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* LEADING PERSONALITIES IN *
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LEADING PERSONALITIES IN ARGENTINA 1981

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CONFIDENTIAL

GOVERNMENT OF ARGENTINA

MILITARY JUNTA

Commander in Chief of the Army

Teniente General D Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri

Commander in Chief of the Navy

Almirante D Armando Lambruschini

Commander in Chief of the Air Force

Brigadier General D Omar D Graffigna

PRESIDENT

General (R) Roberto E Viola

MINISTERS

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship

Dr Oscar Camilión

Minister of the Interior

General Horacio Liendo

Minister of Justice

Dr Amadeo Frugoli

Minister of Defence

Rear Admiral Norberto Manuel Couto

Minister of Economy, Treasury & Finance

Dr Lorenzo Sigaut

Minister of Education and Culture

Sr Carlos Burundarena

Minister of Labour

Brigadier Julio César Porcile

Minister of Social Action

Admiral Carlos Alberto Lacoste

Minister of Public Works

General Diego Ernesto Urricariet

Minister of Trade and Maritime Interests

Dr Carlos Garcia Martínez

Minister of Industry and Mining

Sr Eduardo Valentín Oxenford

Minister of Public Health and the Environment

Brigadier Amilcar Argüelles

Minister of Agriculture and Livestock

Sr Jorge Ruben Aguado

Chief of Army General Staff

General de División D José Antonio Vaquero

Chief of Naval General Staff

Vicealmirante D Jorge I Anaya

Chief of Staff of Air Force

Brigadier Mayor D Hipolito Rafael Mariani

5 CONFEDERACION NACIONAL DE TRABAJO (CNT)

Generally moderate, anti-Verticalist (qv) section of the trade union movement, although its leaders have been at pains to deny accusations that it is an 'officialist' grouping. In early 1981 it formed an alliance with the Group of 20 unions to counter the newly-named Confederación General de Trabajo (CGT) (qv). The official Argentine union delegation to the Annual ILO Conference in Geneva in June 1981 was drawn from the CNT-20 group.

6 DESARROLLISMO (From "desarrollo" - development)

Usually equated with the economic policies of the Frondizi (qv) Government, desarrollismo is a sub-sector of economic nationalism which gives the highest priority to the development of national economic resources, financed by public sector deficit spending. Also known as "frigerismo" from Rogelio Frigerio, Frondizi's effective but reputedly larcenous Minister of the Economy.

7 EJERCITO REVOLUCIONARIO DEL PUEBLO (ERP)

Armed extension of the marxist-leninist, originally trotskyist Partido Revolucionario de los Trabajadores (PRT). By far the most effective of the Latin American subversive organisations formed in emulation of the Cuban revolution and its Argentine born hero "Ché" Guevara. Officially formed in mid-1970 but training of ERP military cadres in Cuba preceded this by several years. Both the PRT and the ERP were founded and led by the late Mario Roberto Santucho (killed in July 1976), whose political activism started among the cane-workers of Tucumán in the mid 60's. Broke with the Trotskyist 4th International in 1973. Responsible for many spectacular urban terrorist acts, the ERP in 1974 opened a rural front in Tucumán; this led to the deaths of many activists at the hands of the Army in a brutal campaign of repression; and to a constant financial drain on the ERP. During 1976 the elaborate infrastructure of "people's prisons", printing presses, training establishments and arsenals which had been built up during the days of the Campora (qv) presidency, was broken up by the Army while counter-terrorist groups ruthlessly eliminated sympathisers. As a result of these measures, the ERP has virtually ceased to exist. Only a few activists are still alive, usually abroad, and the organisation can only count upon a few hundred sympathisers within the country. It is unlikely to regroup in the foreseeable future, although former members may continue to carry out isolated acts of sabotage from time to time.

8 FUERZA FEDERALISTA POPULAR (FUFEPO)

A federation of regional political parties which sent members to the last Congress. With the Radicals in a position of conditional support in the Congress for the Peronists, the FUFEPO members made up the largest single opposition grouping in the last Congress. They were active in achieving the ejection of José Lopez Rega. In the election campaign of 1973, they were approached by Manrique and the APF (qv) but only gave limited support to this grouping. Unlike the APF, FUFEPO remains active based on its governing committee of 14 former provincial Governors chaired by Horacio Guzman (Jujuy). One of its most active adherents, former Governor of Santa Cruz and editor of the weekly Confirmado, Horacio Argulla, was murdered in bizarre and unexplained circumstances in August 1978. The FUFEPO could achieve prominence in the future through its open support for the policies of the present military Government. Several of its leaders, notably Cristina Guzman de Andreussi (qv) are closely associated with President Viola (qv).

9 FRENTE JUSTICIALISTA DE LIBERACION (FREJULI)

Coalition and bandwagon formed by Péron's supporters for the elections of 1973. Dominated by the Peronist Partido Justicialista (qv) it included the MID (qv) led by Frondizi (qv) and the Popular Conservatives led by Solano Lima (qv). In March 1973 FREJULI won the

15 "LIBERALISMO"

Used only as an economic term. In contrast to "nacionalismo", it leans towards a free market economy, open to foreign investment but with the State retaining overall direction. It was the philosophy of Martínez de Hoz (qv) and his team, and is the ideology of the "gorilas" (qv).

