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2. //ARGENTINA: PRESIDENT PERON'S POSITION CONTINUES TO
 DETERIORATE, DESPITE HER GOVERNMENT'S SIGNIFICANT ANTI-GUERRILLA
 VICTORY.//

//PRESSURE ON THE ARMED FORCES TO INTERVENE IS GROWING,
 NOTWITHSTANDING THE CONVICTION OF TOP MILITARY LEADERS THAT
 THE TIME IS NOT YET RIPE. THE ARMY COMMANDER, GENERAL JORGE
 VIDELA, AND HIS COLLEAGUES HAVE NO CLEAR SOLUTION TO ARGENTINA'S
 PROBLEMS, AND THEY APPARENTLY FEAR THAT A NEW ERA OF MILITARY
 RULE COULD BE AS UNSUCCESSFUL AS EARLIER EXPERIMENTS. NEVERTHELESS,
 HARDLINERS WITHIN THE MILITARY WHO SEE A DIRECT TAKE-OVER AS THE
 ONLY WAY TO AVOID CONTINUING ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CHAOS ARE
 BOUND TO BE ENCOURAGED BY THE EROSION OF POPULAR SUPPORT FOR
 THE PERONISTS AND THE APPARENT LACK OF CONFIDENCE IN THE ABILITY
 OF CIVILIAN POLITICIANS TO FIND SOLUTIONS TO THE COUNTRY'S
 PROBLEMS.//

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//VIDELA REFLECTED ARMED FORCES DISSATISFACTION WITH THE PRESIDENT IN A CHRISTMAS EVE SPEECH IN WHICH HE ISSUED A SHARP WARNING TO HER GOVERNMENT. HE SAID THAT ANGER WITHIN THE SERVICES COULD BE ATTRIBUTED TO MISGOVERNMENT, ■CORRUPTION, AND A LACK OF NATIONAL LEADERSHIP. THE ARMY CHIEF TOOK ANOTHER SWIPE AT PERON BY SENDING A TELEGRAM TO ONE OF HER BITTER ENEMIES—THE PERONIST GOVERNOR OF BUENOS AIRES PROVINCE—CONGRATULATING HIM FOR HELPING TO CRUSH TUESDAY NIGHT'S GUERRILLA ATTACKS. THE GOVERNOR, WHO HAS BEEN MENTIONED AS A POSSIBLE SUCCESSOR TO PERON, WAS RECENTLY OUSTED FROM THE PERONIST PARTY FOR ADVOCATING HER REMOVAL. ■■//

//CONGRESSIONAL DEMANDS FOR A CHANGE IN THE EXECUTIVE BY CONSTITUTIONAL MEANS ARE CERTAIN TO BE STEPPED UP IN THE WEEKS AHEAD. LEGISLATORS INTRODUCED A MOTION YESTERDAY CALLING FOR PERON'S IMPEACHMENT. THE LIKELIHOOD FO A CIVILIAN POLITICAL SOLUTION IS DWINDLING, HOWEVER. UNLESS THE POLITICIANS ACT

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SOON, THE PROSPECT WILL INCREASE FOR ■YET ANOTHER MILITARY
 ATTEMPT TO FORCE PERON FROM OFFICE. [] 3.5(c)
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