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ARGENTINA

Referring to the announced nuclear powerplant in this city, Castro Madero said that if it is decided to install a nuclear energy-driven powerplant in the area, "we will have a economic and nonpolluting source of energy." He explained: "But that depends on plans of the energy secretariat."

He also spoke of the future of a heavy water plant in Arroyito, Neuquen Province, regarding which he said that "the plans remain firm, but there are problems of international safeguards, which is why that technology is being held back. So Argentina has taken the lead of installing a pilot plant at Atucha." He concluded by saying: "When Argentina is in a position to define its industrial plan and has the technology, I believe it will be installed in Arroyito."

Castro Madero concluded by referring to Atucha II, Embalse Rio Tercero and other plans which are being drawn up, regarding which he said that he is "waiting for the final report from the energy secretariat, which has finished the first part." He asserted: "That is, decisions have been made on the electrification network up to the year 1985 and the second stage, from that year until 2000, is being planned."

BOLIVIAN ARMY COMMANDER VILLALPANDO TO VISIT

FI130255Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2150 GMT 12 May 78 FY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 May--According to a responsible source, GEN Alfonso Villalpando Arzaza, commander in chief of the Bolivian Army, will arrive here next Monday. This high-ranking military officer is scheduled to arrive at Ezeiza at 1300.

RELATIVES OF MISSING PERSONS SUBMIT PETITION TO GOVERNMENT

FI121300Y Santiago Chile Radio Minería Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 12 May 78 FY

[Text] Buenos Aires--A group of relatives of missing persons has submitted to the government a petition with 17,005 signatures. The group expresses its concern over the fate of thousands of missing persons. The document, which was also released to the mass media, adds that the group wishes to hold a meeting with a presidential advisory committee to find out "about our dear relatives."

INTERIOR MINISTRY REPORTS ARRESTS, RELEASES

FI130253Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2342 GMT 12 May 78 FY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 12 May--The Interior Ministry reported today that as of 5 May five persons were arrested and placed at the disposal of the executive branch while eight persons were released. One person was authorized to leave the country within the same period of time.

AUTHORITIES REPORT SATELLITE DOWN IN BOLIVIA

FI142357Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1740 GMT 14 May 78 PA

[Text] Salta, Argentina, 14 May--The strange object that some people in the northern zone of Salta Province, 1,700 km from Buenos Aires, claim they saw falling was in fact an artificial satellite which already has been located in Bolivian territory, official sources in Salta announced Sunday.

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Many people in this part of the country claim they saw an object which resembled a soccer ball falling behind the mountains on the Argentine-Bolivian border, causing an explosion that shook the earth. This took place on 6 May. Around that time some people in San Luis and Mendoza provinces reported seeing a flying saucer squadron flying in formation.

The news from Salta confirms that the artificial satellite fell on Taire Mountain in Bolivia, where it has already been located by authorities. The same sources said that the area where the artificial satellite fell has been declared an emergency zone by the Bolivian Government.

YPF SIGNS \$250-MILLION CREDIT IN U.S.

FY101514Y Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 10 May 78 FY

[Text] Raul Ondarts, president of Government Oil Deposits (YPF), signed a credit agreement for \$250 million with a group of international bankers in New York on 3 May.

The announcement was made by (Ernesto Varela), the financial director of the government institution, upon his return from the United States yesterday. He said that YPF will use \$100 million for exploration plans and \$150 million to reduce its foreign debt, transforming it from short to medium term.

The credit agreement is on a 7-year basis with a 2-and-1/2-year grace period. The terms of the agreement were, at the time of negotiation, the most favorable granted to our country or to YPF.

BRIEFS

RESTRICTIONS ON FIREARMS--The executive branch has upheld the restriction on the transportation of firearms, including small- and large-caliber hunting arms, in order to maintain strict control on the use of all firearms. Authorization for shipment of arms should be requested from local authorities and will be valid only for a limited time. Transportation of some semiautomatic and automatic rifles is banned under all circumstances. [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 3 May 78 FY]

ELECTRONIC TELEX SWITCHBOARD--Buenos Aires--The National Telecommunications Company will inaugurate a computerized, totally electronic telex switchboard for international services on Monday. The new switchboard will permit an increase in the number of circuits to 1,200. As a consequence of the use of the new telex central, Channel 011 will no longer be used as of Monday; nor will Channels 0111, 0112 and 0113, as of Wednesday. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1627 GMT 5 May 78 FY]

TV MICROWAVE LINK--Santa Rosa, La Pampa, 5 May--The local TV station will broadcast experimental programs transmitted by microwave this weekend. The microwave link will connect Santa Rosa with the national microwave network through the city of Bahia Blanca [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1330 GMT 5 May 78 FY]

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