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PTQ8451

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ACTION SCT-00

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	ACDE-00	AID-00	ARA-01	A-00	CA-02
	CCO-00	CG-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	CTME-00	OASY-00	DODE-00
	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EB-01	EUR-01	FAAE-00
	FBIE-00	H-01	IMMC-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	INSE-00	L-01
	ADS-00	M-00	NRCE-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OCS-03	OIS-01
	OMB-01	PA-02	PM-00	PRS-01	P-00	SP-00	SSO-00
	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	USSS-00	ASDS-01	PMB-00
	DSCC-00	DRL-09	G-00	/043W			

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R 031842Z NOV 95
 FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8785
 INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
 AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
 AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
 AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
 USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//SCCC//

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 006954

DEPARTMENT FOR ARA/SC, S/CT

E.O. 12958: N/A
 TAGS: PTER, PGOV, AR
 SUBJECT: NEW AMIA ARRESTS LEAD (ALMOST) NOWHERE

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 REF: (A) BUENOS AIRES 6235, (B) BUENOS AIRES 6166

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J OLSON
 DATE/CASE ID: 13 MAY 2008 200601030

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1. THE INVESTIGATING JUDGE IN THE 1994 BOMBING OF THE JEWISH ARGENTINE MUTUAL ASSOCIATION (AMIA), JUAN JOSE GALEANO, HAS PROCESSED AND RELEASED ALEJANDRO MONJO, THE OWNER OF A SHADY USED CAR BUSINESS THOUGHT TO HAVE BEEN POSSIBLY LINKED TO THE PROCUREMENT OF THE VAN USED IN THE DEADLY ATTACK (REFS). MONJO HAD BEEN ARRESTED SHORTLY FOLLOWING THE HEARING IN THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES' INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE ON THE PROGRESS IN THE AMIA INVESTIGATION. GALEANO FOUND THAT MONJO AND SEVEN OTHERS -- INCLUDING CARLOS TELLELDIN, STILL BEING HELD IN CUSTODY -- HAD BEEN ILLEGALLY CONSPIRING TO FALSIFY AUTOMOBILE DOCUMENTS, BUT APPARENTLY COULD NOT PROVE MONJO'S CONNECTION TO THE AMIA CASE. GALEANO DID SAY, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD TAPPED MONJO'S PHONE AND HEARD HIM SAY, "ALL THE IRANIAN OFFICIALS FROM THE EMBASSY EVAPORATED AFTER THE BOMBING, NO ONE IS LEFT." JUDGE GALEANO, AFTER ANNOUNCING HIS DECISION TO LET MONJO OUT OF JAIL, ADDED TO THE CHARGES AGAINST TELLELDIN TO REFLECT THE ALLEGATION OF CRIMINAL CONSPIRACY. HE ALSO RAISED TELLELDIN'S BAIL TO TWO MILLION PESOS.

2. COMMENT: THE FLURRY OF ARRESTS SINCE THE HIRC HEARING IN WASHINGTON HAS NOT PUT THE CASE ANY CLOSER TO RESOLUTION. TELLELDIN STILL REFUSES TO TELL WHAT, IF ANYTHING, HE KNOWS ABOUT THE ALLEGED CONNECTION BETWEEN CORRUPT BUENOS AIRES PROVINCIAL POLICE AND THOSE WHO ORCHESTRATED THE 1994 ATTACK ON AMIA. BUT
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THE REINVIGORATION OF INVESTIGATION HAS AT LEAST EASED FEARS, ESPECIALLY IN THE JEWISH COMMUNITY, THAT OFFICIALS IN CHARGE OF THE CASE WERE UNWILLING TO PURSUE EVEN THE SLIM LEADS THEY HAD.

CHEEK

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