THIS IS IR7: 306/105-AR, CT
306/302-AR, CT
306/304-AR, CT
104/102-AR, CT
105/340-AR, CT
RULPFAA/24DCOMPW/IN HOWARD AFB CZ
(b)(3):10 USC 424

THEM IN THE SEP 77

ARGENTINA (AR)
(b)(3):10 USC 424

MILITARY INTENTIONS - ARGENTINES CONCERNED
WITH CHILEAN ACTIVITY IN PATAGONIA
INIA

INITIATIVE
(b)(3):10 USC 424
SOURCE SAID THAT THERE HAVE BEEN SIGNS THAT THE CHILEANS ARE
MOBILIZING CIVILIAN AND MILITARY PERSONNEL IN THE ANDEAN
REGION OF PATAGONIA. HE SAID THAT RECENTLY THE CHILEANS HAD
CAUSED 2500 OF THEIR NATIONALS WORKING IN ARGENTINA TO RETURN
TO CHILE. THE IMPLICATION SOURCE MADE AS THAT THESE PEOPLE
WOULD BE PART OF A FORCE THE CHILEANS WOULD USE AGAINST
ARGENTINA.

2. (C) SOURCE WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE ARGENTINE ARMED
FORCES ARE WELL AWARE OF ALL CHILEAN ACTIONS IN THE BORDER AREA,
AND ARE READY TO TAKE ARMED RETALIATORY ACTION IF NECESSARY. SOURCE
EMPHASIZED THAT ARGENTINA WOULD ONLY RESORT TO ARMED CONFLICT AGAINST
CHILE IF IT WAS PROVOKED, AND IF WAS OBVIOUS TO WORLD OPINION
THAT THE BURDEN OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CONFLICT LAY WITH
CHILE, IF THOSE CIRCUMSTANCES MATERIALIZE,

3. (C) THE CHILEAN
ATTACKS HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY ACTIVE IN BUENOS AIRES RECENTLY.
HE STATED THAT IN THE CASE OF THE CHILEAN AIR ATTACHE,
THE ARGAF HAD TO RESORT TO A FORMAL NOTE REMINDING HIM TO
COMPLY WITH THE PRESCRIBED NORMS FOR MAKING CONTACT WITH HIGH-
LEVEL ARGAF OFFICERS. SOURCE IMPLIED THAT THE OTHER ARGENTINE
SERVICES WERE HAVING SIMILAR PROBLEMS WITH THE CHILEAN ATTACKES
ACREDITED TO THEM.

COMMENT: (C) THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT A GROWING CONCERN
EXISTS AMONG ARGENTINE MILITARY VIS-A-VIS CHILEAN ACTIVITIES IN
PATAGONIA. THERE HAVE BEEN OCCASIONAL REPORTS FROM OTHER
SOURCES THAT THE ARGENTINES MAY BE REDEPLOYING SOME OF THEIR OWN
FORCES TO THAT AREA AS A SHOW OF STRENGTH AND/OR WILL. --NO
WAY TO EVALUATE THE REPORT THAT GOC RECALLED 2500 WORKERS FROM
ARGENTINA, OR THAT THEY ARE BEING PREPARED TO OPERATE AGAINST
ARGENTINA, IF NECESSARY. IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT EITHER THE
FACT OR THE MOTIVE IS ACCURATE.
BE USING A GENERATED THREAT IN THE SOUTH AS A METHOD TO GRADUALLY FOCUS THE ATTENTION OF THE MILITARY, AND LATER THE POPULACE, AWAY FROM THE INTERNAL STRUGGLE AGAINST TERRORISM, AND TOWARD ANOTHER THREAT: CHILEAN ENCROACHMENT IN PATAGONIA. (AS ANOTHER EXAMPLE THERE HAVE BEEN NEWSPAPER REPORTS OF UNIDENTIFIED FISHING SHIPS OFF ARGENTINE COAST NEAR COMODORO RIVADAVIA.)

Sec. 3.3(b) (6); Sec. 3.3(b) (1)