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CDSN = CFS8288  MCN = 94339/32744  TOR = 943392332
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HEADER
R 052331Z DEC 94
FM DIA WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC
RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC
RUEACMC/CMC WASHINGTON DC
RHLBAAK/CDRUSARSO MAXI FT CLAYTON PM//SOIN-IDI//
RUWMBKA/12AIMS DAVIS MONTAN AFB AZ
RUETIAQ/MPC FT GEORGE G MEADE MD
RUCBSAA/CINCUSACOM NORFOLK VA//J2//
RUWMSXT/AMC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//IN//
RUCQVAB/USCINCSCOT INTEL OPS CEN MACDILL AFB FL
RUEHC /SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC
RUDMQAN/MARCORINTACT DET QUANTICO VA
RUDMGRD/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC
RULKNIS/DIRNAVCRIMINVSERV WASHINGTON DC//NAVATAC/22//
RUEALGSEX/SAFE
R 052022Z DEC 94

TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC
INFO RUDMONI/ONI SUITLAND MD
RUEHME/USDAO MEXICO CITY
RUEAHQA/SAF WASHDC//IAL
RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC//DHO-5
RUCJAAA/USCINCSCOT MACDILL AFB FL//J2
RUEOFAA/COMJSOC FT BRAGG NC//J2
RHLBAK/USCINCSCOT SCJ2//QUARRY HEIGHTS PM
RUEADWD/DA WASHDC//DAMO-SSM/DAMI-FI
RHLBAAF/CM0470THMIBDE

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CONTROLS

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 02

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SERIAL: (U) IIR

************* THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *************

BODY
COUNTRY: (U) ARGENTINA (AR), MEXICO (MX).

SUBJ: IIR ARGENTINE MILITARY ADVISORS IN
CHIAPAS (U)

CONFIDENTIAL
WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT
FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED
CONFIDENTIAL.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 941202.

REQS: (U)

SOURCE: A. (U)

B. (U) DAILY NEWSPAPER, "CLARIN", BUENOS AIRES,
ARGENTINA, 941230 (U), IN SPANISH. INDEPENDENT,
MODERATE NEWSPAPER WITH NATIONALISTIC ORIENTATION WHICH
PRESENTS A WIDE RANGE OF VIEWS AND INFORMATION CRITICAL
OF MENEM ADMINISTRATION. INFLUENTIAL WITH TOP
POLICYMAKERS, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, POLITICIANS, AND
THE MILITARY.

C. (U) DAILY NEWSPAPER, "BUENOS AIRES HERALD", BUENOS
AIRES, ARGENTINA, 941202 (U), IN SPANISH. INDEPENDENT,
LIBERAL NEWSPAPER WHICH HAS BEEN A FIRM DEFENDER OF
HUMAN RIGHTS AND A FREQUENT CRITIC OF THE GOVERNMENT.
CONSIDERED INFLUENTIAL WITH POLICYMAKERS, POLITICIANS,
MILITARY OFFICERS, AND BUSINESSMEN.

SUMMARY: (U) MINISTRY OF DEFENSE DENIES REPORTS OF
ACTIVE DUTY ARGENTINE MILITARY ACTING AS ADVISORS TO
MEXICAN ARMED FORCES IN THE MEXICAN STATE OF CHIAPAS.

TEXT: 1. (O) ARGENTINE SPECIALISTS IN URBAN GUERRILLA
WARFARE ARE REPORTED TO BE ACTING AS ADVISORS TO
MEXICAN MILITARY AND POLICE FORCES IN THEIR FIGHT
AGAINST THE ZAPATISTA NATIONAL LIBERATION ARMY IN THE
SOUTHERN MEXICAN STATE OF CHIAPAS. ARGENTINE MINISTER
OF DEFENSE, OSCAR ((CAMILLION)) PUBLICLY DENIED THAT ANY
ACTIVE DUTY ARGENTINE MILITARY FORCES WERE OPERATING IN
MEXICO AS EITHER OBSERVERS OR ADVISORS. HIS DENIAL,
HOWEVER, LEFT OPEN THE POSSIBILITY THAT EITHER FORMER
MILITARY OFFICERS OR RETIRED MILITARY OFFICERS MAY BE
WORKING IN MEXICO WITHOUT THE OFFICIAL SANCTION OF THE
ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT.

2. (U) IN MARCH OF 1994, THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT WAS
REPORTED TO HAVE SENT A DELEGATION TO BUENOS AIRES TO
OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE METHODS USED IN ARGENTINA
DURING THE WAR AGAINST SUBVERSION OF "DIRTY WAR" OF THE 1970'S. MANY OF THE ARGENTINE MILITARY OFFICERS WHO WERE THE LEADERS DURING THE DIRTY WAR WERE FOUND GUILTY OF HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES, SENTENCED TO JAIL, AND DISCHARGED FROM THE MILITARY. ALTHOUGH THEIR JAIL SENTENCES WERE LATTER PARDONED BY PRESIDENTIAL DECREE, THEY WERE NOT REINDUCTED INTO THE MILITARY. CAMILION WAS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT IT WOULD NOT BE STRANGE FOR SUCH UNEMPLOYED MILITARY OFFICERS TO PACK THEIR BAGS AND WORK IN MEXICO.

COMMENTS: 1. THE ARGENTINE MILITARY HAS KEPT A WATCHFUL EYE ON THE DEVELOPMENTS OF THE MEXICAN UPRISING IN CHIAPAS. THEY ARE CONCERNED THAT THE TYPE OF SOCIAL FORCES THAT CREATED THE ZAPATISTA NATIONAL LIBERATION ARMY MAY ALSO EXIST IN ARGENTINA. THEY POINT TO THE PUBLIC RIOTS IN SANTIAGO DEL ESTERO (CITE IIRS) AS CLEAR EXAMPLES OF THE POTENTIAL FOR WIDESPREAD CIVIL DISTURBANCE IN ARGENTINA.

2.

3. WHILE THE ARGENTINE MILITARY IS PREVENTED BY CONSTITUTIONAL LAW FROM DOING ANYTHING MORE THAN PROVIDING LOGISTICAL SUPPORT FOR POLICE FORCES TASKED TO QUELL DOMESTIC INSURRECTIONS, THEY FEEL THAT A FAILURE OF THE ZAPATISTAS WOULD ACT AS A DETERRENT FOR ANY POTENTIAL ARGENTINE INTERNAL POLITICAL VIOLENCE AND WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF ARGENTINA.

4. EVEN IF ARGENTINE EX-MILITARY LEADERS ARE ACTING AS URBAN GUERILLA WARFARE EXPERTS IN MEXICO, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE ARGENTINE MILITARY WOULD BECOME INVOLVED IN PROGRAMS TO QUELL DOMESTIC UPRISINGS, GIVEN THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROHIBITION AGAINST THEIR PARTICIPATION EXCEPT FOR SPECIFIC LOGISTICAL FUNCTIONS.