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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ADS-00 IO-14 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
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O R 081350Z JUN 79
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1008
INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
USUN NEW YORK 0965
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
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ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
() Release (X) Excise () Deny
Exemption(s): B1
Declassify: (X) In Part () In Full
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Date 4/25/01 Declassify on _____ Reason 25X1

[REDACTED] SECTION 1 OF 2 BUENOS AIRES 4639

E.O. 12065: XDS-2 6/7/09 (CASTRO-RAUL) OR-M
TAGS: SHUM AR
SUBJ: (U) HUMAN RIGHTS SUMMARY - JUNE 7, 1979

REF: (A) BUENOS AIRES 4412; (B) BUENOS AIRES 4082

[REDACTED] SUMMARY: THERE ARE NO DISCERNIBLE TRENDS IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS REALM THIS WEEK, THE MOST IMPORTANT EVENT TO LOOK FORWARD TO REMAINING THE PROJECTED ON-SITE VISIT OF THE OAS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, FOR WHICH A DATE STILL HAS NOT BEEN SET. WE REPORT BELOW HEARSAY BEING ECHOED AMONG LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS HERE CONCERNING ALLEGED MANIPULATIONS IN WASHINGTON REGARDING THE VISIT. WE HAVE--UNFORTUNATELY--NO NEWS CONCERNING THE WHEREABOUTS OF MRS. JARA DE CABEZAS OR SIX YOUNG PEOPLE WHO DISAPPEARED RECENTLY. OTHER UNCONNECTED ITEMS ARE ALSO INCLUDED IN THIS WEEK'S

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REPORT. END SUMMARY.

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1. [REDACTED] NO NEWS OF THE MISSING SIX ----
THE STORY OF THE GROUP OF SIX STUDENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE WHO DISAPPEARED FROM A BUENOS AIRES APARTMENT IN THE EARLY HOURS OF MAY 13 (REF B) HAS MADE BOTH THE HERALD AND CLARIN. THE SIX REPORTEDLY WERE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY BY NINE HEAVILY ARMED MEN WHO CLAIMED TO BE MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY FORCES AND HAVE NOT BEEN HEARD FROM SINCE. WE NOW HAVE THE NAMES OF ALL SIX, WHO ARE AS FOLLOWS: JORGE VICTOR SZNAIDER, A 19-YEAR-OLD PHYSICS AND MATHEMATICS STUDENT; TWO OTHER YOUNG FELLOW STUDENTS OF THE MARIANO ACOSTA SCHOOL, JORGE PEREZ BRANCATO AND HUGO ARMANDO MALOZOWSKY; CARLOS ALBERTO PEREZ, 33 AND HIS WIFE MIRTA SILBER, 35; AND NOEMI GRACIELA BEITONE. THE PARENTS OF THE SIX HAVE FILED HABEAS CORPUS WRITS. OUR INFORMAL INQUIRIES OF GOVERNMENT AND SECURITY SOURCES SO FAR HAVE TURNED UP ONLY BLANKS.

2. [REDACTED] - XDS-2) ON INFORMATION ON JARA CASE ----
[REDACTED] THERE IS NO HOUSE OR STRUCTURE STANDING AT THE SAO PAULO, BRAZIL, RETURN ADDRESS LISTED IN THE LETTER RECENTLY RECEIVED BY THE EMBASSY, PURPORTEDLY WRITTEN BY MISSING ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST, MRS. JARA DE CABEZAS. REPORTEDLY, NONE OF THE NEIGHBORS ON THE BLOCK WHO WERE ASKED ACKNOWLEDGED HAVING SEEN AN ARGENTINE IN THE VICINITY. WE HAVE NO OTHER LEADS REGARDING HERE WHEREABOUTS AND WELFARE.

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3. (U) VIETNAM REFUGEES ----
THE PROVINCE OF CHABUT REPORTEDLY HAS AGREED TO TAKE THE 100 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES PREVIOUSLY HAVING BEEN MEN-

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TIONED IN THE LOCAL PRESS AS ACCEPTABLE TO THE GOA.

4. [REDACTED] PERMANENT ASSEMBLY PREPARATIONS FOR AND CONCERNS REGARDING THE OAS COMMISSION VISIT ----
LEADERS OF THE ARGENTINE PERMANENT ASSEMBLY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN TO AN EMBOFF REGARDING AN ALLEGED EFFORT BY OAS SECRETARY GENERAL ORFILA TO DELAY THE FIRST MEETING OF THE NEWLY RECONSTITUTED INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (IAHRC). ACCORDING TO INFORMATION RECEIVED BY THE PERMANENT ASSEMBLY FROM IAHRC STAFFERS, THE COMMISSION MEMBERS WERE PREPARED TO MEET IN WASHINGTON ON JUNE 4 TO SET A DATE FOR

