

~~SECRET~~

TO

TO (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

DTG

112007Z AUG 87

FROM

FM (b)(3):10 USC 424

TO

TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC

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

CONTROLS

~~SECRET~~ SECTION 01 OF 04 (b)(3):10 USC 424

(b)(3):10 USC 424

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SERIAL: (U) IIR (b)(3):10 USC 42

BODY

(b)(3):10 USC 424;(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

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

SUBJECT: IIR THE ARGARM AWAITS VINDICATION

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

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFO REPORT, NOT FINALLY

- EVALUATED INTEL.

DOI: (U) 870726

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

SOURCE: (U) A. OPEN SOURCE, "LA NACION", MODERATE

- ARGENTINE DAILY NEWSPAPER.

- (b)(3):10 USC 424;(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

SUMMARY: ~~(C)~~ DURING THE COURSE OF HIS FIRST PRESS INTER-

- VIEW WITH A BUENOS AIRES DAILY, THE ARGARM CHIEF
- OF STAFF DISCUSSED SOME OF THE MOST PRESSING
- ISSUES AFFECTING THE ARMY TODAY.

TEXT: 1. (U) IN WHAT HAS BEEN THE FIRST PRESS INTER-
VIEW SINCE HE TOOK CHARGE AS CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE
ARGARM ON 21 APR 87, MG JOSE SEGUNDO DANTE ((CARIDI))
DISCUSSED SEVERAL OF THE MOST PRESSING ISSUES AFFECTING
THE ARGARM TODAY. SOURCE A STATED THAT THROUGHOUT
THE INTERVIEW, CARIDI DID NOT DODGE ANY OF HIS
RESPONSES AND AVOIDED ONLY GETTING INTO THE ANECDOTIC
ASPECTS OF THE ISSUES.

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2. (U) ACCORDING TO SOURCE A, THE ISSUES DISCUSSED BY CARIDI WITH ONE OF ITS REPORTERS WERE AS FOLLOWS:

1. THE RELIEF OF BG FAUSTO MARCELO ((GONZALEZ)) AS VICE CHIEF OF STAFF ON 20 JUL 87; 2. LTC ALDO ((RICO'S)) AND MAJ **ERNESTO** ((**BARREIRO'S**)) LEGAL SITUATION; 3. SEQUELS OF THE EASTER WEEK MUTINY; 4. VINDICATION OF THE ARGARM AND CONTINUED "ATTACKS" DIRECTED AGAINST THE ARMY BY SOME SECTORS OF ARGENTINE SOCIETY; 5. THE DEFENSE LAW; 6. RESTRUCTURING/MODERNIZATION AND DISCIPLINE IN THE ARMY; 7. WHAT IS NEEDED TO ACHIEVE HARMONY BETWEEN CIVILIANS AND MEN IN UNIFORM. FOLLOWING IS A SYNOPSIS OF THE ISSUES DISCUSSED DURING THE INTERVIEW.

3. (U) RELIEF OF BG GONZALEZ AS VICE CHIEF OF STAFF. WHEN ASKED BY REPORTER HOW HE WOULD DESCRIBE THE RECENT EPISODE WHICH LED TO GONZALEZ'S RELIEF BY THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE AND IF THAT ACTION HAD BEEN UPON HIS REQUEST, CARIDI SAID IT WAS NECESSARY NOT TO TAKE THAT EPISODE OUT OF THE CONTEXT IN WHICH IT DEVELOPED, MEANING A STRICTLY INSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT.

4. (U) ON LTC RICO AND MAJ BARREIRO'S LEGAL SITUATION. ON THIS ISSUE, CARIDI MERELY EXPLAINED THE AS OF YET UNDEFINED LEGAL RAMIFICATIONS OF CIVILIAN VS MILITARY JURISDICTION SURROUNDING BOTH CASES. HE OFFERED NOTHING NEW.

5. (U) AFTERMATH OF THE EASTER WEEK MUTINY. WHEN ASKED IF THE ARMY HAS TOTALLY OVERCOME THE EFFECTS OF THE EASTER WEEK EVENTS, CARIDI STATED THE EASTER WEEK EVENTS WERE A SUM OF FACTORS AFFECTING THE ARMY AND ITS MEN WHICH RESULTED IN CONFLICTING POSITIONS. THREE MONTHS LATER, CARIDI CONTINUED, THE SITUATION HAS CHANGED WHEREBY THE MOST CONFLICTING AND URGENT ASPECTS HAVE BEEN OVERCOME. HE ADMITTED THERE ARE STILL SOME IMPORTANT QUESTIONS TO BE RESOLVED AND ON WHICH THE ARMY IS WORKING TO OVERCOME THEM. CARIDI ALSO STATED THAT THE CHAIN OF COMMAND HAS BEEN RECONSTITUTED AT ALL LEVELS, THAT INSTITUTIONAL COHESION - WHICH IN REALITY WAS NEVER LOST - IS SOLID AS WELL AS THE SENSE OF DISCIPLINE.

