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AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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GDS 6/18/85 (HARRIS, F. ALLEN) OR-P SHUM AR (U) APPEALS COURT REJECTS TIMERMAN HABEAS CORPUS PETITION

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY

USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ

CONFIDENTIAL BUENOS AIRES 4943_

REF: BUENOS AIRES 3993, PARA 6

(C) SUMMARY: THE WEEKEND PRESS REPORTED THAT THE FEDERAL

APPEALS COURT OF BUENOS AIRES REJECTED A HABEAS CORPUS

PETITION FILED ON BEHALF OF FORMER "LA OPINION" EDITOR

JACOBO TIMERMAN, WHO IS BEING HELD UNDER HOUSE ARREST
THERE WAS EARLIER SPECULATION THAT
AFTER TWO YEARS OF DETENTION. THE RECENT RETIREMENT OF THE

TWO LIBERAL-JUDGES ON THE COURT OF APPEALS MADE THE DECISION LIKELY. THE CASE MAY NOW GO TO THE SUPREME COURT.

1. (U) A HABEAS CORPUS APPEAL TO THE BUENOS AIRES
FEDERAL APPEALS COURT WAS FILED BY MRS. TIMERMAN SOME
MONTHS AGO SEEKING TO HAVE HER HUSBAND, JACOBO TIMERMAN,
FREED PURSUANT TO A DECISION OF THE ARGENTINE SUPREME
COURT WHICH FOUND MR. TIMERMAN'S DETENTION UNDER THE
PODER EJECUTIVO NACIONAL IMPROPER INASMUCH AS THE

DRAFTED BY

POL: FAHARRIS: SZ

DRAFTING DATE

6/18/79

TEL. EXT.

278

POLCOUNS: WHHALL MAN

CLEARANCES

ADCM: JANOTT

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CLASSIFICATION

OPN LP 153 (Femaly FS-413) (19); Dept. cl/Sch CONFIDENTIAL

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FORMER EDITOR HAD BEEN INVESTIGATED BY A MILITARY

COURT AND FOUND NOT TO HAVE ANY CONNECTIONS WITH SUB
VERSION.

2. (U) ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, THE RECENT APPEALS APPEARS XX NOT TO HAVE BEEN COURT DECISION WXXXWXX/A LEGALISTIC DECISION, BUT ARGUED THAT MR. TIMERMAN'S CONTINUED IMPRISONMENT WAS JUSTIFIED ON PRINCIPLES OF MORALITY, SUITABILITY, **EFFICACY** 医尿管系数医医数数状/AND RESPONSIBILITY。 ACCORDING TO THE PRESS THE JUDGES SAID THAT THE ARGENTINE NATION HAD FACED FORCES ORGANIZED, EQUIPPED AND DIRECTED BY ELEMENTS WHICH RESPONDED TO ALIEN IDEOLOGIES AND WITH THE PRO-CLAIMED INTENTION OF PROVOKING CHAOS AND "FOREIGNIZED" DESPOTISM. THE RULING WENT ON TO SAY THAT THERE WAS COMPLACENCY ON THE PART OF THE STATE, ENTITIES AND PERSONS WHICH "COULD HARM HEALTHY PUBLIC OPINION, FACILITATING PROMOTING THE DISASSOCIATIVE ACTION OF SUBVERSION." TO FACE THIS SITUATION THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT REQUIRED ACCORDING TO THE COURT, A "SYSTEM STRONGER THAN THAT WHICH HAD THEORETICALLY RULED UP TO THEN AND WAS OBVIOUSLY INSUFFICIENT..."

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EMBASSY HAS NOT AS YET RECEIVED A COPY OF THE DECISION FROM /THE NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS MAKE IT APPEARS THAT THE COURT DID NOT CLEARLY ADDRESS THE UNDERLYING LEGAL ISSUE, WHICH IS WHETHER MR. TIMERMAN CAN BE HELD ON THE BASIS OF THE INSTITUTIONAL ACT ITSELF AND NOT UNDER THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE POWER AUTHORITY GRANTED TO THE GOVERNMENT UNDER SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES DURING THE STATE OF SIEGE. THIS TYPE OF LEGAL DECISION WILL NOW BE FACED BY THE SUPREME COURT. END COMMENT.

CASTRO

RM

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OPTIONAL FORM 153A (Formerly FS 413A) January 1975 Dept of State