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**DTG**

312058Z OCT 91

**FROM**

FM (b)(3):10 USC 424

**TO**

TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC

RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

**CONTROLS**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 01 OF 02 (b)(3):10 USC 424

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

/\*\*\*\*\* THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE \*\*\*\*\*/

**BODY**

(b)(3):10 USC 424

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

SUBJ: IIR (b)(3):10 USC 424 COS ARGARM RESIGNS, MAJOR  
GENERAL **MARTIN ANTONIO BALZA** IS NAMED AS INTERIM CHIEF  
OF STAFF (U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT  
FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED

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- DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
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DO I: (U) 911031.

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

(b)(1);(b)(3):10 USC 424;1.4 (c)

- B. (U) DAILY NEWSPAPER, "CLARIN", BUENOS  
AIRES, ARGENTINA, 911031 (U), IN SPANISH, LEADING  
INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

SUMMARY: MAJOR GENERAL ((BALZA)) A WAR HERO FROM THE  
FALKLAND CONFLICT IS NAMED INTERIM COS OF THE ARGARM  
AFTER THE RESIGNATION OF LTG BONNET.

TEXT: 1. ~~(C)~~ MAJOR GENERAL **MARTIN ANTONIO ((BALZA))**  
ASSUMES DUTIES AS INTERIM CHIEF OF STAFF OF ARGARM  
EFFECTIVE 911031. GEN BALZA IS AN ARTILLERY OFFICER  
AND A VETERAN OF THE MALVINAS WAR. AS A LTC HE IS  
CREDITED WITH DOWNING THE FIRST BRITISH AIRCRAFT IN THE  
WAR AND FIGHTING UNTIL RUNNING OUT OF AMMUNITION TO THE

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MOMENT OF SURRENDER IN 14 JUNE 1982.

2. ~~(C)~~ MG BALZA REPLACES LTG MARTIN FELIX ((BONNET)) AS THE COS ARGARM, A POSITION HELD BY BONNET SINCE MARCH 1990. (b)(1);1.4 (c)

(b)(1);1.4 (c)

3. ~~(C)~~ BONNET'S RELIEF COMES AS AN AFTERMATH OF VARIOUS PUBLIC DISAGREEMENTS HELD WITH THE CIVILIAN LEADERSHIP. A PUBLIC SPEECH WHERE HE OPENLY PRAISED THOSE THAT FOUGHT AGAINST SUBVERSION DURING THE DIRTY WAR BROUGHT HIM RETORT FROM EDUALDO ((DUHALDE)), THE THEN VICE PRESIDENT OF ARGENTINA. TWO WEEKS AGO BONNET'S CHOICE FOR COMMANDER TO THE GRANADEROS REGIMENT WAS OVERTURNED BY THE PRESIDENT WHO APPOINTED AN OFFICER OF HIS CHOICE.

(b)(1);1.4 (c)

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(b)(1);1.4 (c)

(b)(1);1.4 (c)

HE ALSO SUPPORTS THE GOVERNMENT'S PRIVATIZATION PLAN. HIS APPOINTMENT, IF PERMANENT WILL DEFINITELY IMPROVE THE COHESION AND DISCIPLINE IN THE ARGARM DURING THIS PERIOD OF TRANSITION.

3. ~~(C)~~ MG BALZA'S SUCCESS IN THE ARMY IS DUE TO HIS PROFESSIONAL CAPABILITIES AS ALREADY PROVEN UNDER FIRE AND HIS PRO-CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT STANCE AS PROVEN DURING THE 3 DECEMBER CARAPINTADA UPRISING.

(b)(1);1.4 (c)

(b)(1);1.4 (c)

//IPSP: (U)

//COMSOBJ: (U)

**ADMIN**

PROJ: (U).

COLL: (U)

INSTR: (U)

PREP: (U)

ACQ: (U)

DISSEM: (U)

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~~DECL: OADR~~

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