16 MONTONEROS

Neo-Peronist terrorist group with some recent leanings towards Marxism-Leninism. The largest of the Argentine terrorist organisations, rivalling the ERP (qv) in the effectiveness of its urban terrorism but not sharing the ERP's fatal commitment to a Guevarist rural guerrilla. The original Montoneros, notably the late Abal Medina and its present leader Mario Firmenich (qv) grew up politically as fascistic nationalist Catholics. Dominating the JP (qv), the Montoneros staged a mass walk-out in May 1974, leading some 30,000 people away from a rally being addressed by Perón. The organisation declared war on the Government of "Isabelita" Perón (qv) by going underground in September 1974. The Montoneros then moved towards an alliance with the ERP (qv), but after a disastrous combined operation in December 1975, this development ceased.

During 1976 and 1977 the Montoneros were gradually liquidated by the combined efforts of the Armed Forces and police. The majority of activists were killed or captured and the remainder, including Mario Firmenich, chose to flee abroad rather than face the same fate. The sympathisers of the organisation, who may have numbered almost 50,000 in 1974, have since melted away leaving a small hard core to carry out occasional acts of violence.

From exile the leaders of the Montoneros attempted to present themselves as a democratic alternative to the Videla administration – an unconvincing scenario in view of their record. They were blamed for three serious attacks on government officials in late 1979.

17 MOVIMIENTO DE INTEGRACION Y DESARROLLO (MID)

Formed by Frondizi (qv) in 1963 when he led a faction away from the UCR. The party was a catch-all for those Radicals who leaned towards Peronism and it included some Peronists. It ran fourth in the 1965 elections.

The MID became unenthusiastic about elections (partly because of its lack of electoral appeal) but eventually threw in its lot with the Peronists in 1973. It gained very little from this – no Ministerial posts, a few seats in Congress plus one Provincial Governorship. Since 1976 it has acted as a political pressure group. Frondizi has an entourage of advisers and supporters, but the party has no real power base. Nonetheless, President Viola's government has a number of MID representatives, such as Foreign Minister Camilión.

18 "NACIONALISMO"

Opposite of "liberalismo" (qv). Economic views favouring protectionism and autarchy. Varying shades of "nacionalismo" have been the economic policies of Peronism and of the UCR (qv).

19 PARTIDO INTRANSIGENTE (PI)

Main constituent in the APR (qv). This left-wing party has its origins in the Intransigent faction (UCRI) led by Frondizi (qv) which broke away from the Radicals (UCR) in 1957. Later suffered the MID (qv) split. The cause of these splits was personalities and the struggle for

AGUADO, SR JORGE RUBEN

Minister of Agriculture and Livestock since March 1981.

Born 1925, married with four children.

Sr Aguado has long been prominent in farming circles. His first appointment to an agricultural association was when he became President of the Buenos Aires Confederated Youth Farming Association in 1956. More recently he has been Chairman of the Confederation of Buenos Aires and La Pampa Farming Associations (1974-78) and, since 1979, President of the Argentine Farming Confederations. From 1976 to 1979 he was also an adviser of farming matters to the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange.

Sr Aguado is widely expected to be a strong defender of agricultural interests within the Viola Administration.

ALENDE, DR OSCAR E

President of the Partido Intransigente (qv).

Born in 1909, married to Elena Felicia née Vicario; 2 adult sons.

Trained as a surgeon. Alende was the Argentine representative to the Congress of the International Society of Surgery in New Orleans in 1949. Elected Provincial Deputy for Buenos Aires 1948-52 and National Deputy for the same constituency 1952-55. Governor of the Province of Buenos Aires 1958-62, which served as a spring-board for his Presidential campaign of 1963 in which he came a close second to Dr Illia (qv).

A benevolent, grandfatherly man. Alende suffers in the eyes of the present Government from his past association with the Communists. But he remains a leader of the "respectable" left, and although he is unlikely to hold any important position in national life, he may play a minor role in any future return to formal democracy.

ALLENDE, JOSE ANTONIO

Ex-FREJULI (qv) national senator for Cordoba, President of the Popular Christian Party.

Born in 1917, married to Diana Martinez née Paz, five children.

Graduated as a lawyer, he has been active in Latin American Christian Democrat affairs and was invited by the CDU to West Germany in 1969. He holds the Chair for American Political and Social Studies at the Catholic University of Cordoba. In May 1973 he was elected First Vice-President (acting President) of the Senate, but was later treacherously ousted by the Peronists in order to leave the post vacant.

A sadder but not much wiser man following his involvement in FREJULI (qv), he remains the leading figure among progressive Catholic politicians and will no doubt play some part in any future return to electoral politics.

ALSOGARAY, ING ALVARO CARLOS

Ex-Minister of the Economy, economist and writer. Leading exponent of the "social economy of the market".

Born 1913, married to Edith Lea Ana née Gay, three children. A Diplomat daughter married to Francisco Erizé (Jr).

Grandson and son of Army Officers, and brother of Julio Rodolfo, ex-Army Commander, he began a potentially brilliant military career by graduating from the Military Academy having been first in his year throughout. He transferred to the Air Force where he was put in charge of matériel. He resigned his commission in 1946 (the year Perón first became President) and dedicated himself very successfully to commercial aviation. Following the overthrow of Perón in 1955, he was first Under-Secretary at the Ministry of Commerce, and then Minister during 1956.

In 1959 President Frondizi (qv) appointed him Minister of the Economy, a post he held until 1961, returning to it in 1962 during the brief Presidency of Guido. He has stood unsuccessfully for election as President and as National Deputy, leading mini-parties formed by himself. Frequent commentator on the nation's economic affairs.

He has visited Britain twice, suffering a heart-attack or a stroke (reports differ) while in Scotland in 1976.

