

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: [REDACTED]  
Current Handling: n/a  
Document Number: 1977BUENOS03054

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-08 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00  
INRE-00 XMB-02 /063 W  
-----252229Z 114788 /70

O 252115Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0207

[REDACTED] BUENOS AIRES 3054

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, AR  
SUBJECT: DETENTION OF LA OPINION'S DIRECTOR

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)  
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS  
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(X) Release ( ) Excise ( ) Deny

Exemption(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Declassify: ( ) In Part (X) In Full  
( ) Classify as \_\_\_ ( ) Extend as \_\_\_ ( ) Downgrade to \_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ Declassify on \_\_\_\_\_ Reason \_\_\_\_\_

REF: STATE 090875

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN FROM AMBASSADOR HILL

1. I APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT'S HAVING REFRAINED FROM COMMENT ON THE DETENTION OF JACOBO TIMERMAN AND CONTINUE TO FEEL THAT THIS IS THE MOST PRUDENT COURSE TO FOLLOW.
2. EMOBOFFS WILL AGAIN CONVEY TO HECTOR OUR CONCERN FOR WELFARE OF FATHER. DO NOT BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL OR PERHAPS EVEN APPROPRIATE FOR ME TO APPROACH HIM AT THIS POINT. TIMERMAN MAY BE RELATIVELY INNOCENT PAWN CAUGHT IN ATTACK ON FORMER PRESIDENT LANUSSE BY LATTER'S ENEMIES, OR MAY BE FOUND GUILTY OF ECONOMIC VIOLATIONS. INTENSITY OF EMOTIONS NOW BEING STIRRED UP HAS CONVINCED ME WE MUST CAREFULLY LIMIT OBVIOUS EMBASSY INVOLVEMENT TO AVOID CHARGES OF INTERFERENCE DURING PERIOD WHEN FACTS OF ISSUE ARE NOT KNOWN.
3. AN EXPRESSION OF HOPE FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE PUBLICATION WITHOUT DIFFICULTIES OF LA OPINION WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE

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IF THE PUBLICATION WERE NOT ALREADY IN SUCH FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES THAT EXIMBANK RECENTLY REFUSED TO GUARANTEE A CREDIT TO THE PAPER. ONE LA OPINION WRITER TOLD EMOBOFF LAST WEEK THE PAPER'S DAYS WERE NUMBERED.

4. EMBASSY WILL REPORT BY SEPTTEL ANY INFORMATION IT IS ABLE TO DEVELOP ON LA OPINION'S FINANCIAL BACKGROUND.  
HILL

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NNN

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