

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
DIA FOIA & Declassification Services Offices
Date: Oct 19, 2018

DTG

171938Z DEC 98

FROM

FM (b)(3):10 USC 424

TO

TO RHEFSNG/HMSNG WASHINGTON DC

RUEKDIA/DIA WASHDC//

(b)(3):10 USC 424

CONTROLS

(b)(3):10 USC 424

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 01 OF 02 BUENOS AIRES AR

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SERIAL: (U) IIR (b)(3):10 USC 424

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY

COUNTRY: (U) ARGENTINA (AR).

(b)(3):10 USC 424

SUBJ: IIR (b)(3):10 USC 424 TWO MORE FORMER NAVY OFFICERS
ACCUSED ON THE CHILD ABDUCTION CASE DURING THE DIRTY
WAR (U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT
FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 981210, 981216.

(b)(3):10 USC 424

REQS: (U)

SOURCE: A. (U) DAILY NEWSPAPER, "BUENOS AIRES
HERALD", BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA, 981210, 981216 (U),
IN ENGLISH. INDEPENDENT-LIBERAL NEWSPAPER WHICH HAS
BEEN A FIRM DEFENDER OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND A FREQUENT
CRITIC OF THE GOVERNMENT. CONSIDERED INFLUENTIAL WITH
POLICYMAKERS, POLITICIANS, MILITARY OFFICERS AND
BUSINESSMEN.

B. (U) DAILY NEWSPAPER, "PAGINA/12", BUENOS AIRES,
ARGENTINA, 981215, 981216 (U), IN SPANISH. CENTER-LEFT
NEWSPAPER WHICH REPRESENTS LEFT-LIBERAL AND
INTELLECTUAL SECTORS OF ARGENTINE SOCIETY. OFTEN
CRITICAL OF THE ARMED FORCES AND THE MENEM
ADMINISTRATION AND EXPRESSES SOME OPPOSITION TO U.S.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED IN PART
Authority: EO 13526
DIA FOIA & Declassification Services Offices
Date: Oct 19, 2018

FOREIGN AND ECONOMIC POLICY.

SUMMARY: (U) ON 981209, FORMER "NAVY MECHANICS SCHOOL" (ESMA) HEAD, REAR ADMIRAL JOSE ((SUPPICICH)) WAS PLACED UNDER ARREST AFTER TESTIFYING IN THE CHILD ABDUCTION CASE. ON 981215 A JUDGE ISSUED A WARRANT FOR THE ARREST OF RETIRED NAVY CAPTAIN JORGE ((ACOSTA)), FORMER HEAD OF INTELLIGENCE AT THE ESMA.

TEXT: 1. (U) ON 981209, FORMER ESMA HEAD, REAR ADMIRAL JOSE ((SUPPICICH)) WAS PLACED UNDER HOUSE ARREST BY JUDGE ADOLFO ((BAGNASCO)), AFTER TESTIFYING IN THE CHILD ABDUCTION CASE. ACCORDING TO SOURCE, ((SUPPICICH)) DENIED THAT A MAKESHIFT MATERNITY WARD HAD BEEN SET UP IN THE ESMA HOWEVER, ADMITTED THAT THERE WAS AN ILLEGAL DETENTION CENTER THERE DURING THE **DIRTY WAR**. JUDGE BAGNASCO IS INVESTIGATING WHETHER THERE WAS A "SYSTEMATIC PLAN" TO KIDNAP CHILDREN BORN

(b)(3): 10 USC 424

IN CAPTIVITY DURING THE 1976-83 MILITARY DICTATORSHIP (CITE IIR [REDACTED] SUBJ: FORMER HIGH RANKING MILITARY OFFICERS UNDER ARREST; ACCUSED OF CHILD ABDUCTION DURING THE **DIRTY WAR**; DTG 101937Z DEC 98).

2. (U) ON 981215, A JUDGE ISSUED A WARRANT FOR THE ARREST OF RETIRED NAVY CAPTAIN JORGE ((ACOSTA)) (AKA "TIGRE"), FORMER HEAD OF INTELLIGENCE AT ESMA DURING THE **DIRTY WAR**. ACOSTA FAILED TO SHOW UP IN COURT TO TESTIFY IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHILD ABDUCTION CASE.

3. (U) ACCORDING TO SOURCE B, ACOSTA WAS THE MASTER MIND BEHIND THE TORTURES. HE ALSO AMASSED A FORTUNE THROUGH ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES DURING HIS TENURE AT ESMA.

4. (U) ACCORDING TO ARGENTINE LAW, A PERSON OVER 70 YEARS OLD UNDER AN ARREST ORDER HAS THE RIGHT, IF SOLICITED, TO SERVED UNDER HOUSE ARREST. ACOSTA, 56, DOES NOT QUALIFY FOR HOUSE ARREST AND MOST LIKELY WILL HAVE A PLACE RESERVED FOR HIM AT THE "**CAMPO DE MAYO**" MILITARY BASE JAIL.

Sec 3 3(b)(1)

COMMENTS: 1. (U) [REDACTED] COMMENTS. THE ARRESTS OF FORMER MILITARY OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO ESMA DURING THE **DIRTY WAR** ARE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE BEFORE THIS CASE IS CLOSED. THE MILITARY OPENLY CONTINUES TO OBEY AND RESPECT THE DECISIONS MADE BY THE CIVILIAN COURTS, AND THERE IS NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THESE ONGOING INVESTIGATIONS WILL CAUSE ANY ACTIONS TO THE CONTRARY.

2. (U) SOURCES ARE NOT AVAILABLE FOR FURTHER

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

EXPLOITATION/CONTACT REGARDING THE CONTENTS OF THIS

IIR,

(b)(3):10 USC 424

ADMIN

INSTR: (U)

(b)(3):10 USC 424

PREP: (U)

ACT: (U) BUENOS AIRES, **ARGENTINA** (981216).

DECEN: (U) USEMB, BUENOS AIRES AR.

WARNING: (U) REPORT CLASSIFIED ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~.

DRV FROM: DHS SCG, OCTOBER 97.

~~DECL ON: X1~~

BT

(b)(3):10 USC 424

#7881

NNNN

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL

Authority: EO 13526

DIA FOIA & Declassification Services Offices

Date: Oct 19, 2018

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~