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FROM

FM (b)(3):10 USC 424

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

BODY

COUNTRY: (U) **ARGENTINA (AR)**.

SUBJ: IIR (b)(3):10 USC 424 /GENERAL DE DIVISION (MG) HAUL JULIO ((GOMEZ SABAINI)) ASSUMES AS THE VICE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARGARM (U)

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- DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

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REQS: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424

(b)(3):10 USC 424;(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

SUMMARY: ~~(C)~~ AT A CEREMONY IN THE ARGARM HQ, GEN **MARTIN ANTONIO ((BALZA))**, COS ARGARM, BID FAREWELL TO MG CANDIDO ((DIAZ)) AND SWORE IN HIS NEW VICE CHIEF OF STAFF, MG HAUL JULIO ((GOMEZ SABAINI)).

TEXT: 1. ~~(C)~~ THE CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY TOOK PLACE IN THE ARGARM HQS AT 11:00 HRS LOCAL TIME, AND IN THE PRESENCE OF APPROXIMATELY 200 ARGARM TROOPS REPRESENTING MOST MAJOR UNITS WITHIN THE BUENOS AIRES AREA, LTG ((BALZA)) SWORE IN HIS NEW VICE CHIEF OF STAFF.

2. ~~(C)~~ THE CEREMONY LASTED APPROXIMATELY 45 MINUTES. IT STARTED WITH THE OFFICIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT MG MARIO CANDIDO ((DIAZ)) WAS TO BECOME THE NEW CHIEF OF THE JOINT GENERAL STAFF. THEN FOLLOWED THE APPOINTMENT AND SUBSEQUENT SWEARING IN OF MG ((GOMEZ SABAINI)) AS THE NEW VICE.

COMMENTS: 1. (b)(1);1.4 (c)

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(b)(1);1.4 (c)

2. ~~(S)~~ MG CANDIDO ((DIAZ)) ASKED THE ARGARM TO CONTINUE WITH THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THEIR MISSION IN FACE OF THE BUDGET CONSTRAINTS AND TERRIBLE SALARIES. HE PROMISED THE MEMBERS OF THE ARGARM THAT THEIR SACRIFICES TODAY WOULD INSURE A BETTER EQUIPPED AND BETTER PAID ARGARM IN THE FUTURE. THEN HE PROMISED THAT AS THE NEW CHIEF OF THE JOINT GENERAL STAFF, HE WOULD CARRY ON THE MISSION OF FURTHERING THE MEANING OF "JOINT" WHEN IT CAME TO INTEGRATING THE ARMED FORCES, EVEN IF THIS EFFORT RAN COUNTER TO THE INTERESTS OF SOME OF THE INDIVIDUAL SERVICES.

3. ~~(S)~~ MG ((GOMEZ SABAINI)), ON THE OTHER HAND, STARTED HIS SPEECH BY PROMISING THE ARGARM THAT HE WOULD CONTINUE THE JOB OF RESTRUCTURING AND DOWNSIZING THE ARGARM. HE THEN STATED THAT THE ARGARM OWES THIS RESTRUCTURING AND MODERNIZING TO THE ARGENTINE CITIZENS WHO ARE THE ONES THAT PAY TO MAINTAIN THE ARMED FORCES, AND DESERVE THE BEST POSSIBLE ARMY THEIR MONEY CAN BUY.

(b)(1)

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