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ACTION ARA-14

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FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCIÓN  
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INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

ASUNCIION 4376

FOR ARA - GEORGE LISTER FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SHUM, PA  
SUBJ: HUMAN RIGHTS CASE - DR. AGUSTIN GOIBURU

REF: (A) STATE 236176, (B) ASUNCIION 3589, (C) ASUNCIION 4074

1. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS WITH UNDER SECRETARY OF INTERIOR BESTARD (PROTECT) AND WITH FOREIGN MINISTER NOGUES ON OCTOBER 24, THE GOIBURU CASE AROSE IN CONNECTION WITH MY REFERRING TO CURRENT INTEREST IN THE U.S. CONCERNING THE WHEREABOUTS OF GOIBURU'S FELLOW MOPOCO (DISSIDENT COLORADO PARTY) LEADER EPIFANIO MENDEZ FLEITAS. (SEE SEPTEL.)

2. BESTARD TOLD ME THAT THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT SEVERAL MONTHS AGO OFFERED TO EXCHANGE GOIBURU FOR A POLITICAL PRISONER WHOM THE ARGENTINE BORDER POLICE -- WITHOUT AUTHORITY -- HAD TURNED OVER TO THE PARAGUAYAN COUNTERPARTS IN 1976. THE PRISONER, A WOMAN MEDICAL DOCTOR, WAS A GERMAN DUAL NATIONAL WHOM THE FRG AMBASSADOR HERE HAD BEEN SEEKING TO REPATRIATE. (A CHECK OF OUR FILES, LATER CONFIRMED BY THE FRG AMBASSADOR, IDENTIFIED THE WOMAN AS GLADYS MAILLINGER MONTANIA DE SANNEMAN.)

3. THE GOA'S OFFER WAS MADE PERSONALLY TO PRESIDENT

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J. OLSON  
DATE/CASE ID: 19 DEC 2000 200002418

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STROESSNER BY JUNTA MEMBER ADMIRAL MASSERA, WHO SAID THE ARGENTINE NAVY WAS DETAINING GOIBURU. STROESSNER WAS HIGHLY ANNOYED BY THE SUGGESTION, SAID HE WAS NOT INTERESTED IN ACQUIRING A REPUTATION LIKE TRUJILLO'S (E.G., THE GALINDEZ SCANDAL), AND ORDERED THE WOMAN RELEASED TO THE CUSTODY OF THE FRG AMBASSADOR WHO ARRANGED HER TRAVEL TO GERMANY.

4. THE GOP NOW HAD NO DOUBT THAT THE ARGENTINE NAVY HAD LIQUIDATED GOIBURU.

5. NOGUES OMITTED ALL OF THESE DETAILS, LIMITING HIMSELF TO ASSERTING THAT THE GOA HAD OFFERED TO HAND OVER GOIBURU, THAT STROESSNER FLATLY REFUSED, AND SUBSEQUENTLY THE ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES HAD KILLED HIM.

6. COMMENT. THIS VERSION OF GOIBURU'S FATE FIRST CAME TO OUR ATTENTION SEVERAL WEEKS AGO, FROM PRIVATE LOCAL SOURCES. THIS IS THE FIRST CONFIRMATION FROM GOP OFFICIALS.  
BRIGGS

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