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PRESS SUMMARY

1. HEADLINES

THESE ARE DIVIDED BETWEEN HEALTH BULLETINS ON BRAZILIAN PRESIDENT TANCREDO NEVES, THE POSSIBLE REVIVAL OF SOCIAL CONTRACT TALKS AND THE KIDNAPPING OF A PROMINENT LOCAL BUSINESSMAN.

2. ECONOMY

SEVERAL PAPERS REPORT THAT THE STALLED SOCIO-ECONOMIC TALKS BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND CGT MAY SOON BE REVIVED. HOWEVER, THE TRADE UNIONS HAVE APPARENTLY CONDITIONED THEIR CO-OPERATION UPON CHANGES IN OFFICIAL WAGE POLICY AND CONCESSIONS TO THEM CONCERNING CONTROL OF THE WORKERS' SOCIAL WELFARE FUNDS (CLARIN 2-3).

MEANWHILE, 95 PER CENT OF THE COUNTRY'S 500,000 TEACHERS YESTERDAY TOOK STRIKE ACTION IN SUPPORT OF PAY CLAIMS (HERALD 11).

FRONT PAGE SPACE IS GIVEN TO THE NEWS THAT THE PARALLEL DOLLAR RATE YESTERDAY ROSE PAST THE 500 PESO BARRIER. IT HAS NOW INCREASED BY 9.5 PER CENT SINCE LAST FRIDAY, BRINGING THE GAP WITH THE OFFICIAL PARITY TO 36.6 PER CENT. AT THE SAME TIME INTEREST RATES DECLINED AS A RESULT OF GREATER LIQUIDITY IN THE MONEY MARKETS (CLARIN 18).

'AMBITO FINANCIERO' PICKS UP AND EXPANDS CRITICISMS BY FORMER PERONIST PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE ITALO LUDER ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT'S UNREALISTIC APPROACH TO ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT. THE PAPER NOTES FREQUENT CONTRADICTIONS IN POLICY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ATTRIBUTES THE CURRENT LACK OF CONFIDENCE IN THE COUNTRY TO THE ADMINISTRATION'S MISGUIDED DESIRE TO PLEASE ALL SECTORS SIMULTANEOUSLY (P 1).

3. FOREIGN DEBT

'CLARIN' ALLEGES THAT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN A VISITING IMF TEAM AND THE LOCAL ECONOMY AUTHORITIES ARE PROVING DIFFICULT BECAUSE OF THE FUND'S INSISTENCE UPON THE OBSERVANCE OF CERTAIN FIXED TARGETS (P16).

4. HUMAN RIGHTS

A FEDERAL JUDGE HAS ORDERED THE ARREST, ON CHARGES OF PERJURY, OF TWO PROSECUTION WITNESSES IN THE CASE AGAINST NAVY CAPTAIN ALFREDO ASTIZ, WHO HAD BEEN ACCUSED OF COMPLICITY IN THE KIDNAPPING OF THE SWEDISH-ARGENTINE GIRL DAGMAR HAGELIN (AMBITO P7).

JUDGE HECTOR OYOLA HAS ISSUED A WARRANT FOR THE ARREST OF V CORPS DEPUTY COMMANDER GENERAL JOSE MALAGAMBA FOR ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT IN THE MURDER OF TWO PRIESTS IN 1976. MALAGAMBA, WHOSE RECENT PROMOTION WAS APPROVED BY THE SENATE, IS THE FIRST SERVING GENERAL TO BE THREATENED WITH DETENTION FOR CRIMES DURING THE 'DIRTY WAR' (HERALD P11).

5. ARMED FORCES

THERE IS MUCH SPECULATION ABOUT YESTERDAY'S CLOSED SESSION OF THE LOWER HOUSE BUDGET AND ECONOMY COMMITTEE WHICH WAS ANALYSING PROPOSED MILITARY EXPENDITURE FOR 1985. DEFENCE SECRETARY HORACIO JUANARENA REPORTEDLY TOLD COMMITTEE MEMBERS THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD GIVE 'PRIORITY TO THE OPERATION OF THE V ARMED CORPS BY COMPARISON WITH OTHER UNITS'. HE FURTHER DENIED THAT BUDGETARY ALLOCATIONS HAD BEEN MADE FOR THE CONTINGENCY OF INTERNAL CONFLICT (CLARIN P9, HERALD P11).

THE QUESTION OF ARMS SALES WAS ALSO RAISED DURING THE HEARING. THERE IS SUPPOSEDLY A POSSIBILITY OF EXPORTING 30 MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF LIGHT WEAPONS TO IRAN, ALTHOUGH THE MFA IS SAID TO HAVE ALREADY BLOCKED THE SALE TO THE SAME CUSTOMER OF THE NAVY'S TWO TYPE-42 DESTROYERS AND 150 TAM TANKS SO AS NOT TO DISTURB THE BALANCE OF FORCES IN THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR. MILITARY EQUIPMENT SUPPLIES CONTRACTED ABROAD BY ARGENTINA APPARENTLY ACCOUNT FOR 7 BILLION DOLLARS OF THE COUNTRY'S FOREIGN DEBT, BUT THE FIGURE WILL RISE TO 12 BILLION IF THE NAVY COMPLETES ITS PROPOSED ACQUISITIONING OF 6 NEW SUBMARINES, 4 FRIGATES AND 6 CORVETTES (AMBITO P7 AND 10).

6. FALKLANDS

RETIRED GENERAL MARIO BENJAMIN MENENDEZ, WHO COMMANDED ARGENTINE TROOPS IN THE FALKLANDS DURING THE 1982 CONFLICT, YESTERDAY TESTIFIED FOR FIVE HOURS FOR THE ARMED FORCES SUPREME COUNCIL WHICH IS INVESTIGATING CONDUCT OF THE CAMPAIGN (TIEMPO P9).

ACCORDING TO A REUTERS DISPATCH FROM NEW YORK, FOUR US ARMS DEALERS AND AN ELECTRONICS FIRM HAVE BEEN INDICTED FOR THE ILLEGAL EXPORT OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING THE SALE OF SOPHISTICATED NIGHT VISION DEVICES TO ARGENTINA DURING THE FALKLANDS WAR (CLARIN P12).

AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF NON-COMMUNIST YOUTH YESTERDAY ENDED A STORMY SESSION IN KINGSTON, JAMAICA, BY PASSING A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE RESUMPTION OF TALKS BETWEEN THE UK AND ARGENTINA OVER THE FALKLANDS (HERALD P7).

THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES YESTERDAY PAID HOMAGE TO ARGENTINE TROOPS WHO SERVED IN THE FALKLANDS WAR. PERONIST SPEAKERS TENDED TO BE PARTICULARLY VITUPERATIVE ABOUT THE UK, WHILE THE RADICAL PARTY CHAIRMAN OF THE LOWER HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, FEDERICO STORANI, ANNOUNCED THAT 'THE STRUGGLE HAS NOT CONCLUDED, AND REQUIRES IMAGINATION AND INTELLIGENCE'. (NACION P 5)

SHARKEY

POWELL-JONES

FALKLAND ISLANDS

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