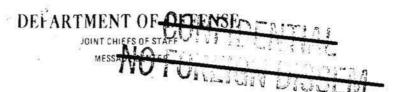
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ARGENTINA
2, ACTIVITY AT GOVT HOUSE/ARMY HOS (U)
3, N/A
4, 1975 APR 7
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6, (b)(3):10 USC 424
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9. 1975 APR 9
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11, (b)(3):10 USC 424
12.
13, 8, 14. (b)(3):10 USC 424;(b)(6)
   1. (CTUPO) UNUSUAL HELICOPTER ACTIVITY AT GOVT HOUSE WAS NOTHING
MORE THAN GOVT'S SOLUTION TO GET MINISTERS TO CABINET MEETING
WHEN CITY STREETS WERE BLOCKED BECAUSE OF TRANSIT STRIKE, LONG
MEETING AT ARMY HOS WAS CALLED A "PERIODIC BRIEFING OF GENERAL
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PAGE 1

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
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STAFF BY ARMY CG ON 'LA ACTUALIDAD' (ACTUALITY/CURRENT SITUATION)". MAJOR POINTS COVERED WERE! A, MISTONES ELECTION B, TRANSPORT STRIKE C. ECONOMIC SITUATION D' POLITICAL SITUATION E, AMNESTY TUCHMAN TERRORIST SITUATION G. ARMED FORCES (READ ARMY) ROLE IN GOVT. MEETING LASTED TOTAL OF THREE AND ONE HALF HOURS, PERHITTED OFFICERS TO VENTILATE, LET ANAYA SEE FROM WHAT SECTORS HE MAY EVENTUALLY HAVE PROBLEMS. ON THE WHOLE HE CAME DUT OF MEETING STRONGER -- HE KNOWS HIS GENERAL STAFF IS UNHAPPY WITH HIM PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF HIS LACK OF FIRM POSITION ON ANYTHING. BY LECTURING THEM FOR SEVERAL HOURS, TELLING THEM TO STAY IN LINE AND FOLLOW ARDERS, HE HAS SOMEWHAT REESTABLISHED HIMSELF AS CINC. OPINIONS OF SEVERAL OFFICERS WHO ATTENDED BRIEFING WERE AS FOLLOWS: A. ECONOMIC SITUATION A DISASTER. ARMY FEELS MIN ECON GOMEZ MORALER IS TRYING HARD TO SOLVE MONUMENTAL PROBLEMS, BUT HAS HIS HANDS TIED BY LOPEZ REGA. ARMY EXPECTS GOMEZ MORALES TO DE-MAND A FREER HAND IN SOLVING ECONOMIC SITUATION OR OPT OUT (RESIGN) . B' ARMY THINKS COUNTRY CONTINUES TO STUMBLE ALONG POLITICALLY IN A VOID OF POWER EXCEPT FOR THE EXCESSIVE POWER WIELDED BY ISABEL'S PRIVATE SECRETARY LOPEZ REGA. ARMY WANTS HIM OUT NOW. BUT IS NOT PREPARED TO PUSH ITS DEMAND. C. AMNESTY OF COLORADOS (1982-63), COLONELS GROUP (EARLY 71), AND MIN-COUP GROUP OF OFFICERS IN AZUL-TANDIL-OLAVARRIA UP-RISING (OCT 71) WAS EXPLAINED. AMMESTY OF THESE GROUPS WAS ENTHUSTASTICALLY RECEIVED (FIRST GROUP WANTED A MILITARY DICTATORSHIP, LOST TO AZULES, THEN LATER SAW AZULES DO IN 1966 JUST WHAT THEY HAD PROPOSED IN 1962 -- SECOND AND THIRD GROUPS WERE ANTI-LANUSSE, AND AS LANUSSE IS NOW CONSIDERED THE GOAT FOR PERON'S RETURN THE OFFICERS WHO ACTED AGAINST HIM ARE NOW HERDES1. D. ARMY IS STILL TRYING TO CONVINCE ITSELF THAT EVERTHING IS GOING GREAT IN TUCUAMAN COUNTER-INSURGENCY CAMPAIGN, ARMY CO ANAYA GOT FEW TAKERS, HOWEVER, AS NEWS FROM TUCUMAN IS NOT GOOD. E. THE BIG TOPIC WAS ARMY'S ROLE IN GOVT (WHICH REALLY MEANS DOES IT ACT NOW OR LATER, AS IT NOW IS TALKING ABOUT THE "NECESSITY" FOR ITS ONCE AGAINS PLACING ITSELF IN POLITICAL

PAGE 2

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- C O W F I D E W T I A L

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ARENA) DECISION, WITH GENERAL APPROVAL OF STAFF, WAS TO FOLLOW THE CHILEAN EXAMPLE AND WAIT TO ACT UNTIL THE LAST POSSIBLE MOMENT (PROS AND CONS OF THIS SOLUTION HAVE BEEN REPORTED PREVIOUSLY BUT IT BEARS REPEATING THAT IN ARGENTINA THE ARMY WILL PUT DFF MOVING AGAINST THE GOVT UNTITHE LAST MOMENT FOR THREE PRIMARY REASONS -- ARMY PRESENTLY HAS NO LEADER STRONG ENOUGH TO PULL OFF SUCH A MOVE; ARMY IS STILL SMARTING FROM ITS LAST EXPERIENCE IN GOVT AND WANTS TO PUT OFF POSSIBLE REPETI-TION OF SUCH AGONY AS LONG AS POSSIBLE, ARMY WILL PROCRASTINATE AS LONG AS POSSIBLE BECAUSE THERE IS NO REAL CONSENSUS ON HOW TO MOVE. GOALS, ALLIES, METHODS, ETC. THIS LAST POINT PROB-ABLY THE MOST IMPORTANT -- WHILE MOST EVERYONE AGREES THAT THE "CHILEAN SOLUTION" IS WHAT IS NEEDED IN ARGENTINA, NO TWO OFFICERS AGREE ON JUST WHAT THE "CHILEAN SOLUTION" MEANS HERE. AND UNTIL THEY CAN AGREE ON WHAT IS TO BE DONE AND HOW TO DO IT, ANY MOVE WILL BE PREMATURE AND, INALL PROBABILITY, A CHINESE FIRE DRILL. NOFORN TO AVID COMPROMISE OF SOURCE IN UNIQUE POSTTION, COS DEC 84.

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PAGE 3

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