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15. 1. (U) THE LEVEL OF VIOLENCEN THROUGHOUT ARGENTINA
INCREASED CONSIDERABLY THIS WEEK WITH 32 LIVES BEING
CLAIMED AS A RESULT OF TERRORIST ACTIVITY. SEVEN PERSONS
DIED IN TUCUMAN IN WHAT MAY HAVE BEEN REPRISAL KILLINGS BY RIGHT
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WING ELEMENTS FOR THE SLAYING OF ARMY CAPTAIN HUMBERTO VIOLA AND THIS THREE YEAR OLD DAUGHTER LAST YEAR BY THE ERP. THE TERRORIST AMBUSH AND KILLING OF A RETIRED ARMY MAJOR GENERAL AND HIS WIFE ON 3 DEC TRIGGERED ANOTHER VENDETTA IN CORDOBA ON 4 DEC WITH THE MURDER OF 9 UNIVERSITY STUDENTS. (U) ON 3 DEC NEAR PARANA, IN ENTIRE RIOS PROVINCE, RETIRED MG JORGE CACERES MONIE WAS MURDERED BY UNIDENTIFIED ASSAILANTS WHILE HE AND HIS WIFE WERE DRVING IN THEIR PICK UP TRUCK. HIS WIFE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY KIDNAPPED BY THE TERRORISTS AND HER BODY WAS LATER FOUND WITH 10 BULLET HOLES AND SHE HAD BEEN STRANGLED. CACERES MONIE WAS A FORMER CHIEF UF THE FEDERAL POLICE AND ALSO HAD SERVED AS DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONA GENDAMARIA AND COMMANDER OF SECOND CORPS, ROSARIO. (U) IN RELATED ACTIVITY, BG VILAS, COMMANUER OF THE V INFANTRY BRIGADE IN TUCUMAN ANNOUNCED ON 3 DEC THAT THE ARMY WAS TAKING CONTROL OF THE PROVINCIAL CAPITAL DUE TO RECENT VIOLENCE THERE . THE GOVERNOR OF THE PROVINCE APPARENTLY AGREED WITH THE V BRIGATE COMMANDER'S DECISION AND WAS REPORTEDLY ENROUTE TO THE BUENOS AIRES TO PRESENT THE SITUATION TO THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT. MEANWHILE, ARMY COMMANDER, LTG VIDELA, WILL MEET WITH HIS COPRS COMMANDERS ON 5 DEC TO DISCUSS THE ANTI-SUBVERSIVE CAMPAIGN AND THE PROBLEMS ARISING OUT OF THE ARMY'S ARREST AND DETENTION OF AT LEAST TWO PRIESTS FOR ANTI-SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES SENIOR CHURCH AUTHORITIES HAVE COMPLAINED TO THE ARMY ABOUT THE DETENTIONS. COMMENT (C) IN SPITE OF THE MILITARY'S INTENSIFIED ANTI-SUBVERSIVE CAMPAIGN, THE GUERRILLAS CONTINUE TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THEY CAN OPERATE EFFECTIVELY. SOME HIGH RANKING ARMY OFFICERS HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THEY DO NOT EXPECT RESOUDNING SUCCESSES AGAINST THE TERRORISTS IN THE INITIAL PHASES OF OPERATION, BUT HOPE TO DENY THEM FREEDOM OF INCVEMENT. AS THE SECURITY FORCES BECOME MORE EFFECTIVE IN THEIR CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE TERRORISTS OTHER SENIOR MILITARY OFFICERS (ACTIVE & RETIRED) CAN BE EXPECTED TO BE INCLUDED ON THE GUERRILLAS DEATH LISTS. THIS MSG HAS BEEN COORDINATED WITH EMBASSY, GUS DEC 81. 87 # 185 ANNOTES

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