Subject: This is IR
1. Argentina (AR)
2. (b)(3): 10 USC 424
3. (U) Insurgency-The Graiver Scandal
4. N/A
5. 778421
6. 778422
7. 778421, Buenos Aires, Argentina
8. (b)(3): 10 USC 424
9. N/A
10. (b)(3): 10 USC 424
11. N/A
12 & 13. (b)(3): 10 USC 424, (b)(6)
14. (b)(3): 10 USC 424
15. DICI: NO

Summary. Jacinto Timmerman, Publisher of La Opinion, is reported to have made a confession to military authorities.
ADMITTING TO CERTAIN RELATIONS WITH THE GRAIVER GROUP.

ACCORDING TO SOURCE, BRIGADIER GENERAL GALLINO WILL REPORT TO I CORPS COMMANDER, MG SUAREZ MASON, NOT ARMY COMMANDER VIDELA, ON HIS INVESTIGATION INTO THE GRAIVER CASE AND THE INVESTIGATION IS NOT LIKELY TO BE CONCLUDED QUICKLY.

LA OPINION EDITOR, JACOBO TIMERMAN, WHO WAS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY LAST WEEK, HAS MADE A FULL CONFESSION OF HIS RELATIONS WITH THE GRAIVER GROUP.

SOURCE HAD RECEIVED A LARGE AMOUNT OF MONEY FROM GRAIVER IN THE FORM OF A LOAN WHICH WAS TO BE REPAYED IN STOCKS TO THE LA OPINION PUBLISHING COMPANY, AS TO TIMERMAN'S FUTURE, SOURCE BELIEVED THAT THE CONFESSION AND OTHER EVIDENCE AVAILABLE WOULD PROVIDE ADEQUATE PROOF TO LINK HIM WITH SUBVERSIVE GROUPS, SUCH AN ASSOCIATION IS ILLEGAL UNDER LAW 21,461 PROMULGATED IN NOVEMBER 1976. (SEE IR (b)(3) 10 USC 424)

AND SUBJECTS CITIZENS SO ACCUSED TO TRIAL AND SENTENCING BY MILITARY COURT, IN TIMERMAN'S CASE THE MILITARY COURT WOULD BE CONVENED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF MAJOR GENERAL SUAREZ MASON, COMMANDER OF THE I CORPS.

SOURCE TO EXPLAIN THE ROLE OF BRIGADIER GENERAL GALLINO AS THE HEAD OF THE ARMY'S INVESTIGATION INTO THE GRAIVER CASE, SOURCE POINTED OUT THAT IT IS NOT GENERALLY KNOWN THAT, ALTHOUGH GALLINO WAS APPOINTED BY ARMY CINC VIDELA, IN HIS INSTRUCTIONS HE IS ORDERED TO CONDUCT HIS INVESTIGATION UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF I CORPSCOMMANDER MG SUAREZ MASON AND TURN OVER TO HIM FOR TRIAL ALL CASES WHICH WARRANT TRIAL BY MILITARY TRIBUNAL, SOURCE FURTHER EXPLAINED THAT THE INVESTIGATION HAS ALREADY TURNED UP A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF EVIDENCE THAT MANY BUSINESS FIRMS AND SOME PRIVATE CITIZENS have made illegal "PROTECTION" PAYMENTS WHICH ENDED UP IN THE COFFERS OF SUBVERSIVE ORGANIZATIONS.

HOWEVER, THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT MANY OF THESE PAYMENTS WERE MADE WITHOUT THE KNOWLEDGE THAT SUBVERSIVE ORGANIZATIONS WOULD BENEFIT, WHERE IT CANNOT BE PROVED THAT BUSINESSES KNOWN THEIR MONEY WAS GOING TO SUBVERSIVE ORGANIZATIONS THE CHARGE WILL EITHER BE REFERRED TO THE JUDICIAL AUTHORITY, IF ECONOMIC CRIMES CAN BE PROVED, OR DROPPED.

3. (b)(3):10 USC 424 QUICK ACTION COULD BE EXPECTED IN THE GRAIVER CASE NOW THAT A SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR HAS
Briefly said, source replied that it will probably be a long drawn-out affair. He referred to "several rooms full of documents" which must be carefully studied by lawyers and accountants to try to unravel the wide-raging financial operations of the Graiver Group.

Comment: THIS IS THE FIRST REPORT RECEIVED OF TIMERMAN'S ACTIVITIES SINCE HIS DETENTION.

The fact that source referred to a "confession" instead of a "statement" indicates that the military are convinced that he has been knowingly involved in some way with subversion; perhaps through his receipt of a loan consisting of money which Graiver allegedly had obtained from subversive organizations. It should be noted that according to other reliable embassy sources it is still questioned whether Graiver ever handled Montonero funds, although it is generally accepted that he handled Peronist funds.

Recent army publicity has pointed out that authentic Peronists and Montoneros have been closely associated since 1974, thus, they tend to equate authentic Peronist money with Montonero money. Source seemed to be fully aware of the sensitivity in the US to current situation, especially considering the number of Jewish persons detained, but strongly denied that there was anti-Semitism involved. On the surface, the appointment of General Gallino, the G4 on the army general staff, as chief investigator appeared to be a move on the part of General Videla and General Viola to take control of the Graiver case. On one occasion several months ago Videla, after listening for several hours to criticism of his political policies by Suarez Mason and other generals, terminated the meeting by reminding his subordinates that he respected their decisions, that he did not interfere with them in their war against subversion, and that he expected the same consideration from them when it came to political policy and decisions. If Gallino is to operate under Suarez Mason's control, as source stated, this indicates that Videla is still giving relatively free reign to his corps commanders in the conduct of the war against subversion. This msg coord w/embassy.