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POL

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

DATE: December 5, 1978
PARTICIPANTS. Carlos Fernandez of Conviccion and
 APAO John Corr
SUBJECT: The Beagle Situation, Timerman,
 USSR Influence in Argentina
PLACE: American Club, Buenos Aires

Fernandez said.

There would be no major Army command changes (and
probably no major Air Force or Navy command changes)
until the Beagle situation has been settled.

The Government has "suggested" to the press that the
Beagle situation be downplayed until the Argentine and
Chilean foreign ministers meet December 12. There are
rumors that the Argentines will seize one of the dis-
puted islands the day before the December 12 meeting.

General Bignone has said that there is nothing to the
reports that Timerman will be released. (Comment: there
is some doubt as to whether Timerman wants to be released
now. La Opinion, for all practical purposes, is being
run by Timerman's long-time aide there, the newspaper's
principal accountant. The Army apparently has decided
that an interventor is not needed at La Opinion.

An export firm headed by a pro-Soviet Argentine by the
name of Monzon is exporting "strategic material" acid
manufactured by Fabricaciones Militares to East Germany.

There is a rumor that munitions shipment recently
arrived from Hungary.

The local Tass man frequently visits Ricardo Camara
of Conviccion.

cc:
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DCM
POL ✓
DAO
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INR RAR

- Copy of letter written to the following
senators and congressmen: "

Jacob Javits; Abraham Ribicoff;
Dante Fascell; Lago Marino; Gus Yaton;
Ben Gilman; Silvio Conde.