

DECLASSIFIED IN PART Authority: EO 13526 DIA FOIA & Declassification Services Offices Date: Oct 19, 2018

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF MESSAGE CENTER

CRUCIAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT. (C/WNINTEL/NOFORN) SOURCES VIEWED WITH ALARM WHAT THEY PERCEIVE 2. AS A CONSTANT DRIFT TO THE LEFT IN ARGENTINE POLITICS. THEY HOLD EX-PRESIDENT LANUSSE LARGELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COUNTRY'S CURRENT PROBLEMS POINTING OUT THAT LANUSSE SUPPORTED THE LEFTIST TENDENCIES OF FRONDIZI AND WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR PERMITTING PERON TO RETURN. THEY VIEWED ONGANIA'S GOVERNMENT AS BEING VERY GOOD FOR THE COUNTRY, BUT DID NOT FEEL THAT HE COULD RETURN TO POWER. SOURCES CLAIM THAT MANY OFFICERS IN THE ARMED FORCES SHARE THEIR CONCERN OVER WHAT APPEARS TO BE A CONSTANT DRIFT TO THE LEFT AND THEIR FEARS HAVE BEEN REINFORCED BY THE EVENTS OF RECENT YEARS IN CHILE AND PORTUGAL. 3. (C/WNINTEL/NOFORN) ACCORDING TO SOURCES, THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THERE WILL BE A CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT. THE ONLY QUESTIONS ARE WHEN AND TO WHAT DEGREE THE MILITARY WILL HAVE TO FORCE THE CHANGE. THEY CLAIMED THAT THE THREE ARMED FORCES CINCS REACHED A SECRET AGREEMENT THAT THEY WOULD NOT MOVE TO BRING DUWN THE GOVERNMENT BEFORE 11 DECEMBER 1975 AND THAT THEY WOULD CUNFER AGAIN BEFORE TAKING ANY UNILATERAL ACTION. WHILE THE AIR FORCE DID NOT FAVOR DELAYING BEYOND 20 NOVEMBER THE NAVY CINC FELT HE COULD DELAY UNTIL 25 NOVEMBER' HOWEVER, BOTH CINCS LATER AGREED TO DELAYING UNTIL THE 11 DECEMBER DATE FAYCRED BY THE ARMY. SCURCES STRESSED THAT THE 11 DECEMBER DATE WAS ONLY SIGNIFICANT IN THAT THE CINCS ARE NOT COMMITTED TO COOPERATIVE ACTION BEYOND THAT DATE UNLESS A NEW AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED. SOURCES ALSO IMPLIED THAT THE IMAGE OF SOLIDARITY WITHIN THE ARMED FORCES IS NOTHING MORE THAN A FACADE WITH TREMENDOUS PRESSURES BUILDING UNDER THE SURFACE.

4. - (C/WNINTEL/NOFORN) SOURCES WENT ON TO DISCUSS THE POLITICAL STRENGTHS OF VARIOUS MILITARY LEADERS. THEY DISCOUNT AIR FORCE CINC FAUTARIO COMPLETELY AND DO NOT BELIEVE THAT NAVY CINC MASSERA WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE ARMY. ALSU, THEY BELIEVE THAT MASSERA IS LOSING CONTROL WITHIN THE NAVY, CITING THAT RECENTLY HE HAS BEEN RECEIVED COOLY AT THE MAJOR NAVAL BASE IN PUERTO BELGRAND. THEY ARE CONVINCED THAT ARMY CINC VIDELA IS NOT INTERESTED IN A POLITICAL ROLE. IT IS ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF VIOLAN WHO MAY EMERGE AS THE STRONG MAN. SOURCES REPORT THAT VIOLA FAVORS A CHANGE IN THE SUCCESSION LAW WHICH WOULD PERMIT A MILITARY MAN (MEANING VIOLA) TO BE ELECTED PRESIDENT BY THE SENATE OR A CHANGE WHICH WOULD PERMIT THE SENATE TO ELECT A NEW PRESIDENT FROM A LIST OF CANDIDATES APPROVED BY THE ARMED FORCES' SOURCES DO NOT FULLY SUPPORT VIOLA, HOWEVER, BECAUSE THEY SAY THAT THEY HAVE FIRM EVIDENCE (COPIES OF LETTERS) WHICH SHOW THAT GENERAL VIOLA IS LIRTING WITH

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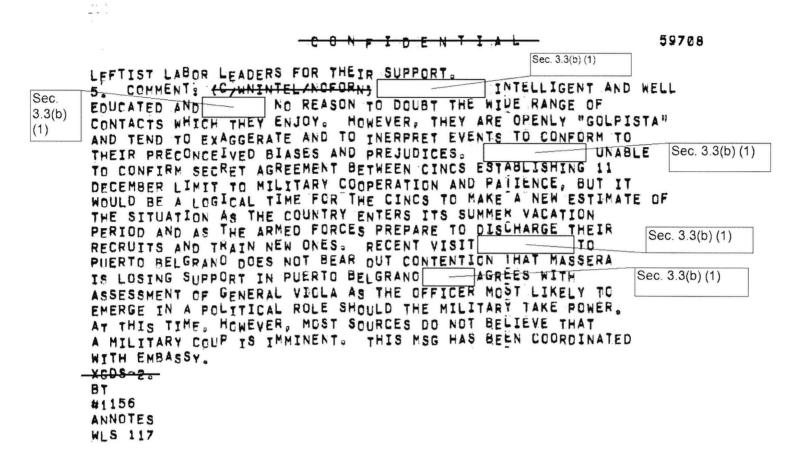
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