ARGÜELLES, BRIGADIER AMILCAR

Minister of Public Health since March 1981.

Born 1918; married with three children. Suffers from delicate health.

Having obtained an MD from the University of Buenos Aires, Brigadier Argüelles joined the Air Force in 1959 with the rank of Flight Lieutenant in the Health Division. He was promoted to Wing Commander (Vicecomodoro) in 1954 and to Group Captain (Comodoro) in 1958. In 1959 he was appointed Vice Director of the General Health Directorate of the Air Force and in 1962 he was promoted to Director of the same Unit. He became an Air Commodore (Brigadier) on 31 December 1963, and applied for retirement in February 1967.

Brigadier Argüelles was Professor of Endocrinology in the College of Medicine of the University del Salvador. In 1960 he was awarded a scholarship from the French Government to attend courses at the College of Medicine of Paris, and in 1966 he was visiting professor at the Department of Pathological Chemistry, London University. He is a member of the New York Academy of Social Sciences and of the International Academy of Aerospace Medicine. In 1980 he was appointed member of the National Academy of Sciences of Buenos Aires. He has published 216 scientific papers locally and abroad, and has co-authored five books.

BALBIN, DR RICARDO

President of the UCR (qv). *Died 9 September 1987*

Born in 1904, married to Indalia Elene née Ponzetti, three adult children.

Studied Law and Social Sciences in La Plata, graduating in 1926. From 1946-49 he was national Deputy for Buenos Aires Province, during which time he was a vehement anti-Peronist. Presidential candidate in 1951, 1958 and twice in 1973, on the latter occasion sharing the ticket with De La Rúa (qv).

A life-long politician whose considerable ego was a contributing factor to the split with Frondizi (qv) with whom he shared the UCR ticket in 1951. A representative leader of the UCR, whose lack of firm policies suits him perfectly. Parochial and purely tactical, Balbin refused to attack the excesses of the Peronist regime because he wanted to have another chance to stand for the National Presidency. Has maintained his position at the expense of his party's expansion, and is seen by the more dynamic wing of the UCR (see Alfonsín) as a machine politician, retaining control of the UCR without any idea of what to do with it. In April 1980 he visited Spain and Italy, where he was received by the Pope.

BURUNDARENA, CARLOS

Minister of Education and Culture since March 1981.

Born 1921, married with seven children.

Ing Burundarena is a Telecommunications Engineer by training. After graduating from the University of Buenos Aires in 1950 he became Professor of Radio Technology in the prestigious Escuela Ingeniero Huergo. From 1956-64 he taught in the Army's Higher Technical School and from 1969-79 was Professor of Microwaves in the Engineering Faculty in the University of Buenos Aires. He has also held a number of other university posts. From 1976-80 he was interventor of the National Council of Technical Education and in 1980 he became rector of the National Technological University. He has also worked in the private sector during which time he was involved in setting up the Air Force's radar system.

Ing Burundarena has studied in several other countries and is fluent in English, French, Italian and German. He is believed to have belonged to a Nazi organisation during his youth.

BUSSI, GENERAL DE DIVISION ANTONIO DOMINGO

Commander of I Corps.

Born 1926, married with four children.

General Bussi entered the Military College in 1944 and graduated as an Infantry Officer two years later. In 1972 General Bussi was appointed, as a Colonel, to the influential post of Secretary of Army Headquarters in 1972. He was thus at the centre of the Argentine military-political stage during the return of former President Perón. Following promotion to Brigadier-General he was appointed in 1976 to command the V Infantry Brigade in the North West. His ruthless suppression of the ERP (qv) Guerrilla Movement, and highly efficient management of the province of Tucuman, brought him to public attention. As a result he is probably one of the best known senior military officers outside the Army.

In 1978 he served as the No 2 in Army Training Command where the lessons of Tucuman became enshrined in Army doctrine. He was promoted from this in turn to be Director of the Gendarmería (1979), Commander of III Corps in Cordoba (1980) and finally to Commander of I Corps in Buenos Aires in 1981.

In his present position, and as a personal friend and confidant of President Viola, he is well placed to exert both military and political influence on national affairs.

CARRANZA, FLORENCIO

Secretary-General of the Commerce Workers Confederation, Leader of the Argentine delegation to the WCFTU.

Approximately 45 years old, married. Took over leadership of the Confederation from Diskin, Miguel's (qv) nominee, in December 1975 by winning control of the credentials committee and impugning those of several delegations committed to Diskin.

Of the seven major trade unions, his was the only one not "intervened" (qv) after the military coup of March 1976. Recognising the inevitable, he had made a prior deal with the military to co-operate. Also, the Confederation is a non-"verticalista" (qv), Peronist labour association with a diffuse chain of command and is thus a very difficult organisation to "intervene". Carranza is not a Government stooge, (his house was blown up, purportedly by the Navy, in 1976), but since the Confederation was a pioneer of Argentina labour in the WCFTU, he has travelled abroad to represent Argentine labour several times since the coup. He has a vision of Peronism evolving towards a structure similar to that of the British Labour Party. Unlike most Peronist labour bosses, he is not a gangster. With his established international connections and his firm base in the Confederation, he is likely to be an influential figure in Argentina's reviving trade union life.

CASAS, VICE-ADMIRAL JORGE DEMITRIO

Secretary General of the Navy.

Born 1927.

Admiral Casas graduated from the Naval College as a Marine in 1945 and subsequently followed a conventional Naval career. He became a Commander in 1960, a Captain in 1972, a Rear Admiral in 1976 and a Vice Admiral in 1979. He is one of a surprisingly large number of Marine Officers who at present hold the rank of Admiral.

