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DIADIN 255-76 22 JANUARY 1976

#4-109 DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE NOTICE DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Warning Notice

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

ARGENTINA

PRESIDENT APPEASES LABOR.

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(C/NOFORN) Mrs. Peron has at least temporarily averted a serious confrontation between herself, her advisers, and dissatisfied labor elements over last week's Cabinet changes.

(G/NOFORN) Labor leaders had threatened a general strike for 21 January because they were not consulted in the move. After a series of meetings earlier this week, however, the strike was canceled.

(C/NOFORN) The President probably defused the potentially volatile situation by telling the labor chiefs that her failure to consult with them was an oversight and their desire to participate in solutions to the country's problems would be honored. According to union bosses, she also agreed not to sack the two remaining Cabinet members important to their interests -- Economy Minister Cafiero and Labor Minister Ruckauf, at least for now. The labor chiefs, in turn, dropped their demands that the President's private secretary and social welfare minister be ousted. These presidential advisers -- allies of the exiled Lopez Rega -- are accused of trying to isolate the President from the Peronist labor movement.

(C/NOFORN) In a related event, Raul Quijano and Ricardo Guardo reportedly have been appointed foreign and defense ministers, respectively. Quijano, a respected career diplomat, previously served as envoy to the OAS. Guardo, an old-line Peronist, headed the Chamber of Deputies for two years during Juan Peron's first presidential term. Until recently, he has been his country's ambassador to the Vatican. Although the armed forces' attitude toward Guardo's appointment is not known, the military may not approve of his Lopez Rega connections. (CDC-21 Peg 92)

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