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WESTERN HEMISPHERE BRIEF 124-75.4

1. ARGENTINA: A SENIOR ARGENTINE DIPLOMAT HAS TOLD AMBASSADOR HILL THAT HE EXPECTS PRESIDENT MARIA ESTELA PERON TO ANNOUNCE A CABINET REORGANIZATION EARLY THIS WEEK.4

RUMORS OF ANOTHER CABINET SHAKEUP HAVE BEEN GIVEN SOME CREDENCE BY PRESIDENT PERON'S MEETING ON AUGUST 20 WITH FOREIGN MINISTER VIGNES AND FORMER DEFENSE MINISTER ROBLEDO, WHO RETURNED FROM BRAZIL WHERE HE TOOK UP HIS POST AS AMBASSADOR ON JULY 30.4

THERE HAVE BEEN TWO CABINET SHAKEUPS WITHIN THE PAST MONTH IN AN EFFORT BY THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISERS TO HALT THE PROLONGED POLITICAL INFIGHTING AND ECONOMIC DETERIORATION THAT HAS WEAKENED THE GOVERNMENT. KEY ADVISERS ARE PROBABLY URGING THE PRESIDENT TO FILL TOP POSTS WITH PERSONS HAVING ENOUGH STATURE TO DEAL WITH THE COUNTRY'S SERIOUS PROBLEMS AND TO HELP RESTORE CONFIDENCE IN THE PERONIST GOVERNMENT AT HOME AND ABROAD.4

IT IS LIKELY TO BECOME INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT, HOWEVER, TO FIND CAPABLE INDIVIDUALS WILLING TO ASSOCIATE THEMSELVES WITH THE PERON GOVERNMENT.

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