

6/19/80

Current Class: [REDACTED]
Current Handling: [REDACTED]
Document Number: 1980BUENOS05020

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Channel: n/a

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION SS-30

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INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 SSO-00 /031 W
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O R 192147Z JUN 80
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5776
INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY LIMA

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
 Release Excise Deny

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[REDACTED] BUENOS AIRES 5020

Exemption(s): _____
Declassify: In Part In Full
 Classify as ___ Extend as ___ Downgrade to ___
Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

[REDACTED] **DECAPTIONED**

E.O. 12065: XDS-1 19/6/2000 (CHAPLIN, MAXWELL) OR-M
TAGS: PORS, SHUM, AR, PE
SUBJECT: [REDACTED] ARGENTINE INVOLVEMENT IN LIMA "KIDNAPPINGS"

REF: LIMA 5455, LIMI 5475

1. (U) THE BUENOS AIRES PRESS DURING THE PAST SEVERAL DAYS HAS GIVEN CONSIDERABLE PLAY TO THE STORIES OUT OF LIMA DESCRIBED REFTELS THAT THREE OR FIVE ARGENTINES WERE ARRESTED BY PERUVIAN AUTHORITIES.

2. [REDACTED] DURING A CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF A MEMBER OF THE ARGENTINE INTELLIGENCE SERVICE CONFIRMED THAT ARGENTINE SECURITY OFFICIALS IN COOPERATION WITH THEIR PERUVIAN COUNTERPARTS HAD PICKED UP FOUR ARGENTINES (DESCRIBED AS IMPORTANT MEMBERS OF THE MONONERO HIERARCHY) IN LIMA. THE OPERATION HIT A SNAG WHEN NEWS OF THE APPREHENSION HIT THE MEDIA. (APPARENTLY THE ABUDCTED ARGENTINES HAD EARLIER SET UP A QUICK AND EFFICIENT SYSTEM TO SPREAD THE WORD IN THE CASE OF APPREHENSION.) BECAUSE OF THIS DEVELOPMENT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO TRANSFER THE FOUR ARGENTINES TO THIS COUNTRY WITHOUT PUBLIC NOTICE. IT WAS THEREFORE ARRANGED THAT THEY BE HELD IN PERU AND THEN EXPELLED TO

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BOLIVIA.

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3. [REDACTED] TODAY'S PAPERS HERE IN BUENOS AIRES (JUNE 19) REPORTED THAT THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES REPRESENTATIVE IN LA PAZ HAD EXPRESSED CONCERN FOR THE WELFARE OF THE FOUR ARGENTINES AND SUGGESTED THAT BOLIVIA GRANT THEM ASYLUM. EMBASSY HAS NO KNOWLEDGE WHETHER SOME ARRANGEMENT MIGHT EXIST BETWEEN ARGENTINE AND BOLIVIAN SECURITY OFFICIALS WHICH MIGHT ENABLE THE ORIGINALLY PLANNED OPERATION TO BE COMPLETED.

CASTRO

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