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BRIEF 140054Z DIRECTOR 614472
TO: EUROPEAN BRIEF.

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EUROPEAN BRIEF CO EB 80-031 FOR 13 FEBRUARY 1980

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3. INTERNATIONAL: //INITIAL REACTIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S THIRD ANNUAL REPORT ON WORLDWIDE HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES HAVE BEEN MODERATE.//(C NF)

//MANY COUNTRIES SEEM RESIGNED TO THE YEARLY "SCORE-CARD" WHILE OTHERS HAVE TRIED OVER THE LAST THREE YEARS TO IMPROVE THEIR IMAGE. ARGENTINE PRESIDENT VIDELA, WHO BELIEVES THAT THE REPORT REFLECTED PROGRESS IN HIS COUNTRY ON HUMAN RIGHTS, AUTHORIZED THE TRANSLATION AND PUBLICATION OF THE SECTION ON ARGENTINA IN ALL LOCAL PAPERS.// (C NF)

//THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT, REITERATING THE POSITION ADOPTED LAST YEAR, SAID THAT IT WOULD TAKE NO OFFICIAL NOTICE OF A FOREIGN REPORT THAT DEALT WITH THE COUNTRY'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS. BRAZILIAN PRESS ACCOUNTS OF THE REPORT TENDED TO EMPHASIZE THE GENERALLY POSITIVE THRUST OF THE SECTION ON BRAZIL. (C NF)

//IN CHILE, MEDIA REACTION WAS LOW-KEY, WITH ONE GOVERNMENT-OWNED NEWSPAPER CHARACTERIZING THE OVERALL REPORT AS "OPTIMISTIC." A GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL, HOWEVER, ASSERTED THAT THE REPORT WOULD STRENGTHEN THOSE FORCES ARGUING AGAINST IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH THE US.//(C NF)

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