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TELEGRAM

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ACTION ARA-15

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ADS-00 HC-05 SR-04 H-01 CIAE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1228
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

BUENOS AIRES 5115

E. O. 12065 GDS 6-25-85 (THAYER, YVONNE) OR-P
TAGS SHUM, AR
SUBJECT (U) TIMERMAN RELEASE SPECULATED IN PRESS

JD

REF: BUENOS AIRES 4701

Argentina

1. (U) THE SUNDAY MORNING (JUNE 24) CONVICCION SPECULATED THAT THE JACOBO TIMERMAN CASE MIGHT SOON BE RESOLVED AND TIMERMAN RELEASED, DUE IN PART TO STRONG INTERNATIONAL PRESSURES. THE ARTICLE, WHICH WAS WIDELY QUOTED IN OTHER PAPERS JUNE 25, CREDITED "FIRMLY HELD CONFLICTING OPINIONS AMONG DIFFERENT POWER FACTIONS OVER TIME" FOR THE LONG DELAY IN THE TIMERMAN CASE AND NOTED THAT TWO COMMANDERS IN CHIEF HAD CONCERNED THEMSELVES WITH THE CASE.
2. (U) CONVICCION (WHICH HAS A STRONG "NAVY ORIENTATION") SPECULATED THAT TIMERMAN'S RELEASE WOULD DEPEND ON HIS AGREEING TO THREE CONDITIONS: TO TRAVEL DIRECTLY TO ISRAEL, NOT TO WRITE OR SPEAK OUT AGAINST ARGENTINA OR ITS GOVERNMENT, AND NOT TO ASSUME THE LATIN AMERICAN EDITORSHIP OF THE NEW YORK TIMES IN ISRAEL. THE ACTUAL DECISION, SAID CONVICCION, WOULD PROBABLY BE BASED ON WHETHER HIS RELEASE ABROAD WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO HIS PRESENT DETENTION AND IMAGE AS THE "MARTYR OF DEMOCRACY". EVEN IF TIMERMAN REFUSES THE THREE CONDITIONS, IT IS BELIEVED THAT HIS RELEASE WOULD BE A POSITIVE SOLUTION, ACCORDING TO THE PAPER.
3. MRS. RISCHÉ TIMERMAN RECENTLY PROVIDED THE AMBASSADOR WITH FOUR DRAFTS OF A LETTER WHICH WAS FINALLY SENT BY HER HUSBAND TO THE JUNTA ON JUNE 11. (SEE REF) THE FINAL TEXT DROPPED ALL EARLIER REFERENCES TO TIMERMAN'S NON-PEN STATUS (AND ONSEQUENTLY HIS INABILITY TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY UNDER THE RIGHT OF OPTION PROGRAM) AND SIMPLY APPEALED TO THE JUNTA FOR AUTHORIZATION TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY AND SETTLE DEFINITELY IN ISRAEL.
4. (U) CERTAIN BUENOS AIRES, AIRES NEWSPAPERS HAVE MAINTAINED CONTINUOUS ATTENTION ON THE TIMERMAN CASE, EDITORIALIZING ON THE UNFAIRNESS OF HIS CONTINUED DETENTION WITHOUT CHARGE AND QUESTIONING THE SUPREME COURT'S RECENT REJECTION OF HIS HEABEAS CORPUS PETITION. THE LOCAL PRESS REPORTED JUNE 20 THAT TIMERMAN'S SON HECTOR DISCUSSED HIS FATHER'S CASE WITH SENATORS CHURCH, ZORINSKY, SARBANES, MCGOVERN, PELL AND JAVITS DURING A RECENT TRIP TO THE US TO ACCEPT B'NAI B'RITH AWARD FOR HIS FATHER. CASTRO

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 _____

[Redacted]

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