He is a serious but intelligent man. He speaks very little English.

CRESPI, GENERAL DE DIVISION EDUARDO ALBERTO

Director General of Fabricaciones Militares (FM).

Born 31 October 1928 in Rosario; married to Estela Graciela del Perpetuo Socorro with two grown-up sons.

General de División Crespi was commissioned into the Artillery in 1947. He is qualified as a Military Engineer and has held posts in Fabricaciones Militares and in the YPF organisation. He attended a course on "Military Comptrollership" in Fort Harrison, Indiana in 1963. He was promoted to General de Brigada in 1975 and acted as Army member on the Advisory Legislative Commission. He was appointed Secretary General to the President in 1979 in which year he was promoted to two star rank. He assumed the post of Director General de Fabricaciones Militares in January 1981.

He has good English.

COX, ROBERT J OBE

Editor-in-Chief of the English language newspaper the "Buenos Aires Herald".

Born 1933, Ealing; married 1961 to Maud Mary née Daverio (Argentine).

Living in voluntary exile since December 1979. Bob Cox, although British born, has devoted over twenty years to the Herald and despite the decrease in British influence since its foundation in 1876, has been instrumental in retaining for it a respect and reputation as a national newspaper out of proportion to its circulation (now about 18,000). Between 1974 and 1979 his determination to pursue courageous editorial policies at times at consequent personal danger, combined with his manifest sincerity and integrity won him the respect not only of his colleagues and Argentine rivals but also of some members of the current régime. He proved a tireless crusader for individual rights and liberty. Eventually, however, the offence he caused to certain elements within the administration led to death threats (purportedly from Montoneros) against his family, and to his decision to leave the country. Now living in the United States, he hopes to return and has retained nominal overall responsibility for editorial policy. His occasional commentary from abroad on Argentine affairs does not improve the prospects for a return.

A good and trustworthy friend of the Embassy, he did not hesitate to criticise British policies and considered his first loyalty lay with Argentina; his editorials nevertheless remained objective, even on such emotive issues as the Falkland Islands. Awarded the OBE in The Queen's Birthday Honours, 1978.

DE LA RUA, DR FERNANDO

Ex UCR (qv) Senator for Buenos Aires City.

Born 1937; married to Ines née Portine, one young daughter.

A lawyer, De La Rua was the Vice-Presidential candidate with Balbín in the September 1973 elections. The only Argentine included in "Time" magazine's 1974 list of future third world leaders.

FRUGOLI, DR AMADEO

Minister of Justice since March 1981.

Born 1932; married with four children.

Educated by the Marist Brothers and then studied law at the College of Law and Social Sciences of the University of Buenos Aires.

At first a teacher of Argentine history and civic instruction at the Gregorio Las Heras and Martín Zapata schools (Mendoza) he was appointed in 1965 an adviser to the provincial government of Mendoza and in 1966 Secretary General to that government.

A longstanding member of the Democrat Party of Mendoza, he was in 1970 named Minister of Government in Mendoza and, in 1971, Minister of Social Welfare of the Nation. In 1973-76 he was a National Senator.

GAINZA, CASTRO MÁXIMO

Director of La Prensa.

Born 1924. Married to Elisa née Figueroa Bosch.

Gainza is the great-grandson of the founder of La Prensa and succeeded his father as Editor of the paper on the latter's death in March 1978. He graduated from the Faculty of Architecture in Buenos Aires in 1946 with a Gold Medal for special merit. He was architectural adviser to the paper until 1951, when it was taken over by the Perón Government and he went into exile. Following studies in the US he returned in 1955 as General Manager and became Deputy Director in 1974. During his father's life-time, Máximo was regarded as a dilettante journalist and playboy, but since taking the paper over, he has made some marked improvements and does not hesitate to criticise the present Government. As a result, circulation has increased.

GARCIA, HECTOR

Owner-publisher of "Crónica", one of the three mass circulation daily newspapers in Argentina.

Born in Buenos Aires in 1932. Married with one daughter.

He began his career in journalism as a photographer; but his ruthless drive and ambition have carried him to a position of influence in the news media. As a person, he has few admirers; he is aggressive, egocentric and unashamedly vulgar. He also controls Radio COLONIA in Uruguay, whose broadcasts are listened to in Buenos Aires, and had controlling interests in a major TV station, taken over in 1974.

"Crónica" is vociferously nationalistic. Its readership is lower middle and working class. It is frankly sensationalist and adopts a demagogic posture of support for Argentina's claim to the Falkland Islands. Reporting on this topic is always emotional and tendentious. In late 1974, it launched an "Invade the Falklands" campaign calling for volunteers. The Government closed "Crónica" and, indeed, it transpired that the campaign had only been launched to attempt to ward off a take-over bid by López Rega. García was personally involved in the 1968 incident when he chartered a light aircraft and crash landed on the racecourse at Port Stanley during Lord Chalfont's visit.

GARCIA MARTINEZ, DR CARLOS

Minister of Trade and Maritime Interests since March 1981.

Born in 1933; married with one daughter.

Dr Martínez graduated from the Economics Faculty at the University of Buenos Aires in 1956 and after obtaining a doctorate in Economic Science the following year was given a scholarship to study monetary and banking policy and economic development in France. He was a member of the Government's Transport Planning Group from 1960-62 and Chief Economic Adviser to the Argentine Industrial Union from 1962-73. He was Economic Adviser to the Minister of Economy under President Illia and Director of the Central Bank in 1967-68. He has most recently been Argentine Representative on the Permanent Executive Committee of the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI - previously LAFTA).

