

SEC DEF

DIASDIN 1148-75

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#4-26



SPECIAL DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE NOTICE



Office of the Secretary of Defense
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS

Date: 10 Apr 2018 Authority: EO 13526 ^{+ 50.S.C.} §552

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Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: APR 10 2018

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~~Contains Intelligence Sources and Methods involved~~

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Argentina 0001

13 May 75

Page determined to be Unclassified
Reviewed Chief, RDD, WHS
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This Notice serves an alerting function and is designed to support current decisions on security policy or posture.

ARGENTINA

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POWER PLAY RESULTS IN NEW PERONIST ARMY CHIEF.

(S/NPD) Lt Gen Leandro Anaya has resigned and has been replaced as Army Commander by Maj Gen Alberto Numa Laplane, Commanding General of the 1st Corps in Buenos Aires. Laplane is considered the most pro-Peronist of senior army officers, and his selection will cause three major generals senior to him to retire. Laplane's selection by the government for Argentina's most powerful military position is undoubtedly a power play by Social Welfare Minister and presidential adviser Jose Lopez Rega to extend his control to the army.

(C/NPD) Gen Anaya has been a malleable and relatively apolitical commander since he took over in December 1973. He has drawn considerable criticism from army officers due to his lack of a more aggressive response to terrorism in general and assassinations of army officers in particular.

(S/NPD) How the army will react to this sudden change is unknown at present. While Anaya was unpopular, Laplane's reputation as a protege of Lopez Rega will not sit well with the majority of army officers.

(S/NPD) The action of Major Generals Della Croce, Gomez Centurion, and Rivera, who will now be forced to retire, will be critical in the next 72 hours. If the anti-Peronists in the military are able to unify against this Peronist power play, the possibility of a coup increases significantly. ~~(NODS 2 Declassify upon notification of originator)~~

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