

DIADIN 1638-75
9 JULY 1975

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DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE NOTICE



Office of the Secretary of Defense 5 U.S.C. § 552
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS +
Date: 12 APR 2018 Authority: EO 13526
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Date: APR 12 2018

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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 YIELDS TO LABOR DEMANDS.

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(S//NF) President Peron's 8 July capitulation to demands of organized labor jeopardizes her economic austerity program designed to stem inflation, halt the country's worsening trade deficit, and replenish its nearly depleted treasury. She will be hard pressed to devise a new scheme that will achieve these goals and still be acceptable to organized labor. Nevertheless, her approval of wage increases of up to 130 percent ended the crippling general strike, and communications, transportation, and utility services are being restored to normal.

(S//NF) The wage settlement will undoubtedly satisfy the rank and file, whose raises are in line with the increased cost of living. However, the issue of removing Social Welfare Minister Lopez Rega from power remains unclear. Unconfirmed reports indicate that he will be removed from the Cabinet position but stay on as Mrs. Peron's private secretary and adviser. If so, he would still control access to the President and continue to exercise considerable influence in national affairs. Unless Mrs. Peron restrains Lopez Rega's activities, his presence will remain a contentious issue, particularly in military and labor circles.

(S//NF) The events of the past several days have weakened the President's position. She has not only been forced to capitulate to labor but also left her major problem -- the status of Lopez Rega -- unresolved. In addition, the Senate on 8 July selected a constitutional successor to Mrs. Peron, a move she had consistently opposed. Senator Italo Luder, the new

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Provisional President of the Senate, will now be available to fill the post should Mrs. Peron leave office. ~~(SBS 31 Dec 81)~~

SOURCES: Emb Buenos Aires 4563 8 Jul 75 ~~(S)~~, and 4552 8 Jul 75 (U)

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

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