

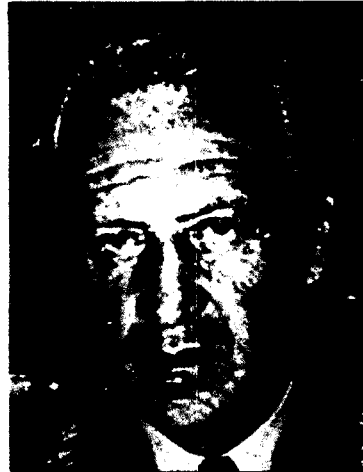
CLAR 81-15736 M

Leopoldo Fortunato GALTIERI  
(Phonetic: gahlteeEHree)

ARGENTINA

President; Commander in  
Chief, Army; Member,  
Ruling Junta

Addressed as:  
Mr. President



A veteran Army engineering officer, Lt. Gen. Leopoldo Galtieri simultaneously holds three of Argentina's highest decisionmaking posts. He has been a member of the three-man ruling military junta since December 1979, when he was appointed Commander in Chief of the Army. He became President on 22 December 1981, after the junta ousted retired Gen. Roberto Viola from that post. Galtieri will serve as President until 29 March 1984, when Viola's term was scheduled to expire. He will continue to carry out his responsibilities as Army Commander until the end of his three-year term in December 1982. According to present junta regulations, he will then also automatically cease to be a member of that group.

Galtieri graduated from the National Military Academy in 1945 as a member of the Engineers Corps. He later attended the Army Engineer School and the Superior War School and received specialized training in the United States (Fort Belvoir, Virginia) and Panama. During his more than 35 years in the Army, he has held numerous posts, including those of commander, IX Infantry Brigade; chief of logistics and finance, Army General Staff; deputy chief of staff; commander, II Corps, Rosario; and commander, I Corps, near Buenos Aires.

Galtieri, 55, is married to the former Kucia Noemi Gentili and has three children. He speaks a little English.

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22 December 1981

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