Dr Martínez, a relative of Dr Martínez de Hoz, comes into the government primarily as a longstanding associate of Dr Lorenzo Sigaut.

GUZMAN DE ANDREUSSI, CRISTINA

Formerly National Deputy for Jujuy Province in representation of a regionalist party which formed part of the APF (qv), of which grouping she was Congressional President 1973-6. Now a leading member of FUFEP0 (qv).

Born in 1947, married to Tulio Enrique Andreussi (an Army Major at present serving in Fabricaciones Militares); three children.

Studied law, taught primary school and then taught English and History in an Institute and a Technical College in Jujuy.

Elected Deputy in 1973, she has been a fearless fighter for democratic rights, particularly the rights of women; she played a bold and courageous role in Congress during the last three years of the Peronist régime, denouncing the misuse of public funds by the then President, Isabel Perón (qv). She visited Britain as a Category I Visitor in February 1979.

HARGUINDEGUY, GENERAL ALBANO H

Special Presidential Adviser.

Born 1927; married to Juana Regina née Villafane.

General Harguindeguy acquired a doubtful reputation as Chief of Police during the Government of President Isabelita Peron at a time when the Triple A Organisation (qv) were at their most active, presumably with his blessing. He was appointed Minister of the Interior after the coup, and for some months found the job extremely trying. Many of his difficulties derived from the fact that he was head of a Ministry whose powers and authority largely devolved upon local military Commanders. His most important function therefore was to cover up for the excesses of area Commanders who out-ranked him and were often uncooperative. Gradually, however, he gained in confidence and authority and established himself as a competent Minister. When General Viola became President he appointed General Harguindeguy as Special Adviser to the Presidency.

He remains convinced that the Armed Forces have no real cause to feel ashamed of any of their activities during the "anti-subversive" war either before or after the coup. As a result, he was not always cooperative in dealing with foreign Embassies over human rights cases.

General Harguindeguy is an outspoken man who often says in public what many of his colleagues only think in private. He is popularly considered as the guarantor within the Government of the interests of the Army hard-liners, particularly those most involved in the anti-subversive war.

LAMBRUSCHINI, VICE ADMIRAL ARMANDO

Commander-in-chief of the Navy since September 1978.

Born in 1924.

Lambruschini entered the Naval College in 1942 and graduated in 1946. After moving through the ranks, he was promoted Commander in 1961 and taught in the Naval War School. He was subsequently appointed Assistant Secretary of State of the Navy and became a Captain in 1967. He served as Argentine Military Adviser to the Inter-American Defence Council and commanded the cruiser General Belgrano. In 1972 he was promoted to Rear Admiral and served as Head of the Department of Naval Personnel. He then became Chief of Staff of the Command of Naval Operations before assuming his present post.

Lambruschini is married with one daughter. Another daughter was killed in August 1978 when his flat was destroyed in a bomb explosion, generally thought to be the work of the Montoneros.

He is an uncompromising individual who is popular in the Navy but does not have the "charisma" of Massera. He is not particularly friendly towards Britain, but speaks a little English.

LAMI DOZO, BRIGADIER BASILIO ARTURO IGNACIO

Secretary-General of the Air Force.

Born 1 February 1929 in Santiago del Estero, Argentina. Married to Beatriz Margarita Pozzo: 3 sons, 2 daughters.

Brigadier Lami Dozo followed a career in the transport branch of his service and qualified as a C1 30 (Hercules) pilot in the United States in 1966. He subsequently served as Argentine delegate to the International Civil Aviation Organisation in Montreal (1972-73) and as Chief of the Policy Section in Air Force Headquarters (1974-75). In 1977 he was appointed Secretary-General of the Air Force and in 1979 promoted to Brigadier.

Brigadier Lami Dozo has been actively involved in the Beagle negotiations since 1978 and for this reason has remained as Secretary-General of the Air Force, since his appointment as Director of Air Force Training in 1980.

Brigadier Lami Dozo has charm and quick wit. He speaks and understands English well.

LELOIR, DR LUIS FEDERICO

1970 Nobel Prizewinner for Chemistry.

Born in Paris 1906, later became a naturalised Argentine citizen. Married to Amelia née Zuberbuhler with one daughter.

Specialised from graduation (medicine) in life processes, he worked under Professor Hopkins in Cambridge from 1936-7, was a Research-Associate at Washington University, St Louis, USA, and Assistant at the Enzyme Research Laboratory of the New York College of Physicians and Surgeons 1944-5. In association with others, he determined the first system of oxidation of acid fats, discovered hyper-tensine, hypertensinogene and the specificity of renine. Institutes under him have been funded by the UN National Institute of Health, the Rockefeller Foundation and private Argentine firms in recognition of the value of his research.

Appointed member of the Argentine National Council for Scientific and Technical Research in 1974, he was incredibly almost driven into exile by political persecution (right-wing Peronists). Post-coup he has been reinstated as a symbol of national pride and achievement.

A quiet, shy and retiring man, who has devoted his life to science. His family is fairly wealthy and own extensive lands in Argentina.

LIENDO, GENERAL HORACIO TOMAS

Minister of Interior since March 1981.

Born 1924; married with six children.