6. (U) VINDICATION OF THE ARMY. WHEN ASKED FOR HIS OPINION ABOUT WHAT HAS BEEN SAID OF LOWER RANKING OFFICERS SEEKING TO VINDICATE THE ARGARM BECAUSE THEY

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KNOW IT HAS BEEN AN CONTINUES TO BE THE SUBJECT OF
SYSTEMATIC ATTACKS BY CERTAIN SECTORS OF SOCIETY,
CARIDI STATED "THE VINDICATION OF THE FORCE IS NOT A
PRIVILEGE OF THE LOWER RANKING LEVELS, IT IS A SHARED
ASPIRATION FROM THE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE GENERAL STAFF
(CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMY) DOWN TO THE MOST JUNIOR
SERGEANT; WE HAVE BEEN ATTACKED AS AN INSTITUTION

ADMIN

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(b)(3):10 USC 424

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

BODY

(b)(3):10 USC 424;(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

COUNTRY: (U) ARGENTINA (AR)

SUBJECT: IIR (b)(3):10 USC 424 THE ARGARM AWAITS VINDICATION BEFORE, ARE BEING ATTACKED NOW AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATION HIMSELF, DURING THE ARMED FORCES COMRADESHIP DINNER, PUBLICLY WARNED ABOUT A COLOSSAL WORSENING OF PSYOP CAMPAIGNS AGAINST THE ARMED FORCES". CARIDI ALSO SAID THEY (THE ARMY) ARE ENCOURAGED BY THE CONVICTION THAT SUCH VINDICATION TO WHICH THEY ASPIRE WILL NOT TAKE LONG IN COMING.

7. (U) ON THE DEFENSE LAW. CARIDI BELIEVES THE PROMULGATION OF THE DEFENSE LAW WILL REINFORCE THE INSTITUTIONAL REINTEGRATION AND UNITY WHICH NOW EXISTS IN THE ARMY, SINCE IT MAKES POSSIBLE THE PARTICIPATION OF THE ARMED FORCES IN AN AREA OF THEIR INCUMBENCY WHICH HAS TO DO WITH THE DEFENSE OF THE COUNTRY, THE "BREAD AND BUTTER" OF THE MILITARY SECTOR. THE ARMY WANTS THE INSTITUTIONAL REINFORCEMENT THAT PROVIDES THE ADEQUATE FRAMEWORK FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN EVERY SENSE, SO IT CAN FULLY MEET THE MANDATE OF THE ARGARM'S INTERNAL REGULATION WHICH STATES, "THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF OFFICERS, NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES IS TO PREPARE FOR WAR," CARIDI ADDED.

8. (U) ON THE SUBJECT OF THE DEFENSE LAW, SOURCE B TOLD RO THE ALFONSIN ADMINISTRATION IS LIKELY TO APPLY STALLING

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TACTICS IN THE TREATMENT OF SUCH LAW INSTEAD OF FACING HEAD-ON THE THORNY ISSUE OF WHETHER THE ARMED FORCES SHOULD SHARE WITH OTHER NATIONAL SECURITY FORCES THE MISSION TO DEFEND THE COUNTRY AGAINST INTERNAL (DOMESTIC) THREATS. THE DEFENSE LAW, AS IT APPLIES TODAY, CALLS ONLY FOR THE ARMED FORCES TO DEFEND AGAINST EXTERNAL THREATS. NOTE: THE SENATE AND HOUSE HAVE BOTH PASSED A VERSION OF A DEFENSE LAW. PROBLEM IS THEY ARE DIFFERENT VERSIONS. ALSO, TIME FOR ITS TREATMENT HAS ALREADY LAPSED AND THE GOA HAS TO SUBMIT BILL ANEW. SOURCE B STATED IT IS VERY UNLIKELY THE ALFONSIN ADMINISTRATION WILL TREAT THE DEFENSE LAW ISSUE IN AN ELECTION YEAR.

