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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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IN THE EMBASSY'S COMMERCIAL LIBRARY, MASSERA INDICATED THAT WOULD BE FINE AND THAT HE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING SUCH A LIST "WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS".

3. MASSERA SAID MILITARY WERE FULLY AWARE OF THE NEED TO AVOID HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS SHOULD THEY HAVE TO TAKE POWER. HE SAID ARGENTINE MILITARY INTERVENTION IF IT COMES WILL NOT FOLLOW THE LINES OF THE PINOCHET TAKEOVER IN CHILE. RATHER, HE SAID, THEY WILL TRY TO PROCEED WITHIN THE LAW AND WITH FULL RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. THIS DID NOT MEAN, HE SAID, THAT THEY WOULD FULLY REFRAIN FROM THE WAR AGAINST THE TERRORISTS; ON THE CONTRARY, THEY INTENDED TO STEP UP THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM AND SUBVERSION, BUT THEY WOULD DO SO WITHIN THE LAW. THEY HAD NO INTENTION OF RESORTING TO VIGILANTE-TYPE ACTIVITIES, TAKING EXTRA-LEGAL REPRISALS OR OF TAKING ACTION AGAINST UNINVOLVED CIVILIANS. THE MILITARY MUST HAVE TO MOVE, HE SAID, THEIR INTENTION IS TO DO SO IN THE MOST "DEMOCRATIC" AND MODERATE MANNER POSSIBLE. HE NOTED THAT THEY ARE HAVING SOME DIFFICULTIES RESTRAINING HOT HEADS, BUT EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO DO SO.

4. MASSERA SAID HE HESITATED TO RAISE SUBJECT WITH ME BUT THAT AT SAME TIME HE WISHED TO ASSURE ME AND REPS OF OTHER GOVTS THAT IF MILITARY FEEL CALLED UPON TO MOVE THEY WILL NOT HARM MRS. PERON. HE SAID THIS WAS A KNOTTY PROBLEM BUT THAT THE THINKING OF THE THREE CINCS AT THE MOMENT WAS THAT PROBABLY BEST THING WOULD BE THAT MRS. PERON SIMPLY LEAVE THE COUNTRY. ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE WERE MANY WITHIN THE MILITARY WHO WISHED TO TAKE STRONGER ACTION AGAINST HER. A POSSIBLE COMPROMISE SOLUTION WOULD BE TO DETAIN HER IN ARGENTINA ON MARTIN GARCIA ISLAND OR IN SOME MILITARY RESORT AREA SUCH AS ASCOCHINGA UNTIL SUCH TIME AS FINAL DETERMINATION AS TO HER FUTURE COULD BE MADE.

5. COMMENT: ADMIRAL MASSERA WAS VERY CORRECT THROUGHOUT THE CONVERSATION. HE SCRUPULOUSLY PLACED ALL HIS COMMENTS IN THE CONDITIONAL TENSE, AND SEVERAL TIMES EMPHASIZED THAT HE WAS ONLY SPEAKING OF HYPOTHETICAL POSSIBILITIES. NONETHELESS, POL. COUNS AND I HAD DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT MASSERA WAS TALKING ABOUT A COUP WHICH WILL PROBABLY COME WITHIN THE

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