CONFIDENTIAL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PIN, AR

SUBJECT: JUNTA ELABORATING SECURITY POLICIES

1. AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN COMMUNIQUES ESTABLISHING NEW
LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF NEW GOVERNMENT IS SERIES OF COMMUNIQUES
DEALING WITH THE GENERAL "PROBLEM" OF SECURITY. FROM
ANALYSIS OF THOSE ISSUED SO FAR IT APPEARS JUNTA HAS TWO
PRINCIPAL AIMS: 1) TO ESTABLISH LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR
DEALING WITH LEFTIST TERRORISTS, AND 2) TO OUTLAW UNION,
TRIPLE A AND OTHER VIGILANTE-STYLE GROUPS PREVALENT DURING
PERONIST PERIOD.

2. WITH RESPECT TO TERRORISTS, THE JUNTA HAS ISSUED A
COMMUNIQUE WITH "THE FORCE OF LAW" WHICH PROVIDES LONG
PRISON TERMS OR THE DEATH PENALTY FOR THOSE WHO INCITE TO
VIOLENCE (10-YEAR IMPRISONMENT), ATTACK IN ANY FORM
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATIONS, POWER STATIONS, GAS AND
WATER WORKS OR OTHER PUBLIC SERVICES (INDEFINITE PRISON
OR DEATH). FOR CONTAMINATING OR POISONING WATER, FOOD OR
MEDICINAL SUPPLIES, THE PENALTY WILL BE LONG-TERM PRISON OR
DEATH. IN ADDITION, VIOLENT ACTS WHICH RESULT IN SERIOUS
INJURY OR DEATH TO MILITARY, POLICE FORCES OR THE GENERAL
PUBLIC WILL SIMILARLY BE SUBJECT TO THE DEATH PENALTY.

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AIDING AND ABETTING ANY OF THE ABOVE ACTS WILL SUBJECT VIOLATORS TO PRISON TERMS OF UP TO 26 YEARS. THE COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCING ABOVE PENALTIES ADDS THAT SPECIAL "WAR COUNCILS" WILL BE ESTABLISHED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CODE OF MILITARY JUSTICE TO JUDGE INNOCENCE OR GUILT OF ACCUSED PERSONS AND CARRY OUT THE SENTENCES IN THE CASES OF GUILTY VERDICTS. THE ANNOUNCED CODE WILL APPLY TO ALL PERSONS ABOVE 16 YEARS OF AGE.

3. IN A COMMUNIQUE AIMED PRIMARILY AT DISARMING THE IRREGULAR POLICE FORCES, INNUMERABLE BODY GUARD GROUPS AND TRIPLE-A TERRORISTS, THE JUNTA HAS WITH "FORCE OF LAW" MADE THE UNAUTHORIZED POSSESSION OF ARMS, EXPLOSIVES AND RELATED MATERIALS A CRIME PUNISHABLE BY 10 YEARS' IMPRISONMENT. USE OF FIREARMS, EXPLOSIVES, ETC., IN ANY ILLEGAL ACT WILL RESULT IN THE APPLICATION OF INDEFINITE JAIL TERMS TO THOSE ACCUSED. THE LAW ADDS FURTHER THAT THE TRANSPORTATION, MANUFACTURE OR SUPPLYING OF ARMS WILL ALSO LEAD TO LONG-TERM JAIL PENALTIES. THOUGH NOT SPECIFICALLY STATED IN THE TEXT OF THE COMMUNIQUE, IT APPEARS THIS LAW WILL BE APPLIED BY THE SPECIAL MILITARY COURTS. A SECOND COMMUNIQUE WILL REQUIRE ALL PRIVATE SECURITY SERVICES TO REREISTER THEIR EMPLOYEES WITHIN 10 DAYS.

4. IN RELATED DEVELOPMENT THE JUNTA FIRED ALL FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL SUPREME COURT JUSTICES AND PLACED LOWER COURT JUDGES UNDER JUNTA AUTHORITY. IN ADDITION, THE SPECIAL COURTS ESTABLISHED UNDER THE PERONIST GOVERNMENT TO TRY LABOR LEADERS WERE DECLARED UNCONSTITUTIONAL, THUS PLACING LABOR LEADERS IN SAME LEGAL PLANE AS ORDINARY CITIZENS.

5. COMMENT: LOCAL PRESS HAS ALREADY NOTED THAT TWO COMMUNIQUES IN ONE FELL SWOOP GIVE MILITARY POWERS THEY HAD Sought FROM CONGRESS FOR OVER TWO YEARS TO DEAL WITH PROBLEM OF VIOLENCE IN ARGENTINA. THESE TWO COMMUNIQUES NOW GIVE THE MILITARY ALL THEY WANTED UNDER CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT AND MORE. ENCOURAGINGLY, MOST OBSERVERS HERE ARE INTERPRETING THESE LAWS AS AN ATTEMPT TO BRING FORMAL LEGAL CODES INTO PLAY RATHER THAN APPLYING VIGILANTE-STYLE TACTICS OF TRIPLE-A ORGANIZATION.

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