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 TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE  
 RUEOEHA/ USSOUTHCOM QUARRY HTS PN IMMEDIATE 0000  
 RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE 0000  
 RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE 0000  
 RUEHLD/AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE - 0000  
 RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE 0000  
 RUEHGR/AMEMBASSY GRENADA IMMEDIATE 0000  
 RUCBSAA/USCINCLANT NOFOLK IMMEDIATE  
 RUWTFTA/COMSFOARIB KEY WEST IMMEDIATE  
 RUDKPNQ/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN 0000  
 RUFHLI/AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE 0000  
 RUDKGPQ/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE 0000  
 RUESUA/AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO IMMEDIATE 0000  
 RUEHAO/AMCONSUL CURACAO IMMEDIATE 0000  
 RUEHDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 0000  
 RULPHNW/CDR 193D INFBDE FT CLAYTON  
 RULPAFA/USAFSO HWD AFB PAO  
 RULPAFA/NAVSTA PANAMA CANAL RODMAN  
 INFO RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC  
 XMT AMEMBASSY NASSAU  
 AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN  
 AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN  
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 EZ1:

## CONTROLS

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## TEXT

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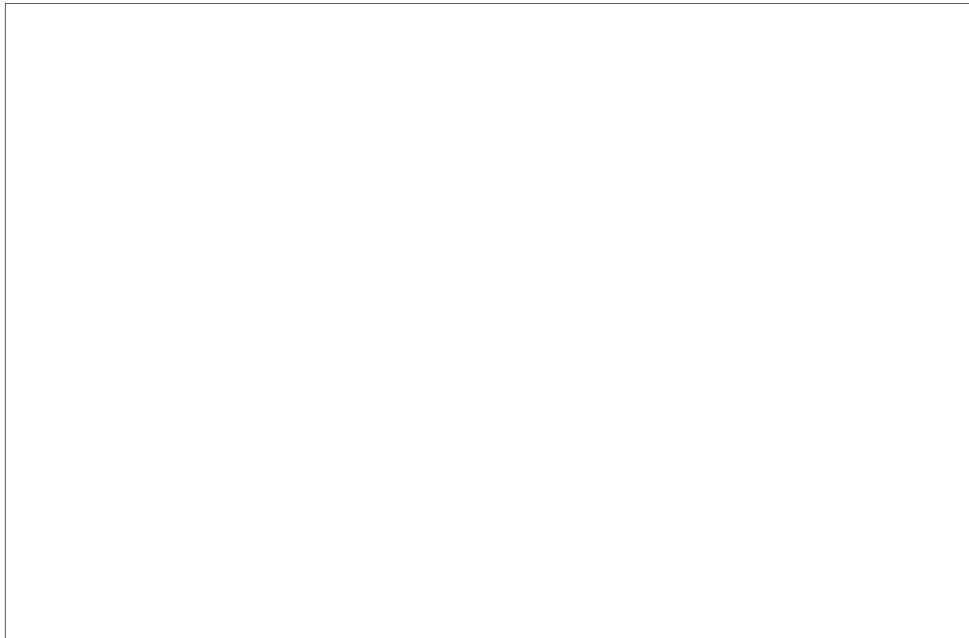
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2. PRESS SUMMMARY, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1984



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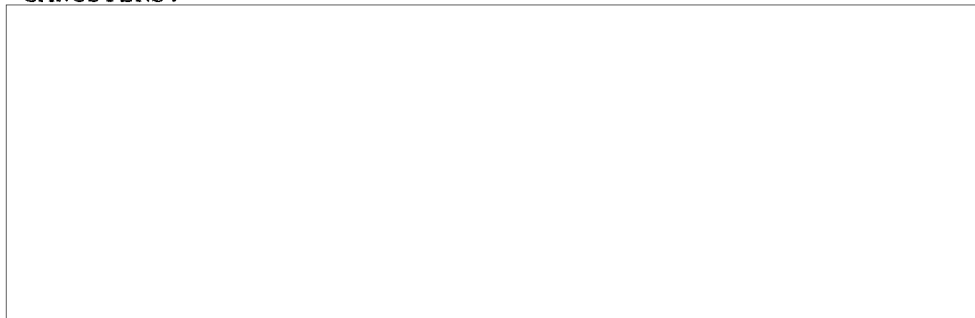
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ARGENTINA: RICHARD O'MARA, SUN FOREIGN EDITOR, PAGE 5 FROM B.A. ("ALFONSIN SETS OUT TO CHALLENGE UNIONS") SAYS NEW PRESIDENT RAUL ALFONSIN "WILL FACE HIS FIRST SERIOUS CHALLENGE TODAY, AS THE MINIONS OF LABOR ASSEMBLE AT THE NATIONAL CONGRESS TO PROTEST NEW LEGISLATION THAT WOULD REORGANIZE THE UNIONS THAT FOR SO MANY DECADES HAVE HELD SWAY OVER ARGENTINA'S POLITICAL LIFE." A THOUSAND FACTORY WORKERS WENT TO THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE TUESDAY TO DEMAND A 70 PERCENT PAY RAISE. JANUARY'S COST OF LIVING RAISE, ANNOUNCED MONDAY, WAS 12.5 PERCENT. THE GOVERNMENT AGREED TO AN EMERGENCY PAY RAISE OF ABOUT \$4 A MONTH, BUT "THE MEASURE IS NOT LIKELY TO CALM THE INCIPIENT UNREST," SAYS O'MARA. "THE UNIONS ARE THE 'OTHER ARMY' OF ARGENTINA, A BIGGER DRAGON FOR MR. ALFONSIN TO SLAY...THEY WERE FORGED AS POLITICAL INSTRUMENTS BY JUAN PERON IN THE LATE 1940S. THROUGH THE YEARS THEY HAVE EITHER SHARED OR DISPUTED POWER WITH THE MILITARY. NOW, ARGENTINA IS RULED BY A PRESIDENT FROM THE RADICAL PARTY WHO WILL TRY TO UNDERCUT THE POWER OF THE UNIONS BY MAKING THEM MORE DEMOCRATIC, MORE RESPONSIVE TO THEIR OWN MEMBERSHIP -- IN SHORT, LESS POLITICAL." THE STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE UNIONS AND THE NEW PRESIDENT COULD NOT HAVE COME AT A MORE ADVANTAGEOUS TIME FOR ALFONSIN, SUGGESTS O'MARA. "UNION LEADERS ARE IN BAD ODOR," WIDELY THOUGHT OF AS, AT BEST, COLLABORATORS WITH THE DISCREDITED MILITARY REGIME AND, AT WORST, SIMPLE

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