CONFIDENTIAL

DTG 201908Z JAN 95 FROM FM (b)(3):10 USC 424 то TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC CONTROLS CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 02 (b)(3):10 USC 424 OONFIDENT SERIAL: (U) IIR (b)(3):10 USC 424 /\*\*\*\*\* THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*/ (b)(3):10 USC 424 BODY COUNTRY: (U) ARGENTINA (AR). SUBJ: IIR CHIEF OF ARMY GENERAL STAFF WILL COMPLETE NORMAL TOUR LENGTH IN NOVEMBER (U) WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL. - DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE \_\_\_\_\_\_ DOI: (U) 950111. **REQS: (U)** (b)(3):10 USC 424 (b)(1);(b)(3):10 USC 424;1.4 (c)

TEXT: 1. (U) THE CHIEF OF THE ARGENTINE ARMY (ARGARM) GENERAL STAFF, GENERAL **MARTIN ANTONIO** ((**BALZA**)) WILL COMPLETE FOUR YEARS IN OFFICE IN NOVEMBER 1995. ALTHOUGH THE NATIONAL DEFENSE LAWS STATE THAT MILITARY SERVICE CHIEFS SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF THE PRESIDENT, TRADITIONALLY FOUR YEARS HAS BEEN THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF TIME OFFICERS SERVE IN THE POSITIONS.

2. (U) ASSUMING THAT PRESIDENT MENEM IS RE-ELECTED IN

MAY, GENERAL BALZA WILL, IN ALL LIKELIHOOD, REMAIN AS THE CHIEF OF THE ARMY UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR. HE WILL ALSO PROBABLY STAY UNTIL AFTER THE COMMANDERS CONFERENCE OF THE CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN ARMIES, SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE IN NOVEMBER IN BARILOCHE, ARGENTINA. HOSTING THIS EVENT MAY BE BALZA'S LAST IMPORTANT REGIONAL TASK, SINCE IT COINCIDES WITH HIS COMPLETING FOUR YEARS AND SINCE ARGARM END-OF-YEAR PROMOTIONS AND RE-ASSIGNMENTS.NORMALLY OCCUR IN DECEMBER. HOWEVER, THERE IS NO OBVIOUS REPLACEMENT FOR BALZA WAITING IN THE WINGS.

(b)(1);1.4 (c)

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