

#4-52

DIADIN 3332-75
19 DECEMBER 1975

~~SECRET~~



DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE NOTICE



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

Date: 19 Jan 2018 Authority: EO 13526

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Date: JAN 19 2018

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ACCESSION 000.1

19 Dec 75

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Page determined to be Unclassified
Reviewed Chief, RDD, WHS
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This Notice is designed to provide intelligence in support of future decisions with respect to security policy or posture.

ARGENTINA

AIR FORCE REVOLT ENDS.

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~~(S/NOFORN/WHINTEL)~~ The 18 December rebellion of air force officers has ended, but has resulted in the retirement of that service's pro-Peronist commander. Gen Hector Fautario, who has never been especially popular with his subordinates, has been replaced by Gen Orlando Ramon Agosti.

~~(S/NOFORN/WHINTEL)~~ Gen Fautario was released by his captives yesterday afternoon when they realized they could not win the support of all air force units or the army and navy. Soon after resuming his command, Fautario announced his retirement. Agosti's appointment in turn forced several other generals senior to him to resign.

~~(S/NOFORN/WHINTEL)~~ Although the rebels said they were motivated by recent "arbitrary" promotions and transfers, the motive for the act was probably Gen Cappellini's long-time personal conflict with Fautario. The former commander had reportedly learned that Cappellini was involved in coup plotting and asked him to accept an undesirable position abroad or retire -- setting the stage for Cappellini to lead the revolt. To gain support and justify their move the rebellious officers issued communiques asking the army and navy to join them in "overthrowing public authority to achieve the restoration of a new order with a national and Christian sense." They also demanded that Mrs. Peron be replaced by Army Commander Gen Videla who was in Caracas, Venezuela, during the uprising. The affair resulted in the army and navy being placed on alert; however, there is no evidence that any units of these services supported the rebels' call.

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(S//NOFORN//~~NOINTTEL~~) The revolt was probably carried out while Videla was out of the country because the general opposes military intervention at this time. The rebel officers apparently believed that during Videla's absence they could persuade the army and navy to support their move to oust Mrs. Peron, since they realized that no coup would likely succeed without army backing. Although the officers failed in this attempt, their cause still may not be lost. With Gen Agosti's reportedly strong anti-Peronist attitude, the day may be near when the army, navy, and air force can agree on a way to oust the discredited Peron government. ~~(NOFORN-2 Declassify upon notification of originator)~~

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DIA FOIA 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3); 10 U.S.C. § 424