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CONTROLS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 09542 E22:

TEXT

DEPT FOR ARA/SC, HA/HR, AND L/LEI  
E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PHUM, CJAN, AR, GE  
SUBJ: ALLEGED NAZI WAR CRIMINAL WALTER KUTSCHMANN  
- CAPTURED IN ARGENTINA  
REFS: BUENOS AIRES 8346 AND PREVIOUS

1. (C) THE WEST GERMAN DCM TOLD US THAT NEWSPAPER ARTICLES OF NOVEMBER 15 STATING THAT ALLEGED NAZI WAR CRIMINAL WALTER KUTSCHMANN WAS CAPTURED BY INTERPOL ON NOVEMBER 14 IN A SUBUZP RB OF BUENOS AIRES WERE ACCURATE.

2. (U) THE PRESS REPORTS WERE FRONT-PAGE NEWS IN SEVERAL ARGENTINE NEWSPAPERS. "CLARIN," WHICH IS THE BIGGEST-CIRCULATION SPANISH-LANGUAGE DAILY IN THE WORLD, AND WHOSE JOURNALISTS FOUND KUTSCHMANN IN ARGENTINA IN 1983, DEVOTED A FULL PAGE TO THE STORY (COPY POUCHED TO ARA/SC). THE "CLARIN" STORY NOTED THAT ARGENTINE AND INTERPOL OFFICIALS REFUSED TO CONFIRM KUTSCHMANN'S CAPTURE. THE OFFICIALS SAID AN ANNOUNCEMENT WOULD BE MADE WHEN THERE WAS SOMETHING TO ANNOUNCE. THE "CLARIN" STORY ALSO SAID THAT KUTSCHMANN CARRIED IDENTIFICATION WITH THE NAME PEDRO RICARDO OLMO AND TOLD INTERPOL OFFICIALS THAT HIS DETENTION WAS A MISTAKE.

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3828  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2001 2007

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
2000

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3. (C) THE WEST GERMAN DCM SAID THAT THE RESULTS OF THE HANDWRITING TEST GIVEN TO OLMO EARLIER THIS YEAR TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT HE IS REALLY KUTSCHMANN WERE IN, BUT THERE HAD ONLY BEEN A FEW SENTENCES OF KUTSCHMANN'S HANDWRITING AVAILABLE AND THE WEST GERMANS DO NOT KNOW IF THE RESULTS ARE CONCLUSIVE OR NOT. THE WEST GERMAN DCM SAID THAT THE NEXT STEP WILL BE FOR AN ARGENTINE JUDGE TO STUDY THE HANDWRITING RESULTS AND THE OTHER EVIDENCE THAT WAS SUBMITTED TO THE GOA BY THE FRG AS PART OF THE FRG'S REQUEST FOR THE EXTRADITION OF KUTSCHMANN. AFTER STUDYING THE EVIDENCE, THE JUDGE WILL THEN DECIDE WHETHER TO GRANT EXTRADITION OR NOT. BASED ON THAT DECISION, THE FRG WILL THEN DECIDE WHAT TO DO NEXT. ORTIZ  
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