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LA/APUB  
INCOMING

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PRIORITY

FRP: . . 3 . . . . .

STATE

ACTION: NONE INFO: ALA/PA-2, ALA/PO/LA, ALA/SA/R, ALA/SA/RPU,  
ALA/SA/SE, ALA/SEM, NESA/AI/I, NMON, ODPN-N, OUPS-S, OGLINATAB1,  
OGITNATAG2, OPCTR/EALA, OPCTR/NESA, RF, FILE, LA/APUB-2, [NE/ISR-2] CR/N,  
DD/NESA, EPO/LA, EPO/NE, ICS/HC/LA, ICS/HC/ME, NCPW, NESA/AI/L,  
NESA/SCIO, NIU/LA, NIU/NE, PPS/AO-2, PPS/PO-2, PPS/SEO-3, QA/STATE,  
(24/w)

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TOR: 081950Z FEB 85

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ZNY CCCCC ZOC STATE ZZH  
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PP RUEHC  
DE RUEHTV #2173 0391740  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
P 081730Z FEB 85  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7118  
INFO RUESAS/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION PRIORITY 0039  
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY 6624  
BT  
C O N F I D E N T I A L

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEL AVIV 02173

E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: PREL, IS, PA  
SUBJECT: ISRAELI PRESS REPORTS ON U.S. DECISION TO AID  
- IN PURSUIT OF NAZI WAR CRIMINALS

REFS: A) TEL AVIV 2153, B) TEL AVIV 2108

1. YAD VASHEM OFFICIALS RELEASED THE TEXT OF THE MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT REAGAN ON FEBRUARY 7 (REFTEL A). ISRAELI PRESS REPORTS ON FEBRUARY 8 STATE THAT THE USG WILL ESTABLISH A SPECIAL DIVISION IN THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO TRY NAZI CRIMINALS WHO UNLAWFULLY ACQUIRED U.S. CITIZENSHIP THEREBY ENABLING U.S. AUTHORITIES TO DEPORT THEM.

2. THE GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE (GPO) PUBLISHED A REPORT FEBRUARY 8 STATING THAT MINISTER OF JUSTICE MOSHE NISSIM DISCUSSED THE SPECIAL DIVISION TO BE ESTABLISHED IN THE U.S. JUSTICE DEPARTMENT DURING A FEBRUARY 8 MEETING OF THE INTERMINISTERIAL COMMITTEE SET UP TO COORDINATE EFFORTS TO BRING JOSEPH MENGELE TO TRIAL. MINISTER NISSIM TOLD THE COMMITTEE THAT THE USG HAS ACCEDDED TO THE ISRAELI JUSTICE MINISTRY'S ARGUMENT THAT NAZI CRIMINALS INVESTIGATED BY THE SPECIAL DIVISION COULD BE EXTRADITED TO ISRAEL ONCE IT WAS DETERMINED THAT THEY ACQUIRED THEIR U.S. CITIZENSHIP BY UNLAWFUL MEANS. IN ADDITION THE GPO REPORT STATES THAT NAZI WAR CRIMINAL JOHN DEMEJANIUK (KNOWN AS "IVAN THE TERRIBLE") IS CURRENTLY ON TRIAL IN CLEVELAND, OHIO. NISSIM SAID THAT DEMEJANIUK WOULD STAND TRIAL IN ISRAEL FOR HIS WAR CRIMES IF U.S. COURTS DECIDE HE CAN BE EXTRADITED.

3. ISRAELI NEWS ALSO REPORTS THAT AN ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE BY U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL SMITH STATING THE U.S. JUSTICE DEPARTMENT WILL BEGIN AN INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE THE WHEREABOUTS OF JOSEPH MENGELE. THE INVESTIGATION WILL LOOK INTO ALLEGATIONS THAT MENGELE WAS HELD AND THEN FREED IN THE AMERICAN OCCUPATION ZONE OF VIENNA AFTER WORLD WAR II.  
LEWIS

*Handwritten notes:*  
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MIRRO

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2000 2008

*ed*  
FOR COORDINATION WITH State

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