5/10/83

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RR RUEHC RUEHLD RUEHMN RUEHRO RUESNA RUFHOL
RUDKEBQ RUEHMD RUFHFR RUEHTV RUEHDT RUFHGV
RUEOEHA RUCBSAA
DE RUEHBU #3153/01 130 **
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 101603Z MAY 83
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7272
INFO RUEHLD/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1678
RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 8852
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 2578
RUESNA/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO 6365
RUFHOL/AMEMBASSY BONN 0725
RUDKEBQ/AMEMBASSY BERN 0266
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID 1187
RUFHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 1773
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 0317
RUEHDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0787
RUFHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 1584
RUEOEHA/USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PN
RUCBSAA/CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
BT

UNCLASSIFIED

CLASS: [redacted]
CHRGE: PROG 5/10/83
APPRV: AMB:EWSHLAUDEMAN
DRFTD: POL:JAALLITTO:BK
CLEAR: ~~POL:JFKLANE~~
DCM:JABUSHNELL
DISTR: POL-4 AMB DCM
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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] BUENOS AIRES 03153

CINCSO FOR INTAFF, CINCLANT ALSO FOR POLAD, ROME ALSO FOR VATICAN

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR
TAGS: PREL, SHUM, AR, FR, IT, VT, XG
SUBJ: ARGENTINA RECALLS ITS AMBASSADOR TO ITALY; MORE REACTION TO THE JUNTA'S REPORT

REF: (A) BUENOS AIRES 2871 (NOTAL), (B) BUENOS AIRES 2954 (NOTAL), (C) ROME 10570 (NOTAL)

1. [redacted] SUMMARY: ARGENTINA HAS RECALLED ITS AMBASSADOR IN ROME "FOR CONSULTATIONS" IN THE WAKE OF ITALY'S HARSH CRITICISM OF THE MILITARY JUNTA'S "FINAL REPORT" ON THE ARGENTINE WAR AGAINST SUBVERSION. THE TWO GOVERNMENTS CONTINUE TO CALL ONE ANOTHER'S STATEMENTS ABOUT EACH OTHER "UNACCEPTABLE". ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER AGUIRRE LANARI TOLD THE PRESS THAT THERE WAS AN INTERNATIONAL "CONSPIRACY" TO DISCREDIT ARGENTINA OVER THE JUNTA'S REPORT. THE POPE CRITICIZED THE JUNTA'S REPORT ON MAY 4, AND, TAKING ITS CUE, THE ARGENTINE EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE FOLLOWED UP WITH A MILD REBUKE TO THE JUNTA. THE FRENCH AND SPANISH GOVERNMENTS ALSO PROTESTED THE JUNTA'S REPORT, AS DID THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. THE MOTHERS OF THE PLAZA DE MAYO LED 4000 PEOPLE TO PROTEST THE REPORT IN A PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION ON MAY 5. END SUMMARY.

2. (U) ARGENTINA RECALLS ITS AMBASSADOR TO ITALY; CLAIMS CONSPIRACY.

ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER JUAN AGUIRRE LANARI TOLD THE PRESS ON MAY 5 THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF ARGENTINA (GOA) HAD RECALLED ITS AMBASSADOR TO ITALY "FOR CONSULTATIONS" IN

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BUENOS AIRES IN THE WAKE OF ITALY'S CRITICISM OF THE GOA' APRIL 28 "FINAL REPORT" ON THE ARGENTINE WAR AGAINST SUBVERSION. AGUIRRE LANARI ALSO SAID THAT "PROBLEMS AMONG ARGENTINES WILL BE SOLVED AMONG ARGENTINES, AND WE HAVE NO REASON TO ANSWER ANYONE WHO MAY WISH TO INTERFERE, TRYING TO SET RULES AND GUIDELINES FOR OUR BEHAVIOR." HE ADDED THAT THERE WAS AN INTERNATIONAL "CONSPIRACY" TO DISCREDIT ARGENTINA OVER THE JUNTA'S REPORT.

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3. [redacted] COMMENT: ITALY'S STATEMENTS ARE VIEWED BY MOST ARGENTINES, AND ESPECIALLY BY FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS, AS BEING PROMPTED BY ITALIAN DOMESTIC POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS. EVEN AN EX-FOREIGN MINISTER WHO PREFACED HIS REMARKS TO US BY STATING THAT THE JUNTA CLEARLY MADE A BIG MISTAKE IN PUBLISHING THE INCOMPLETE REPORT THAT IT DID, NEVERTHELESS WENT ON TO SAY THAT PRESIDENT PERTINI'S COMMENTS WENT BEYOND THE PALE AND COULD NOT BE ACCEPTED BY THE GOA. END COMMENT.

