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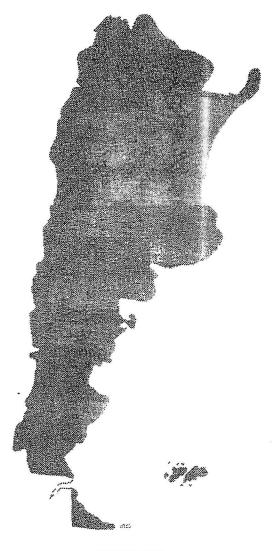
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ARGENTINA

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This Notice is designed to provide intelligence in support of future decisions with respect to security policy or posture.

ARGENTINA

COUP PREPARATIONS.

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(C/NOFORM/WINTEL) Military preparations for the expected coup to oust President Peron are virtually complete. Timing for the move is said to be between 5 and 17 March. A meeting reportedly held last week decided that a military junta would be installed and that the three services would be equally represented in the government.

(C/NOFORM/UNIVERS) Argentine naval vessels and marines have been deployed in the capital area and in major port cities to preclude outbreaks of violence after the event. Warships have been stationed at Comodoro Rivadavia, Ushuaia, Mar del Plata, Buenos Aires, and Puerto Madryn to control access to major ports. Two reinforced marine companies have been deployed to the naval shipyard at La Plata, and another has been positioned at Buenos Aires for contingency purposes.

(C/NOPORN/WNINTEL) Previous reporting suggested that a coup would occur by the 5th, but there now appears to be some slippage either to complete arrangements for the move or to prompt Congress to solve the political crisis. The military could also believe a delay would further debilitate economic and political conditions, thereby giving them additional public support for their move.

PREPARED BY:

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