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ACTION: NONE INFO: ODPS-S, RF, FILE, CR/WH, D/FBIS-2, EPS/EG-2,  
IAD/CAS-3, LA-3, NIO/LA, OGCR/ER-2, ORPA/11-2, ORPA/LAD, ORPA/LAY,  
ORPA/SA-3, PSB, (24/a)

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RR RUEAIB  
ZNY CCCCC ZUC STATE ZZH  
TUTS458  
RR RUEHC  
DE RUESAS #3672 2211530  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
R 091515Z AUG 79  
FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 6811  
INFO RUFHUL/AMEMBASSY BUNN 155  
RUESUZ/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 1251  
RUESBA/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 4268  
RUESDO/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 1693  
BT

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SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2000 2006

*POB*

C O N F I D E N T I A L

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ASUNCION 3672

EO 12065: NA  
TAGS: PGOV PA  
SUBJECT: PARAGUAYAN SUPREME COURT REVOKES MENGELE'S PARAGUAYAN  
CITIZENSHIP

1. (UNC) THE PARAGUAYAN SUPREME COURT HANDED DOWN A FORMAL  
JUDGMENT AUGUST 8 WHICH CANCELS THE NATURALIZATION CERTIFICATE  
WHICH CONFERRED PARAGUAYAN NATIONALITY ON MENGELE ON NOVEMBER 27,  
1959. THE JUDGMENT ALSO ASKED THE FOREIGN MINISTRY TO INFORM  
THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR OF THE COURT'S JUDGMENT. THE BASIS FOR  
THE ACTION WAS ARTICLE 29 OF THE CONSTITUTION WHICH PERMITS  
NATURALIZED PARAGUAYAN CITIZENS TO BE DIVESTED OF THEIR  
NATIONALITY IF THEY ARE UNJUSTIFIABLY ABSENT FROM PARAGUAY FOR  
MORE THAN TWO YEARS.

2. (LOU) RADICAL LIBERAL DEPUTY LIGIA PRIETO DE CENTURION HAS  
INTRODUCED AN INTERROGATORY INTO THE PARLIAMENT QUESTIONING  
WHY THE GOVERNMENT HAD ALLOWED MENGELE TO BECOME A PARAGUAYAN  
CITIZEN. IN RESPONSE THE OFFICIAL COLORADO PARTY DAILY  
"PATRIA" HAD ATTACKED THE INTERROGATORY SAYING THAT MRS.

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PRIETO WAS ONLY SEEKING TO PUBLICIZE HERSELF. IN AN INTERVIEW WITH "ABC" PUBLISHED AUGUST 9 THE FIERY DEPUTY POST A FURTHER SERIES OF QUESTIONS WHICH SHE SAID THE AUTHORITIES WOULD HAVE TO ANSWER SOME DAY. THESE WERE QUESTIONS SUCH AS WHY MENGELE HAD BEEN GIVEN PARAGUAYAN CITIZENSHIP; WHY DIDN'T THE COURT KNOW THAT MENGELE WAS WANTED AS A WAR CRIMINAL; WHAT PROFESSION MENGELE PRACTICED IN PARAGUAY WHICH IS REQUIRED UNDER THE NATURALIZATION PROVISIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION; AND HOW COULD MENGELE, A WANTED WAR CRIMINAL, HAVE RECEIVED A CERTIFICATE OF GOOD CONDUCT?

3. (LUG) COMMENT; TH SUPREME COURT'S ACTION BLURS SOMEWHAT PARAGUAY'S CONNECTION WITH MENGELE. ALTHOUGH THE GOP CLAIMS THAT MENGELE HAS NOT BEEN LIVING IN PARAGUAY FOR MANY YEARS, MANY INFORMED OBSERVERS STILL BELIEVE THAT MENGELE LIVES IN PARAGUAY AT LEAST FROM TIME TO TIME. A WELL INFORMED RURAL PRIEST TELLS US HE SAW HIM IN PARAGUAY ABOUT A MONTH AGO NEAR THE BRAZILIAN BORDER.  
DION

END OF MESSAGE

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