General Liendo graduated from the Military College in August 1943 and joined the Army's Communications Branch. He entered the Staff College in 1954 and graduated from there in 1957. In 1962 he attended a staff course in the United States. In 1971, as a Colonel, he became Director of the Communications School. In 1974 and 1975 he was second in command of the Army Communications Headquarters, and in December of the latter year he was promoted to Brigadier General with command over the VIth Mountain Infantry Brigade in Neuquen. Following the coup in March 1976, he was appointed Minister of Labour, a post he held until 1979 when he became Deputy Chief of Staff. In 1979 he held the rank of Divisional General and in 1980 was promoted Army Chief of Staff.

General Liendo is regarded as the shrewdest political operator after his close friend Viola in the senior ranks of the military who came to power in 1976. He obtained a relatively high reputation as Minister of Labour – a post he owed to Viola's patronage – managing to maintain peace on the labour front during a most difficult period with a cunning blend of bribery, conciliation and repression. Personally he is an amiable man and easy to deal with. He speaks a little English. One of his sons, also named Horacio, is probably his closest political adviser.

MARIANI, BRIGADIER MAYOR HIPOLITO RAFAEL

Air Force Chief of Staff.

In his mid-fifties.

Brigadier Mayor Mariani entered the Military Air Force School in 1946. He returned as a Group Commander in 1971 and subsequently held posts in the Estado Mayor Conjunto and the Estado Mayor General of the FAA.

He was promoted to Brigadier in December 1975 and amongst other posts served as Chief of III Operaciones in that rank.

He reached Brigadier Mayor in November 1979 and then was Comandante de Matériel until his appointment as Jefe del Estado Mayor General in December 1980.

He has an understanding of spoken English and is a quick-witted and easy conversationalist. He is right wing even by Air Force standards.

MARTINEZ DE HOZ, DR JOSÉ ALFREDO

Ex-Minister of the Economy (1976-81).

Born in 1925; married to Elvira née Bullrich with three sons. He was brought up by an English nanny and could speak English before he learned Spanish. His father, an old Etonian who entertained HRH the Duke of Edinburgh at his estate in March 1962, entered him for Eton but he was prevented from going there by the War. In 1952 he attended, but did not complete, a short course in Comparative Law at Jesus College, Cambridge. His English upbringing gave him a passion for shooting and he still buys his guns and has his trophies stuffed in London. Friendly for many years with the Embassy.

He had a distinguished academic career at Buenos Aires Law Faculty before becoming Minister of the Economy for Salta (1956-7), President of the National Grains Board 1957-8 and Minister of the Economy himself May-October 1963. An active businessman, he has concentrated his efforts in the sugar and steel fields, but has extended his interests into insurance, construction, investment, advisory services, aviation etc, etc. Owns a large estancia and shares in others, mostly in the prime agricultural area in Buenos Aires Province. Argentine representative to the Latin American Seminar organised for the FCO in London in May 1972 and main speaker at the Canning House Seminar on Argentina in May 1979.

As Minister of Economy he took a portfolio in 1976 which made him responsible for Agriculture, Maritime Matters, Finance, Industry, Trade, Energy, Public Works and Transport. He was thus a Super-Minister and was answerable to the Armed Forces on all these subjects, as another Argentine Minister of Economy was in the 1960's.

He brought a team into these Departments, collectively known as the "Economic Team", and with the support of the Armed Forces introduced a market economy policy. Rampant inflation he sought to reduce with a gradualist policy.

A fluent speaker, as good in French as he is in English, he was a persuasive exponent of government policy. He suffers a physical disability which makes him reluctant to shake hands.

MITRE, DR BARTOLOMÉ

Owner of "La Nación".

Born 1909.

A lawyer, he continues to practise while retaining direction of the conservative daily founded by his grandfather. Appointed Editor in 1954, he now only takes an academic and business interest in it, not concerning himself directly with editorial policy. "La Nación" is usually uncontroversial, moderate and reasonably independent.

Mitre has visited and is generally sympathetic to Britain. He cares most for his estancia in La Pampa and his important Arab stud.

NICOLAIDES, GENERAL DE DIVISION CRISTINO

Commander III Corps (Córdoba).

Born 1925; married with four children.

General Nicolaidés belongs to the Engineering Branch of the Army. After a conventional military career he was given command of the VIIth Infantry Brigade in Corrientes. There he became a close friend of the Peronist ex-Governor of the province and local political boss, Julio Romero. This and other similar contacts brought him into conflict with the group of young economists whom Dr Martínez de Hoz, the then Economy Minister, had sent to the province to make it a text book example of his policies. Nicolaidés subsequently moved to the Operational Branch of the general staff and from there, in December 1979, as Divisional General, he was given the command of Military Institutes with his base in the Campo de Mayo outside Buenos Aires. In 1980 he was moved to take over from General Bussi as the Commander of III Corps in Córdoba.

General Nicolaidés has a reputation of being a strict disciplinarian and is feared rather than loved by his subordinates. He has always been considered an unconditional supporter of General Viola but is now thought to be closer to General Galtieri, the Army Commander-in-Chief. It is even believed that Galtieri would like to name Nicolaidés as his successor, but it is not thought probable that the other branches of the Army would accept two successive commanders from the Engineering Branch.

ONGANÍA, TENIENTE GENERAL (RET) JUAN CARLOS

Ex-President of the Republic (1966-70).

Born 1914. Married to Maria Emilia née Green; 5 children.

A Cavalry Officer, he joined the Army in 1931. After a straightforward career he led the successful revolution of 1961 and was appointed Army Commander in Chief. He resigned his commission in November 1965 to express dissatisfaction with Dr Illia's Government, and assumed control of the 1966 revolutionary movement shortly before it took place. His first three years as President were relatively successful, particularly in achieving economic stability, but growing frustration at his failure to establish a return to representative government led the three Commanders in Chief to overthrow him in June 1970. He remains a focal figure for certain nationalistic sectors, but is unlikely to play a leading political role again.

