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# DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE NOTICE



MDR: 17 -M- 2180

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5526 § 552

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Authority: EO 13526  
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS  
Date: APR 12 2018

~~Warning: Action~~

~~Sensitive Intelligence Sources and Methods Involved~~

~~NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION~~

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 RE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

## NOTES

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Argentina 000.1

29 Aug 75

Page determined to be Unclassified

Reviewed Chief, RDD, WHS

IAW EO 13526, Section 3.5

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APR 12 2010

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# WARNING FOR CI: SENSITIVE TOPIC FOREIGN SOURCES

THE METHODS INVOLVED (WHICH) - The intent of this

Warning is to emphasize the sensitivity of the in-

formation and the need for special controls while

Below a line a number of individuals is indicated.

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

ARGENTINA

NEW ARMY COMMANDER.

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(U) Giving in to the demands of disgruntled army corps commanders, Mrs. Peron has named Gen Jorge Videla, Chief of the Joint Staff, to replace Army Commander in Chief Gen Numa Laplane.

~~(C/NPD)~~ The move is expected to defuse tensions and quell coup rumors triggered by the appointment of active-duty army Col Damasco as Interior Minister two weeks ago. Top commanders opposed Damasco's assignment because it represented a compromise in the armed forces' policy of noninvolvement in government administration. They also resented the prominent role played by Gen Laplane in selecting and backing Col Damasco, particularly his lack of consultation with others in the military hierarchy.

~~(C/NPD)~~ Mrs. Peron's decision followed intense maneuvering between the anti-Damasco military faction, labor, and political leaders. Key military officers apparently convinced labor and Peronist congressional leaders that the issue was strictly an internal military problem and not a threat to civilian institutions. Therefore, labor and political elements maintained a hands-off position. Prior to their discussion with the military, these groups had pledged support for Mrs. Peron out of fear that a coup attempt was in the offing.

~~(C/NPD)~~ Non-peronist Gen Videla -- a sharp critic of the government in recent months and one of the leaders in ousting Gen Laplane -- is reportedly an able leader and a professional soldier. His accession to the top position forced 3d Corps Commander Gen Delia Rocca into retirement along with Gen Laplane.

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~~(C/NED)~~ Although the President's action reduces the current crisis atmosphere, long-term political and economic problems facing the country remain unsolved. The outcome of the latest controversy is yet another example of her eroding authority and presages a future of succeeding crises.

~~(CDS 31 Dec 81)~~

SOURCES: Emb Buenos Aires 5747 27 Aug 75 and 5781  
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DIA FOIA 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3); 10 U.S.C. § 424

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