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ARGENTINA

Referring to the announced nuclear powerplant in this city, Castro Nadero said that if it is decided to install a nuclear energy-driven powerplant in the area, "we will have an 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 regards, which is why that technology is being held back. So Argentina has taken the road 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 Nadero concluded by referring to Atucha II, Embalse Rio Tercero and other plants 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

2130255Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2150 GMT 12 May 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 May--According to a responsible source, Gen Alfonso Villalpando Villaseca, 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

2121300Y Santiago Chile Radio Minería Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 12 May 78 PY

[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 press 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

2130253Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2342 GMT 12 May 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 May--The Interior Ministry reported today that as of 9 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

2142357Y 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 a artificial satellite which already has been located in Bolivian territory, official sources in Salta announced Sunday.

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~~REPORTS CONCERNING THE POSSIBLE CRASH TO EARTH OF ELECTRO~~

~~PT161830Z Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1750 GMT 16 May 78 FV~~

[Text] Bolivian President Hugo Banzer has said that the forthcoming elections of 9 July may be suspended at political and electoral violence increases. He said that the government is doing everything to guarantee the tranquillity of the country. These remarks were made by the Bolivian president during a program over the state-owned television network. Banzer has been in power 7 years and hopes to hand over the government to the candidate who wins the elections on 9 July. The Bolivian president also publicly stated his support for the official candidate, Gen Juan Pedro de la Torre.

~~REPORTS CONCERNING DETAILS OF FAIRVIEW OBJECT~~

~~PT161930Y Sucre Radio La Plata in Spanish 1650 GMT 16 May 78 FV~~

[Summary] We have received another phone call from our audience requesting confirmation of reports that an unidentified object fell in Bolivian territory near the Argentine border. We can only say that Argentine and Uruguayan radio stations are reporting on this even more frequently, saying that Bolivian authorities have urgently requested assistance from the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration in order to determine the nature of that which crashed on a hill in Bolivian territory. Just a few minutes ago Radio El Espectador of Montevideo announced that there was uncertainty as to the truth of these reports.

Argentine sources indicated that the border with Bolivia had been closed but that it might soon be reopened. They also reported that an unidentified object had fallen on Bolivian soil near the Argentine border and that local Bolivian authorities had requested aid from the central government which, in turn, had sought assistance from the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration to investigate the case.

A La Paz newspaper said today that there is great interest in learning about the nature of the fallen object, adding that local authorities for security reasons had cordoned off 200 m around the spot where the object fell. The object is said to be a mechanical device with a diameter of almost (14 meters) which has already been brought to Tarija. There is interest in determining the accuracy of these reports which have spread quickly throughout the continent, particularly in Bolivia and its neighboring countries. Is it a satellite, a meteorite or a false alarm?

~~ELECTORAL COURT WILL NOT SUBJECT TO IBB PRESSURES~~

~~PT161710Y La Paz PRESIDENCIA in Spanish 10 May 78 p 21 FV~~

[Text] Responding to a declaration issued by the national assembly of the National Socialist Party (NSP) recently held in Cochabamba, members of the National Electoral Court have stated that "they have always been willing to fulfill their posts."

They stressed, however, that they will definitely not submit to "pressure from political parties" and they added that "they know the risk of diversity and will observe their duties to the present day and that they be their former selflessness."

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