ORFILA, ALEJANDRO

Secretary-General of the OAS, ex-Argentine Ambassador to Washington.

Born in 1925 into a prominent wine-growing family. Married to Jean Frances née d'Aprile, an American; has four children.

Studied at Stanford and Tulane Universities. He entered the Diplomatic Service in 1947 and served in Moscow, Warsaw (1948) San Francisco (1949-50), Consul General in New Orleans (1951), First Secretary in Washington (1952), OAS Director of Information (1953-8), Minister in Washington (1958-61), travelled with and organised the visit of Frondizi (qv) to the USA and Asia in 1959 and 1961 respectively, Ambassador to Tokyo (1961-2). Living in the USA he retained close links with Argentine agricultural interests.

Appointed Ambassador to Washington in November/1973, he established an awesome reputation as a host and travelled extensively in Latin America, which no doubt laid the foundation for his successful bid for the OAS Secretary-Generalship of 1975, even though he was not his own country's original candidate. Was elected in 1980 for a second 5 year term.

PERÓN, MARÍA ESTELA MARTÍNEZ DE

Ex-President of the Republic. Known popularly as "Isabelita".

Born 1931; married the late Juan Domingo Perón in 1961. No children.

Widely supposed to have been a bar-girl before she met Perón, she was in fact a member of a dancing troupe which toured Latin America in 1954-5. She attracted the attention of the recently overthrown Perón in Caracas in December 1955 and lived with him in Panama, the Dominican Republic and in Spain. Sent by him to Argentina in 1964 on a political mission she met López Rega and fell increasingly under his influence thereafter. In 1973 she visited China and North Korea, meeting Chou en Lai and Kim Il Sung. Elected Vice-President of the Republic in October 1973, succeeding her husband as President upon his death on 1 July 1974. From then until her overthrow on 24 March 1976, she presided over a truly lamentable Government, guided by López Rega for a year, until combined labour and Armed Forces' pressure drove him out of the country, and virtually directionless thereafter. She tried to model herself after Perón's second wife, the famous and beloved Evita who died in 1952, but inspired little respect or affection in her own right. Living on pills, she aged and lost weight while exhibiting symptoms of hysteria and her fall was greeted by a nationwide sigh of relief. After her overthrow Sra Perón was detained on various charges including fraudulent misuse of funds; she was finally sentenced in March 1981 to 8 years' detention and banned in perpetuity from political or trade union activity. On 6 July 1981 the courts ordered her release on parole and she went into exile in Spain.

PORCILE, BRIGADIER JULIO CESAR

Minister of Labour since March 1981.

Brigadier Porcile graduated from the Air Force College in 1949. He subsequently specialised in Anti-Aircraft Warfare activities and was promoted Vice-Commodore in 1965. From 1967-70 he was Assistant Argentine Air Force Attaché in Brazil. He became a Commodore in 1972 and in 1976 was appointed to the Personnel Department in the Ministry of Labour. In 1978 he was promoted Brigadier and the following year became one of the Air Force representatives in the Cámara Asesoramiento Legislativo.

It is widely expected that the Minister of the Interior and former Minister of Labour, General Liendo (qv) will in fact dominate decision-making in labour affairs and that Brigadier Porcile's role will therefore be rather subsidiary.

SIGAUT, DR LORENZO

Minister of Economy, Treasury and Finance since March 1981.

Born 1933; married with two children.

He graduated from the Economic Science Faculty of the University of Buenos Aires in 1955 and obtained his doctorate two years later. He was Economic Adviser to the Minister of Economy and Labour 1967-68 and held a number of senior appointments in the Ministry of Economy between 1968 and 1969. He was Director of SOMISA steel complex from 1968-71 and thereafter has worked as an economic consultant. He has written a number of books on economy including "Argentina/Brazil - Prejudices and Reality" (1972) and "The Transition towards the Transformation and Expansion of the Argentine Economy" (1977). He has taught both in universities and in the Naval War School.

Dr Sigaut is an old and trusted friend of General Viola, an economist of basically free market but pragmatic views. He professes respect for Dr Martínez de Hoz and his achievements, but clearly hopes to introduce a more flexible and "realistic" response to the complaints which have been raised against the latter's policies. Speaks some English.

SOLARI YRIGOYEN, DR HIPÓLITO

Ex-UCR (qv) Senator. Arrested for one year in 1976 and then given the option to leave the country, he lives in France and has been a regular caller at the FCO.

Born in 1933. Married to Teresa Márta née Hansen with three sons. Great grandnephew of Leandro Alem, founder of the UCR, and grandnephew of the great Radical demagogue and President of the Republic, Hipólito Yrigoyen, he was born into politics. He graduated as a lawyer at the age of 19 and subsequently obtained a PhD.

Senator for Chubut Province, he has been an outspoken advocate of development for Patagonia. A prominent Falkland Islands irredentist, he is nonetheless friendly towards the Embassy and Britain which he has visited twice, in 1959 and in 1974.

On the left-wing of the UCR, both in his elected capacity and as a lawyer, he has been a prominent defender of human rights, and a thorn in the side of dictatorial Governments. As a result, he has suffered several attacks on his life and property - he was the first victim (a bomb in his car) of the AAA (qv). Kidnapped, probably by the provincial police, in Chubut in August 1976, together with another UCR ex-Deputy, Amaya; both were pushed out of the back of a truck a few weeks later and then detained by the military authorities. Amaya later died as a result of mistreatment at the hands of the latter, but Solari Yrigoyen survived, and there was considerable foreign pressure to obtain his release. This was finally achieved in May 1977, largely through the offices of President Pérez of Venezuela. From abroad, he remains an intelligent and embarrassing critic of the present Government.

