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**Secret**

3.5(c)

*PIA CI Brief 76-090*

~~**Secret**~~

- 2. SET MARGIN FOR 68 CHARACTERS TO A LINE, INCLUDING SPACES. DO NOT EXCEED THIS LIMITATION.
- 3. MESSAGES ARE CONSIDERED ROUTINE UNLESS A HIGHER PRECEDENCE IS INDICATED IN THE ADDRESS LINE.

← ALIGN FIRST LETTER IN THIS BOX. TYPE THE WORD "ALIGN" TO REGISTER HERE →

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# OUTGOING MESSAGE

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE BRIEF CI WHB 76-090.4

//ARGENTINA: HARD-LINE ARGENTINE MILITARY OFFICERS ARE TRYING TO FORCE PRESIDENT VIDELA TO TAKE A TOUGHER STAND ON SUBVERSION AND A VARIETY OF OTHER ISSUES. THIS COULD CONFRONT VIDELA WITH SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS AND DIVISIONS WITHIN THE MILITARY.//4

//VIDELA AND ADVISERS WHO SHARE HIS MODERATE AND METHODICAL APPROACH TOWARD NATIONAL REFORM ARE TRYING TO CURB THE ARBITRARY ARRESTS BY POLICE AND ARMED FORCES SECURITY SERVICES, COMPILE A LIST OF THOSE DETAINED, AND HALT VIGILANTE-STYLE ACTIVITIES AGAINST SUSPECTED AND KNOWN LEFTISTS BY SEMIOFFICIAL DEATH SQUADS.//4

//SOME OF VIDELA'S SUBORDINATES ALSO ARE ATTEMPTING TO WORK WITH PERONIST LABOR AND POLITICAL LEADERS IN THE HOPE OF EVENTUALLY BUILDING A BASE OF POPULAR SUPPORT FOR THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT. TO ACCOMPLISH THIS THEY REPORTEDLY BELIEVE THAT GOVERNMENT ECONOMIC POLICIES WILL HAVE TO BECOME MORE "POPULIST" IN ORIENTATION AND PROVIDE FOR A MORE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH.//4

//HARD-LINERS OPPOSED TO THESE AND OTHER GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS--RANGING FROM AMBASSADORIAL APPOINTMENTS TO REVISING FOREIGN INVEST-

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MENT LAWS--INCLUDE A NUMBER OF HIGH-RANKING ARMY OFFICERS WHO HAVE  
 A SYMPATHETIC JUNTA MEMBER IN ADMIRAL EMILIO MASSERA.//Y

//MASSERA AND HIS ARMY COLLEAGUES DO NOT APPEAR BENT ON OUSTING  
 VIDELA AS PRESIDENT, BUT RATHER ARE DETERMINED TO FORCE MODERATES  
 OUT OF THE PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE OF ADVISERS. ONLY THEN, THEY  
 APPARENTLY REASON, CAN THE GOVERNMENT IMPOSE DISCIPLINE ON THE  
 LABOR FORCE, DESTROY THE INFLUENCE OF CORRUPT AND IRRESPONSIBLE  
 POLITICIANS, AND ELIMINATE THE WELL-ENTRENCHED LEFTISTS.//Y

//THE JUNTA'S IMAGE IS ALREADY SUFFERING FROM ITS INABILITY TO  
 CONTROL RIGHT-WING TERRORISM. MOREOVER, LABOR AND POLITICAL LEADERS  
 ARE INCREASINGLY CONCERNED ABOUT VIDELA'S INABILITY TO ENFORCE THE  
 MODERATE LINE HE PROMISED ON TAKING OFFICE. ~~SECRET~~

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DATE: JUNE 9, 1976

UNIT: OCI/WHD

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