4. (U) THE POPE CRITICIZES THE JUNTA'S REPORT

NEARLY ALL ARGENTINE NEWSPAPERS OF MAY 5 MADE FRONT-PAGE NEWS OF THE POPE'S WEEKLY AUDIENCE IN ST. PETER'S SQUARE, DURING WHICH HE REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THE HOPES OF THE FAMILIES OF ARGENTINA'S MISSING PERSONS HAD BEEN "SMASHED" BY THE JUNTA'S DECLARATION THAT THE MISSING ARE NOW LEGALLY DEAD. THE POPE'S STATEMENT FOLLOWED BY ONE DAY A FRONT-PAGE EDITORIAL IN THE VATICAN'S SEMI-OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER "L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO," WHICH WAS STRONGER THAN THE POPE'S STATEMENT.

5. [redacted] COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE GOA CAN DOWNPLAY PERTINI'S STATEMENTS AND THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT'S ACTIONS AS MOTIVATED BY DOMESTIC POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS, THE GOA CANNOT MAKE THE SAME ACCUSATION AGAINST THE POPE. END COMMENT.

6. (U) FRENCH GOVERNMENT CRITICIZES THE JUNTA'S REPORT

PRESS REPORTS STATED THAT THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT CALLED IN THE ARGENTINE CHARGE ON MAY 3 TO EXPRESS ITS "GREAT SURPRISE AT A STATEMENT THAT PURPORTS TO EXONERATE FROM ALL RESPONSIBILITY THE PERPETRATORS OF BRUTALITIES

COMMITTED IN THE NAME OF MAINTAINING PUBLIC ORDER." FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCES TOLD THE PRESS THAT THE ARGENTINE CHARGE HAD ALSO BEEN TOLD THAT FRANCE WAS DETERMINED TO PURSUE ITS EFFORTS TO SHED LIGHT ON THE DISAPPEARANCES THAT OCCURRED IN ARGENTINA, PARTICULARLY THOSE OF 15 FRENCH NATIONALS.

7. (U) SPANISH GOVERNMENT SEEKS MORE EXPLANATIONS

PRESS REPORTS OF MAY 7 STATED THAT SPANISH AMBASSADOR MANUEL MIRANDA CALLED AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ON MAY 6 TO EXPRESS HIS GOVERNMENT'S POSITION ON THE JUNTA'S REPORT. MIRANDA TOLD REPORTERS AFTER THE MEETING THAT "SPAIN SEEKS MORE EXPLANATIONS" ABOUT THE MISSING THAN THOSE OFFERED IN THE REPORT.

8. (U) EUROPEAN COMMUNITY CRITICIZES THE REPORT

PRESS REPORTS OF MAY 7 ALSO STATED THAT WEST GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER HANS GENSCHER, SPEAKING IN BONN AS PRESIDENT OF THE TEN-NATION EUROPEAN COMMUNITY'S COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS, SAID IN A STATEMENT THAT "THE MILITARY JUNTA'S DOCUMENT PUBLISHED ON APRIL 28 CANNOT BE ACCEPTED AS A SUFFICIENT OR FINAL ANSWER TO THE MANY REQUESTS BY THE TEN (EEC NATIONS) FOR INFORMATION FROM THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT ON THE FATE OF MISSING PEOPLE. THE TEN THEREFORE MAINTAIN THEIR DEMAND THAT THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT MAKE SURE OF A SATISFACTORY EXPLANATION."

9. (U) MOTHERS AND OTHERS DEMONSTRATE

THE MOTHERS OF THE PLAZA DE MAYO'S WEEKLY DEMONSTRATION WAS LARGER THAN USUAL ON MAY 5. APPROXIMATELY 4000 PEOPLE TURNED OUT TO PROTEST THE JUNTA'S REPORT IN A PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION THAT INCLUDED LEADING HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE PERONIST, RADICAL AND OTHER POLITICAL PARTIES.

10. (U) JUNTA DOCUMENT CALLED A GIFT

THE PRESIDENT OF THE CENTER FOR LEGAL AND SOCIAL STUDIES (CELS), EMILIO MIGNONE, TOLD THE PRESS ON MAY 5 THAT THE MILITARY JUNTA'S REPORT WAS A "GIFT" TO HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS BECAUSE "IT HAS RAISED AWARENESS OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE TREMENDOUSLY." MIGNONE ALSO SAID THAT CELS AND OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS IN ARGENTINA WERE PLANNING A MASS DEMONSTRATION TO REJECT THE JUNTA'S REPORT.

11. (U) ARGENTINE EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE CRITICIZES REPORT

ON MAY 5 THE EPISCOPATE STATED THAT THE JUNTA'S REPORT "CONTAINS SOME POSITIVE ASPECTS THAT COULD CONSTITUTE A STEP TOWARDS RECONCILIATION, BUT THEY ARE INSUFFICIENT...." THE DOCUMENT WAS SIGNED BY THE ARCHBISHOP OF BA, CARDINAL ARAMBURU, AMONG OTHERS. SHLAUDEMAN BT