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

BODY

COUNTRY: (U) ARGENTINA (AR).

SUBJ: IIR (b)(3):10 USC 424 INFANTRY AND CAVALRY REMAIN

THE PRIMARY BASIC BRANCHES OF ARGENTINE ARMY GENERALS

(U)

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

- DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 941018.

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

SOURCE: (U) DAILY NEWSPAPER,"AMBITO FINANCIERO," BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA, 941018 (U), IN SPANISH. CONSERVATIVE BUSINESS AND FINANCE JOURNAL WHICH IS INFLUENTIAL WITH ECONOMISTS, BUSINESSMEN, BANKERS, AND POLITICIANS. GENERALLY SYMPATHETIC TOWARD THE US. SUMMARY: (U) WITH THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE GENERAL OFFICER PROMOTIONS FOR CY95 BY THE ARGENTINE ARMY THE COMPOSITION OF THE GENERAL OFFICER CORPS REMAINS DOMINATED BY OFFICERS OF INFANTRY AND CAVALRY BRANCHS (I.E., 12 AND 9, RESPECTIVELY, OF 38 TOTAL).

TEXT: 1. (U) WITH THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF ARGENTINE ARMY (ARGARM) GENERAL OFFICER PROMOTIONS FOR CY95 (CITE: IIR (b)(3):10 USC 424 IT IS APPARENT THAT THE BASIC BRANCH COMPOSITION OF THE GENERAL OFFICER CORPS HAS NOT SWUNG IN FAVOR OF THE ARTILLERY AS SOME ANTICIPATED. NOT WITHSTANDING THE SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE OF THE CURRENT ARGARM CHIEF OF STAFF, GENERAL MARTIN ANTONIO ((BALZA)) AND HIS DEPUTY, LIEUTENANT GENERAL RAUL JULIO ((GOMEZ

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SABAINI)) (THEMSELVES ARTILLERY OFFICERS), THE LARGEST NUMBER OF GENERAL OFFICERS REMAIN INFANTRYMEN. FULLY 55% OF THE GENERALS SERVING IN CY95 WILL BE FROM EITHER INFANTRY OR CAVALRY BRANCHES, WHILE ONLY ABOUT 24% WILL BE ARTILLERY OFFICERS.

2. (U) THE 38 GENERAL OFFICERS WHO WILL LEAD THE ARGARM IN CY95 REPRESENT 12 INFANTRYMEN, 9 CAVALRYMEN, 9 ARTILLERYMEN, 5 ENGINEERS, AND 1 SIGNAL OFFICER. PROPORTIONALLY, THESE FIGURES ARE CONSISTENT WITH TRADITIONAL PROMOTION PATTERNS IN THE ARGARM AND DO NOT SUPPORT THE PREMISE OF INORDINATE INFLUENCE BY GENERAL BALZA IN FAVOR OF OFFICERS OF HIS OWN BRANCH, AS ANTICIPATED BY SOME LOCAL OBSERVERS.

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