ASSEMBLY REPORTEDLY BELIEVES THAT SUPREME COURT IS MADE UP OF SUFFICIENTLY HONEST JUDGES AND THAT THEY WILL TAKE CASE VERY SERIOUSLY.

3. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE DETAILS ON THESE CASES IF AVAILABLE AND EMBASSY'S COMMENTARY OF ROLE OF SUPREME COURT IN PROTECTING RULE OF LAW IN ARGENTINA.

BT
 #8969

VANCE
DECONTROL

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
 U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
 Release Excise Deny
 Exemption(s):

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 22/185

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