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DTG

041514Z OCT 96

FROM

FM (b)(3):10 USC 424

TO

TO RUEKDIA/DIA WASHDC

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

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

SUBJ: IIR (b)(3):10 USC 424 POSSIBLE MOVE OF GENERAL BALZA

TO HEAD ARGENTINE JOINT STAFF -- LIEUTENANT GENERAL

LAINO TO HEAD ARGENTINE ARMY (G)

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

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- DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DO I: (U) 960923 - 960927.

REQS: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 42

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

SUMMARY: (G) ~~GENERAL~~ **MARTIN ANTONIO ((BALZA))**,
ARGENTINE ARMY CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF, MAY BECOME
THE CHIEF OF THE JOINT STAFF. LIEUTENANT GENERAL
ANIBAL ((LAINO)), DIRECTOR OF THE GENERAL STAFF OF THE
ARGARM, WOULD MOVE TO THE TOP POSITION IN THE ARMY.
TEXT: 1. (G) LIEUTENANT COLONEL JAVIER ((DE LA CUESTA
AVILA)) AND LIEUTENANT HUGO ((VERCELLOTTI)) ARE RESERVE
ARGARM OFFICERS WHO ARE CONGRESSIONAL LIAISON BETWEEN
THE ARGENTINE CONGRESS AND THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE
(MOD). (b)(1);1.4 (c)

(b)(1);1.4 (c)

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(b)(1);1.4 (c)

2. (C)

(b)(1);Sec. 1.4(c)

GENERAL **MARTIN ANTONIO ((BALZA))**, THE ARGENTINE ARMY (ARGARM) CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF, WOULD REPLACE GENERAL CANDIDO MARIO ((DIAZ)) AS CHIEF OF THE ARGENTINE JOINT STAFF. LIEUTENANT GENERAL ANIBAL ((LAINO)), DIRECTOR OF THE GENERAL STAFF OF THE ARGARM, WOULD MOVE INTO THE TOP POSITION IN THE ARGARM. THEY ADDED THAT THESE MOVES WERE IMMINENT.

3. (C) THE INTENT OF THESE MOVES WOULD BE TO STRENGTHEN THE ROLE OF THE JOINT STAFF, AND WITH THE STRONG AND CHARISMATIC PERSONALITY OF GENEAL BALZA COUPLED WITH HIS STRONG POWER BASE WITHIN THE ARGARM, IT WOULD PROVIDE A FOCAL POINT WITHIN THE JOINT STAFF TO OVERWHELM INTER-SERVICE RIVALRIES.

(b)(1);1.4 (c)

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Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(1);(b)(3);10 USC 424;(b)(3);50 USC 3024(i);1.4 (c)
of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act