

UNCLASSIFIED

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P 220151Z APR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)  
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS  
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director  
 Release ( ) Excise ( ) Deny  
Exemption(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Declassify: ( ) In Part  In Full  
( ) Classify as \_\_ ( ) Extend as \_\_ ( ) Downgrade to \_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ Declassify on \_\_\_\_\_ Reason \_\_\_\_\_

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, AR

SUBJECT: REPORTS OF TORTURE IN ARGENTINA

1. AS EMBASSY IS AWARE, THE DEPARTMENT IS CURRENTLY RE-VIEWING THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN ARGENTINA. ONE QUESTION OF WHICH WE PRESENTLY NEED AN UPDATE IS THAT OF TORTURE. THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE PRESS PLAY RECENTLY ON THIS SUBJECT AND U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS HAVE NOT GIVEN IT THE PUBLICITY IT ONCE WAS ACCORDED.

2. DEPARTMENT REALIZES HOW DIFFICULT IT IS TO OBTAIN AND EVALUATE INFORMATION ON TORTURE, BUT WOULD APPRECIATE THE EMBASSY'S IMPRESSIONS. DOES GOA CONTINUE TO FRE-QUENTLY USE TORTURE? IS IT PRIMARILY USED DURING FIRST DAYS OF DETENTION? --ARE POLITICAL PRISONERS ESPECIALLY SINGLED OUT? DOES TORTURE TAKE PLACE IN TRANSFERS OF PRISONERS BETWEEN FROM JAIL TO JAIL? WOULD APPRECIATE REPLY ASAP. CHRISTOPHER

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