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LA/APUB
INCOMING

FRP: . . . 3

STATE

ACTION: NONE INFO: ALA/PA-2. ALA/PO/LA. ALA/SA/R. ALA/SA/RPL.
ALA/SA/SE. ALA/SEM. NESA/AI/I. ODPN-N. ODPS-S. OGI/IIC/PI. OOE/EI/PS.
OOE/FR. OPCTR/EALA. OPCTR/EEWE. OPCTR/NESA. RF. SOV/PA/E/E. FILE.
EUR/G-2. EUR/RR. LA/APUB-2. NE/ISR-2. CR/W. D/FBIS-2. DD/NESA. EPO/LA.
ICS/HC/EU. ICS/HC/LA. ICS/HC/ME. NCPM. NESA/AI/L. NESA/SCIO. NIO/EUR.
NIO/LA. NIO/NE. OGI/CD/AWH. PPS/AO-2. PPS/PO-2. PPS/SEO-3. QA/STATE.
(31/W)

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TOR: 290527Z MAR 85

RR RUEAIB
ZNY CCCCC ZOC STATE ZZH
STU1620
RR RUEHC
DE RUESAS #1877 0862030
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 272007Z MAR 85
FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1112
INFO RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 6353
RUFHOL/AMEMBASSY BONN 215
RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 2012
RUEDEHA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PN
BT
C O N F I D E N T I A L ASUNCION 1877

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: SHUM, PA
SUBJECT: (U) DEVELOPMENTS IN PARAGUAY ON THE MENGELE CASE

1. (U) DEVELOPMENTS ELSEWHERE IN THE MENGELE CASE CONTINUE TO REVERBERATE IN PARAGUAY. WITH THE PARAGUAYAN GOVERNMENT AND PRESS HOPV TO THE LINE THAT MENGELE IS NOT HERE AND THAT ASSERTIONS TO THE CONTRARY ARE PART OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONSPIRACY TO BLACKEN PARAGUAY'S IMAGE. FOR EXAMPLE, THE GOVERNMENT ORGAN "PATRIA" SUGGESTED IN A MARCH 17 EDITORIAL THAT OTHER GOVERNMENTS HAD DELIBERATELY FAILED TO FIND MENGELE SINCE IT SERVED THEIR PURPOSES TO ALLOW THE CASE TO DRAG ON, WITH PARAGUAY GETTING THE BLAME. ANOTHER NEWSPAPER, "EL DIARIO," TOOK A DIFFERENT TACK IN AN EDITORIAL THE FOLLOWING DAY, SUGGESTING THAT THE GOP COOPERATE WITH THE ISRAELI, FRENCH, GERMAN, AND AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICES IN A HUNT FOR MENGELE. THE PAPER REPEATED THE USUAL LINE, HOWEVER, THAT HE IS NOT TO BE FOUND IN PARAGUAY.
2. (U) THE PRESS HAS ALSO GINGERLY REPORTED DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FRG, IN WHICH THE KOHL GOVERNMENT'S POLITICAL OPPONENTS HAVE QUESTIONED THE PROPERIETY OF PRESIDENT STROESSNER'S FORTH-COMING VISIT IN VIEW OF PARAGUAY'S ROLE IN THE MENGELE CASE. ON MARCH 18 THE PARAGUAYAN EMBASSY IN BONN ISSUED A PRESS RELEASE CATEGORICALLY REJECTING THE ALLEGATION THAT MENGELE LIVES IN PARAGUAY OR THAT HE ENJOYED GOP PROTECTION, WHICH WAS SUBSEQUENTLY REPLAYED IN THE ASUNCION PRESS.
3. (LOU) ASUNCION HAS BEEN INUNDATED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FOREIGN PRESS DOING STORIES ABOUT MENGELE. WITHIN THE PAST TWO WEEKS REPORTERS FROM ABC TELEVISION NEWS, NBC RADIO, NEWSWEEK MAGAZINE AND THE FRENCH WEEKLY EXPRESS HAVE ALL BEEN TO THE EMBASSY SEEKING BACKGROUNDERS ON THE MENGELE CASE. FROM THEIR COMMENTS WE GATHER THAT THE GOP IS HANDLING THE PRESS WITH GREAT WARINESS. THE FRENCH REPORTER TOLD THE EMBASSY THAT APPOINTMENTS WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS SUDDENLY DRIED UP AETER HE INTERVIEWED SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITION.
4. (C) MEANWHILE, A PARAGUAYAN JUDGE REISSUED THE WARRANT FOR THE ARREST OF MENGELE ON MARCH 21. THIS IS AT LEAST THE THIRD TIME HIS DETENTION HAS BEEN ORDERED SINCE THE FRG

CLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2000 2006

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REQUESTED MENGELE'S EXTRADITION IN 1962. THE NEW WARRANT WILL
BE DISTRIBUTED TO POLICE THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

CLARE

END OF MESSAGE

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