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THEIR ARGENTINE SITE VISIT. ORFILA, HOWEVER, REPORTEDLY ASKED THAT THE MEETING BE DELAYED BY AT LEAST A WEEK SO THAT HE COULD BE PRESENT. HE ALLEGEDLY IS ALSO SEEKING TO MOVE UP THE LATE OCTOBER DATE FOR THE LA PAZ OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING. BOTH THESE REPORTED EFFORTS BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL ARE BEING INTERPRETED LOCALLY AS ATTEMPTS TO FORECLOSE THE POSSIBILITY OF THE COMMISSION'S MAKING PUBLIC ITS REPORT ON ARGENTINA UNTIL LATE IN 1980.

APART FROM THESE CONCERNS, THE PERMANENT ASSEMBLY AND THE AD HOC LAWYERS' GROUP ARE CONTINUING PREPARATORY WORK FOR THE COMMISSION'S VISIT. THE PERMANENT ASSEMBLY RECENTLY ISSUED A LIST OF 359 DISAPPEARANCE CASES REPORTED TO HAVE TAKEN PLACE DURING 1978 AND 1979 (POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT). THE AD HOC LAWYERS' GROUP IS DOCUMENTING A NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH, THE LAWYERS BELIEVE, THERE IS FORM EVIDENCE REGARDING THE INVOLVEMENT OF GOA SECURITY FORCES.

4. (U) AMMESTY INTERNATIONAL ANNOUNCEMNT ----
THE EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED A COPY OF AN AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL PRESS RELEASE EMBARGOED FOR JUNE 20, ANNOUNCING THAT AMNESTY HAS SUBMITTED A LIST TO THE IAIRC OF 2, 742 ARGENTINE ARGENTINE DISAPPEARANCE CASES. THE AMNESTY

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PRESS RELEASE SAYS THAT THE DETAILED INFORMATION WAS BEING PROVIDED TO THE IAIRC WITH THE HOPE THAT IT WOULD ENABLE THE OAS COMMISSION TO OBTAIN PRECISE INFORMATION FROM THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT ABOUT THE WHEREABOUTS OF THOSE WHO HAVE DISAPPEARED. WE EXPECT TO RECEIVE A COPY FROM AI LONDON.

5. (U) "LA PRENSA" WRITER SPEAKS OUT ON DISAPPEARANCES----
"LA PRENSA" COLUMNIST AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS EXPERT, MANFRED SCHONFELD, CONTINUES TO DEMONSTRATE THAT HE IS A COURAGEOUS AND EFFECTIVE WRITER ON HUMAN RIGHTS. ON

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JUNE 1 HE WROTE A PIECE ENTITLED "THE ARMY AND ITS
ROLE IN NATIONAL LIFE," AS A REACTION TO ARMY COMMANDER
GENERAL VIOLA'S ARMY DAY SPEECH (REPORTED IN LAST
WEEK'S SUMMARY). SAID SCHONFELD: "GENUINE REPRESSION
OF SUBVERSION" CANNOT BE REASONABLY OBJECTED TO...WE
MUST RAISE A MUCH MORE SERIOUS QUESTION, FOR WHICH
SOMETHING MORE THAN AN EXPLANATION IS NECESSARY...
"REPRESSIVE ACTION CONTINUED (AFTER WINNING THE WAR
AGAINST GUERRILLAS) AND, ACCORDING TO REPORTS THAT
CANNOT GO TOTALLY IGNORED, IS STILL CONTINUING...IT NO
LONGER IS, IN MOST CASES, AN HEROIC ACTION AGAINST
TRULY DANGEROUS ELEMENTS...IT WAS AND IT CONTINUES TO BE
A CAMPAIGN AGAINST...ADOLESCENTS WHOSE DETENTION FOR
INVESTIGATIVE PURPOSES PERHAPS MAY HAVE BEEN JUSTIFIED,
BUT WHOSE 'DISAPPEARANCE' DOES NO HONOR TO THOSE WHO
SHOULD BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR IT. THESE ARE NOT THE
MEN WHO...SAVED THE COUNTRY FROM FALLING INTO THE

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HANDS OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM. THEY ARE MEN WHO TRY
TO TAKE REFUGE IN THE GLORY OTHERS HAVE WON, AS IF
BREAKING INTO A HOME AND DRAGGING AWAY A SCARED BOY

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OR GIRL, A HOOD OVER THEIR HEADS, IS THE SAME AS
CONFRONTING A BAND OF ARMED DESPERADOS."

IN ARGENTINA THIS IS STRONG STUFF. THE SECURITY
FORCES ARE NOT ACCUSTOMED TO READING THIS BLATANT AN
ATTACK IN THE LOCAL SPANISH LANGUAGE PRESS.
CASTRO

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