9. ~~(C)~~ RESTRUCTURING/MODERNIZATION AND DISCIPLINE IN THE ARGARM. WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE SCOPE OF RESTRUCTURING/MODERNIZING THE ARMY AND HOW LONG IT WILL TAKE TO DO IT, CARIDI BRIEFLY SUMMARIZED THE CONCEPT AS ONE CONSISTING OF BASICALLY THREE PHASES: RATIONALIZATION, RESTRUCTURING AND REDIMENSIONING (RRR) OF THE FORCE. NOTE:

(b)(1);1.4 (c)

WHEN REFERRING TO DISCIPLINE IN THE ARMY, CARIDI MENTIONED THE NEED FOR A TWO-PRONGED ACTION WHICH WILL REQUIRE SPECIFIC EFFORTS ON THE PART OF MEN IN UNIFORM, EFFORTS WHICH ARE PRESENTLY BEING CARRIED OUT WITH DYNAMISM AND ENTHUSIASM, AND EFFORTS BY THE GOA AND SOCIETY IN PROVIDING THE GUIDING FRAMEWORK IN WHICH TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL.

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10. (U) ON WHAT IS NEEDED TO ACHIEVE HARMONY BETWEEN CIVILIANS AND THE MILITARY. CARIDI SAID HARMONY STARTS WHEN ONE DOES NOT APPEAL TO FALSE DILEMMAS. THERE EXISTS ONLY ONE SOCIETY AND IT IS NOT VALID TO DIVIDE IT INTO CIVILIAN AND MILITARY SOCIETIES. CARIDI CONTINUED "EVERY MILITARY MAN HAS A CIVILIAN MOTHER, A CIVILIAN WIFE, CIVILIAN OFFSPRING, CIVILIAN FRIENDS AND EVEN WITHIN THE ARMY HE WORKS SHOULDER-TO-SHOULDER WITH CIVILIANS. IS IT THEN VALID TO TALK ON ONE HAND ABOUT A CIVILIAN SOCIETY AND ABOUT

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SUBJECT: IIR (b)(3):10 USC 424 THE ARGARM AWAITS VINDICATION
ARMED FORCES ON THE OTHER?" CARIDI STATED IT WAS
NECESSARY TO DEVELOP A SENSE OF MUTUAL TRUST,
CONFIDENCE AND UNDERSTANDING AND A CONSCIOUS CONCERN
FOR THE FUTURE.

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12. ~~(U)~~ IN CLOSING THE INTERVIEW, CARIDI WAS ASKED
TO EXPRESS ANYTHING HE DEEMED APPROPRIATE. HE SAID
THE FOLLOWING: A. THE UNDERSTANDING TO WHICH ARGENTINE
SOCIETY ASPIRES SHOULD BE BASED ON ACTS OF MUTUAL
TRUST; B. THROUGHOUT HISTORY, THE ARGARM STOOD BY THE
SIDE OF THE NATION'S DESTINY, LOGGING IRREFUTABLE
PROOF OF SERVICE-RELATED PERMANENT SACRIFICES; C. IN
THIS SENSE WHAT IS IMPORTANT IS WHAT IS PERMANENT
OVER WHAT IS CIRCUMSTANTIAL; D. THE ARMY IS FULLY
AWARE OF ITS ASSIGNED MAJOR OBJECTIVES AND WISHES
THE GROWTH OF THE COUNTRY THROUGH THE ACCOMPLISHMENT
OF ITS SPECIFIC MISSION. WITHIN THIS FRAMEWORK, THE
ARMY ONLY HOPES TO BE A SOLID ABUTMENT OF THE CURRENT
REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM IN ARGENTINA TODAY;
E. THE ARGENTINE CITIZEN SHOULD HAVE THE ASSURANCE
HE HAS A SPIRITUALLY HEALTHY ARMY, WITH SOLDIERS
VOCATIONALLY PREDISPOSED TO GIVE THEIR BEST TO THEIR
COMMUNITY; F. THE ARMY ASPIRES TO THE UNDERSTANDING

