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ACTION H-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-12 ADS-00 HA-06 /021 W  
-----002647 032240Z /52

P 031807Z DEC 80  
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7697

[REDACTED] BUENOS AIRES 9409

EO 12065: GDS 12/2/86 (RUSER, CLAUS W.) OR-M  
TAGS: SHUM, AR  
SUBJECT: US INTEREST HUMAN RIGHTS CASES

REF: BUENOS AIRES 9387

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. (U) EMBASSY PRESENTED FOLLOW-UP REQUESTS ON THE FOLLOWING  
CASES TO THE FOREIGN OFFICE WORKING GROUP ON HUMAN RIGHTS (FOWG)  
ON NOVEMBER 26, 1980:

CASE NO.	NAME	US INTEREST	STATUS
189/77/11	PEREIRA PLAZA, REINALDA DEL CARMEN	AMNESTY INTL	DIS
78/7	DORFMAN, LAURA IRENE	SEN. TSONGAS SEN. CRANSTON/SEN. DIS EXON/ADL/CONG. BEILENSEN/CONG. CAVANAUGH	DIS
606/78/9	BARROS DE ZAFFORA, MARIA DEL CARMEN	CONG. MAGUIRE	DIS
606/78/9	ZAFFORA, ROBERTO OMAR	CONG. MAGUIRE	DIS
683/78/12	BINSTOCK, GUILLERMO DANIEL	SEN. MATHIAS/SEN. DIS HAYAKAWA/ADL	DIS
686/78/12	BUTRON (NEE KRICHMAN), IRENE CLAUDIA	SEN. CRANSTON/ CONG. DIS BEILENSEN/ADL	DIS
687/78/12	BUTRON, MIGUEL ANGEL	SEN. CRANSTON/ CONG. DIS BEILENSEN/ADL	DIS
1344/80/2	BRODSKY, FERNANDO RUBEN	SEN. JAVITS/ADL CONG. GIAIMO	DIS

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398/78/5 WEINSTEIN, MAURICIO FABIAN

SEN. HATFIELD/SEN. DIS  
STON/ADL CONG. BONKER/

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HALL/LEHMAN/RINALDO/ZAB-  
LOCKI/LAGOMARSINO

2. [REDACTED] COMMENT: THE EMBASSY NOW HAS OVER 400 OUTSTANDING REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION PENDING AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE, SOME OF THEM DATING BACK TO MAY, 1979. WE DISCUSSED THIS SITUATION WITH THE HEAD OF THE FOWG, MINISTER PICO ESTRADA, NOVEMBER 28. THE MINISTER MADE IT CLEAR THAT THERE WAS LITTLE POSSIBILITY THAT WE WOULD RECEIV REPLIES SINCE MOST OF THESE CASES HAVE BEEN OR ARE NOW BOFORE THE ARGENTINE COURTS. THE COURTS HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO SHED ANY INFORMATION ON THE WHEREABOUTS OF DISAPPEARED INDIVIDUALS, HE SAID. IT WAS UNLIKELY THAT THE FOWG COULD DO MUCH BETTER. ASKED IF THE FOWG WOULD PREFER FOR THE EMBASSY TO STOP MAKING THESE SUBMISSIONS, PICO ESTARDA SAID WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO SUMBIT THEM.

3. [REDACTED] WE ARE VERY DOUBTFUL IF WE SHALL EVER GET ANY REPLY TO THE OUTSTANDING REQUESTS. PISO ESTRADA AND OTHERS IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAVE IMPLIED TO US THAT THE ARGENTINE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR OBJECTS TO AND REFUSES TO PROCESS US REQUESTS MADE IN BEHALF OF ARGENTINE NATIONALS. THE NEGATIVE REACTION IS REINFORCED WHEN, AS IN MANY OF OUR SUBMISSIONS, WE ARE REQUESTING INFORMATION ON AN INDIVIDUAL ON WHOM IN THE PAST WE HAD RECEIVED A REPLY FROM THE FOWG STATING THE GOA HAD NO INFORMATION ON THE INDIVIDUAL. (THE FOWG IS NOT A COMPLETE DEAD LETTER. ONE WEST EUROPEAN EMBASSY DID RECEIVE SEVERAL RESPONSES TO INQUIRIES SUBMITTED TO FOWG BUT THE CASES WERE DUAL NATIONALS OF THAT EUROPEAN COUNTRY.)

4. [REDACTED] THE ATTITUDES IN THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR AND THE ABSENCE OF RESPONSES TO OUR FOWG SUBMISSIONS ARE HARDLY SURPRISING. IT [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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REFLECTS THE VERY CLEAR PUBLIC LINE TAKEN BY ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES, FROM PRESIDENT VIDELA ON DOWN, THAT THE PAST IS CLOSED AND THAT THE ONLY PEOPLE ENTITLED TO EXAMINE IT ARE ARGENTINES.

5. [REDACTED] THUS WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS NECESSARY WHEN WE ADVISE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND OTHERS THAT WE ARE TRANSMITTING THEIR REQUEST TO THE FOWG THAT WE ALSO ADVISE THEM THAT WE HAVE LITTLE HOPE OF RECEIVING A REPLY. WE WOULD SUGGEST LANGUAGE ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES: "WE WILL BE SUBMITTING A REQUEST TO THE ARGENTINE FOREIGN OFFICE WORKING GROUP FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON MR. X. HOWEVER, YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT THE POSSIBILITY THAT THIS REQUEST WILL GENERATE ANY NEW INFORMATION ON MR. X'S SITUATION IS VERY

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[REDACTED] TED. PLEASE BE ASSURED THAT WE WILL MAINTAIN AN INTEREST  
IN THIS MATTER AND SHOULD FURTHER INFORMATION COME TO OUR  
ATTENTION WE WILL LET YOU KNOW."

6. (U) WE HAVE USED THIS LANGUAGE IN RESPONSE TO AN  
INQUIRY FROM SENATOR HATFIELD (REFTEL), WHICH WE ARE FORWARDING  
TO THE DEPARTMENT TO BE PASSED TO THE SENATOR. PLEASE ADVISE  
US IF DEPARTMENT CONCURS IN THIS FORMULATION.  
SHLAUDEMAN

[REDACTED]

NNN

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