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Department of State

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

8540

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ACTION RP-10

MONTEV 02110 080540Z

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 IO-14 ADS-00 HA-05 CA-01 CIAE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 /052 W

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R 052004Z JUN 80
FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1496
INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
USMISSION GENEVA

RS
SP

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E. O. 12065: GDS, 6-4-86 (SHAW, DAVID G.) OR-P
TAGS: SHUM, UY
SUBJECT: MISSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS
(ICRC) TO URUGUAY (U)

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT)
2. THE FOLLOWING COMES FROM A SWISS EMBASSY OFFICIAL WHO CAUTIONED THAT HIS EMBASSY WAS NOT REPEAT NOT PRIVY TO DETAILS OF THE DELIBERATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS OF THE ICRC MISSION CURRENTLY VISITING URUGUAY. HE REPORTED THAT THE RED CROSS IS ABOUT TO FINISH ITS WORK HERE, HAVING VISITED ALL PRISON FACILITIES WHERE POLITICAL "DETAINEES" ARE HELD. THE MISSION'S FORMAL REPORT IS PRESENTLY BEING WRITTEN AND WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE GOU WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. NOT ALL OF THE RED CROSS' RECOMMENDATIONS HAVE BEEN WEL RECEIVED, BUT A GREAT NUMBER HAVE ALREADY BEEN PUT INTO EFFECT. (HE COULD OFFER NO DETAILS). THE ICRC TEAM BELIEVES THEIR MISSION HAS BEEN AN OVERALL SUCCESS. THEY ARE TENTATIVELY PLANNING A FOLLOW-UP VISIT IN THE SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER TIMEFRAME.
3. ONE OR ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE RED CROSS TEAM SAW EVERY PRISONER KNOWN TO BE IN THE MILITARY JUSTICE SYSTEM. THIS INCLUDES A DOZEN OR SO "EXTREMELY DANGEROUS" PRISONERS WITH SHOEM THE GOU HAD ORIGINALLY DECLINED TO PERMIT INTERVIEWS. THE TEAM CONCENTRATED ITS EFFORTS ON THE LIBERTAD AND PUNTA RIELES (WOMEN'S) PRISONS BUT ALSO VISITED MILITARY UNITS IN THE INTERIOR WHERE PRISONERS ARE HELD. SOME OF THE INTERVIEWS CARRIED OUT IN THESE LATTER FACILITIES WERE LESS THAN COMPLETELY SATISFACTORY. E. G., THE TEAM WAS FORCED TO INTERVIEW EX-TUPAMARO LEADER RAUL SENDIC IN THE OPEN AIR AND FROM A DISTANCE OF 10-15 METERS. IN GENERAL, HOWEVER, THE TEAM WAS VERY SATISFIED WITH INTERVIEW CONDITIONS. THEY ARE CONVINCED, DESPITE OCCASIONAL RUMORS TO THE CONTRARY, THAT THE INTERVIEWS WERE ENTIRELY PRIVATE AND UNRECORDED.

LANE

Declassified Case: 176
E.O. Date: 03-03-2012

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