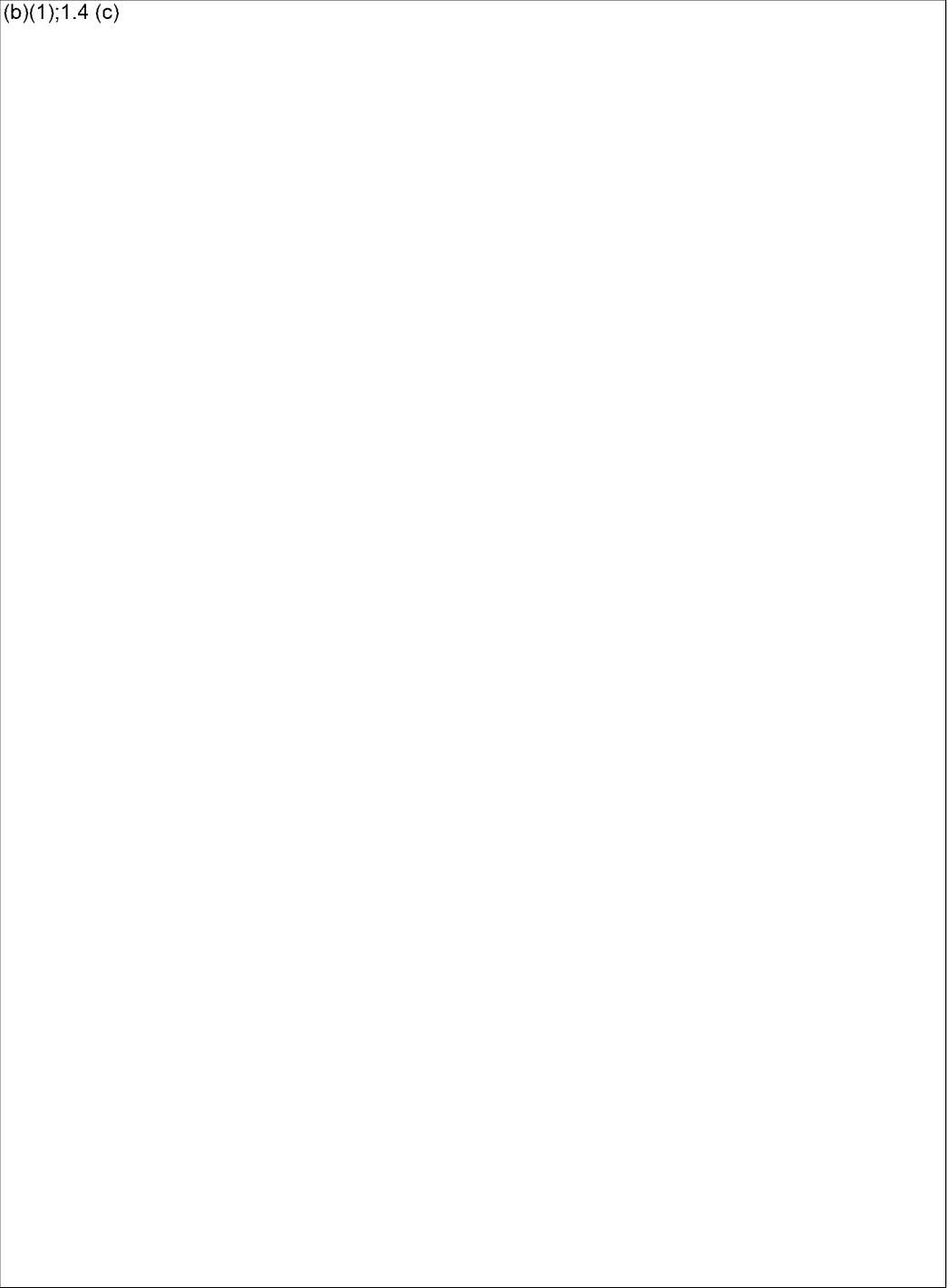
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AND RESPECT AS PERMANENT INSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC,
FOR IT IS A FUNDAMENTAL PREREQUISITE FOR ITS EXISTENCE
AND BECAUSE IT FOSTERS UNDERSTANDING THROUGHOUT
ARGENTINE SOCIETY.

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QUITE SOME TIME. THEY SEE THE REACTIVATION OF
ALL

THIS MATERIEL AS A VEKY USEFUL TOOL TO START GIVING
MEN IN UNIFORM A SENSE OF BELONGING AND MOST IMPORTANT,
TO KEEP THEM PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY BUSY IN WHAT THEY
CAN DO BEST, SOLDIER. IDLENESS IN THESE TURBULENT
TIMES COU L BRING A THREAT OF MORE INCIDENTS LIKE
THOSE OF EASTER WEEK.

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Withheld pursuant to exemption

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

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act