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ACTION

DIA:
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J3(14) J5(02) J3:NMCC SECDEF(07) SECDEF: ASD:ISA(10)
ASD:PA&E(01) :DIA(20) (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

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FILE

(054)

(b)(3):10 USC 424

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TRANSIT/3492023/3492138/001:15TOR3492137
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(b)(3):10 USC 424

TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC (b)(3):10 USC 424

INFO RULPALJ/USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

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

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (b)(3):10 USC 424

SUBJ: THIS IS (b)(3):10 USC 424

1. COUNTRY: ARGENTINA (AR)/CHILE (CI)
2. REPORT NUMBER: (b)(3):10 USC 424
3. TITLE: (U) BEAGLE CHANNEL DISPUTE-AMEMBASSY CONVERSATION WITH ARGENTINE NAVY CINC
4. PROJECT NUMBER: N/A
5. DATE OF INFORMATION: 781214
6. DATE OF REPORT: 781214
7. DATE AND PLACE OF ACQUISITION: 781214, BUENOS AIRES

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8. REFERENCES: (b)(3):10 USC 424 CONTINUES

9. ASSESSMENT: (b)(3):10 USC 424

10. ORIGINATOR:

11. REQUEST EVALUATION: OMIT

12. PREPARING OFFICER:

13. APPROVING AUTHORITY

(b)(3):10 USC 424

(b)(3):10 USC 424

14. SOURCE: (b)(1);Sec. 1.4(c)

15. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: DIRC-NO ~~NOFORN~~

(b)(3):10 USC 424

16. SUMMARY: ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ FOLLOWING INFORMATION WAS GIVEN TO

(b)(1);1.4 (c)

ARGENTINE (b)(1);1.4 (c)

ON 781214 WITH MERCHANT SHIPPING

TRAFFIC IN BEAGLE CHANNEL AREA IS NOT IN ANY DANGER;

SOUTHERN NAVAL AND MARINE DEPLOYMENTS IN ARGENTINA WERE

(b)(1);1.4 (c) ARGENTINE NAVAL READINESS

POSTURE CANNOT BE SUSTAINED FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME,

HENCE, FAILURE AT ACHIEVING A BREAKTHROUGH BY DIPLOMATIC MEANS

WILL FORCE ARGENTINE MILITARY ACTION; AND FINALLY, ACCORDING

TO (b)(1);1.4 (c) DELIVERIES OF DEFENSE ITEMS FROM (b)(1);1.4 (c)

(b)(1);1.4 (c) COULD BE CURTAILED DURING A CONFLICT.

22. DETAILS: 1. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ ON 781214, (b)(1);1.4 (c)

CALLED (b)(1);1.4 (c)

(b)(1);1.4 (c) THE MEETING WAS AT (b)(1);1.4 (c)

REQUEST, TO (b)(1);1.4 (c) IN PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF

BORDER BOUNDARY DIFFERENCES, AND TOOK PLACE AT (b)(1);1.4 (c)

(b)(1);1.4 (c)

2. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ IN RESPONSE TO AN INQUIRY, (b)(1);1.4 (c)

THAT MERCHANT SHIPPING TRAFFIC IN THE AREA WAS NOT IN HAZARD.

WHEN (b)(1);1.4 (c) ABOUT UNBALANCED DEFENSE POSTURE DUE TO MARINES AND

NAVAL UNITS BEING DEPLOYED TO THE SOUTH, (b)(1);1.4 (c) DID NOT

(b)(1);1.4 (c)

3. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ IN DISCUSSION OF THE HIGH STATE OF READINESS

BEING MAINTAINED BY ARGNAV FORCES, THE (b)(1);1.4 (c)

THAT THE CURRENT POSTURE COULD NOT BE SUSTAINED FOR AN EXTENDED

PERIOD OF TIME AND THAT RESOLUTION OF DIFFERENCES BY EITHER

POLITICAL MEANS OR MILITARY ACTION WOULD SOON BE REQUIRED.

4. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ (b)(1);1.4 (c) THAT DELIVERIES OF SOME

DEFENSE ITEMS FROM ABROAD COULD BE CURTAILED BECAUSE

OF THE "ZONE OF TENSION" BETWEEN ARGENTINA AND CHILE.

COMMENT: (c) (b)(1);1.4 (c)

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REQUEST. TOPIC OF POTENTIAL HAZARD TO MERSHIP TRAFFIC WAS
RAISED IN RESPONSE TO (b)(1);1.4(c)

NO NOTICE TO MARINERS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED ON THIS TOPIC BY
ARGNAV HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICE.

2. (c) BELIEVE THAT ARGENTINE NAVAL UNITS ARE PROCEEDING
SOUTH TO BEAGLE CHANNEL AREA SINCE (b)(1);1.4(c) DID NOT

(b)(1);1.4(c) FORCE DISPOSITION POSTULATED BY (b)(1);1.4(c)
THIS MSG AMEMBASSY COORDINATED. DECL 15 DEC 1998.

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(b)(1);1.4(c)

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