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GENERAL

1. US may be blamed for Latin American coups --US Ambassador Warren in Asuncion expresses concern over the fact that political instability in various Latin American countries may be conducive to the establishment of further military governments similar to those recently set up in Peru and Venezuela. Warren suggests that the use of US arms and munitions by the groups accomplishing such military coups may lead democratic elements in Latin America to blame the US for such coups. The Ambassador further expresses the opinion that the present US recognition policy plays into the hands of military groups and could contribute to eventual dominance by the military caste throughout Latin America.

(CIA Comment: CIA considers that military governments established to date would have come to power with or without US arms and munitions. CIA agrees, however, that democratic elements favoring the civilian governments displaced by such coups may feel that US arms made the coups possible.)

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