TIMERMAN, JACOBO

Former Editor/Owner of the daily "La Opinión".

Married.

Born in 1923, in the Ukraine, and came to Argentina when he was four years old.

A dedicated journalist, in 1962 Timerman became editor of a news magazine "Primera Plana" which followed the line of "Time" magazine. The venture was a great success and confirmed Timerman's pre-eminence as an editor.

In 1965 he gave up "Primera Plana" and founded a similar publication, "Confirmada" which he edited for a number of years. In 1971 he founded a daily paper "La Opinión", in conjunction with the notorious financier David Graiver. The paper was widely considered to be one of the most professional and informative dailies during the Government of Isabelita Perón. Timerman was detained by the authorities in April 1977 and a month later "La Opinión" was intervened (qv). In August 1977 Graiver was reported to have died in a plane crash in Mexico, and in spite of being incomunicado, Timerman obtained full control of the paper. After considerable international pressure on his behalf, Timerman was released from jail in April 1978 and placed under house arrest. Officially, Timerman's detention was linked to the investigation into David Graiver's financial dealings and relations with the Montoneros; but the authorities were unable to prove his involvement in any illegal activity. The restrictions on his movements were usually explained by his having powerful enemies within the Armed Forces, and, possibly, by anti-semitism in the same quarter.

Following a Supreme Court ruling in September 1979 ordering his release, Timerman was released from detention, stripped of his Argentine citizenship and expelled from the country. He is now in Israel. The decision to expel him caused strains within the Army, and no doubt contributed to Menendez's abortive revolt shortly after. The publication of his book on his prison experiences caused a considerable stir in the US in mid 1981.

TORTOLO, MONSIGNOR ADOLFO

Bishop of Santa Fé. Vicar General to the Armed Forces.

Very right-wing and a more than usually political prelate, he has publicly preached the Holy War against subversion and privately blessed the "dirty war" tactics employed. Of unusually and deceptively venerable appearance.

VARELA, DR ALBERTO RODRIGUEZ

Minister of Justice since November 1978.

Born in 1936. He is married with seven children; a devout catholic.

He qualified as a lawyer from the National University in 1957 and obtained a Doctorate in Law and Social Science from the same institution two years later. He held various academic posts between 1962 and 1976 in the Argentine Catholic University. Between 1958 and 1967 he was a legal adviser in the Justice Ministry, from 1967 to 1969 a Secretary in the Chamber of Deputies, from 1969 to 1971 Secretary of the Supreme Court and from 1971 to 1973 Dean of the Faculty of Law and Social Science of the University of Buenos Aires. He resigned from this post in March 1973. He is a member of various legal and academic associations and from 1964 has been a committee member of the Argentine Bar Association. Either alone or in collaboration with others, he is the author of ten books, most of which deal with legal matters.

Dr Varela is extremely anti-Peronist. In his previous post as Justice Minister in the Province of Buenos Aires, he purged the legal bureaucracy of all Judges and officials of strongly Peronist sympathies.

VIOLA, TENIENTE GENERAL (R) ROBERTO-EDUARDO

President of the Republic since March 1981 and Army Commander-in-Chief 1978-79.

Born in 1924; married to Nélide née Giorgio.

Entered the Military College in 1942 and graduated two years later as an Infantryman. He became a Colonel in 1965 and worked on the Argentine Delegation to the Inter-American Defence Council. In 1969 he was appointed Assistant Director to the Military College; in 1971 he became a Brigade General, and in 1975 he was appointed Divisional General. He was appointed Army Commander-in-Chief in August 1978 and retired in December 1979.

General Viola is a life-long friend of General Videla and worked closely with him in the long and difficult build-up to the coup of 24 March 1976. As Chief-of-Staff he grouped around him a number of able and likeminded officers and constructed a personal power base through promotions and postings.

His nomination as Commander-in-Chief was forced through by Videla in face of opposition from political hardliners. During his time as Commander-in-Chief he strengthened his personal following by judicious senior appointments.

After retiring from the Army General Viola dedicated himself to constructing a series of political alliances. His preferred method of operating was to deal with individuals and in secret rather than openly with political groupings. He kept his Cabinet a closely guarded secret and his delay in announcing his Government team provoked widespread speculation that he had had difficulty in forming it. Like his predecessor, he believes in obtaining the consent of the majority of his senior military colleagues and members of his Cabinet before taking any initiative, a political style which tends to lead to slow and indecisive Government. Nevertheless, Viola has proved able to move swiftly and conclusively when the occasion demanded it, as in his suppression of the revolt by General Menéndez in October 1979.

He speaks English quite well but is reluctant to use it.

ZORREGUIETA, JORGÉ

Secretary of State for Agriculture and Livestock since March 1979.

Born in 1928; married with five children.

Sr Zorreguieta is well known outside Argentina, especially in wheat circles. Between 1961 and 1964 he was President of the Ateneo Rural of Buenos Aires. In September 1972 he became a Director of the prestigious Sociedad Rural Argentina, whom he has frequently represented abroad. He has also represented the Junta Nacional de Granos, and acted as Argentine delegate to International Wheat Association meetings in Geneva and London. He therefore has close contacts with the Australians and Canadians.

He speaks good English, and is an intelligent and amiable personality.