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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Sub-Commission on Freedom of Information
and of the Press

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PROVIDED BY GOVERNMENTS ON THE
QUESTIONS ASKED IN THE REQUEST FOR INFORMATION BASED
ON THE AGENDA OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

ARGENTINA

DECREE 5,702/49

THE PRESIDENT OF THE ARGENTINE NATION

DECREES:

Article 1. Consignments of newsprint in the territory of the Republic shall be expropriated in such quantities as are necessary in the judgement of the Sub-Secretariat of Information to ensure the regular appearance of the various publications throughout the country.

The National Secretariat of Industry and Commerce shall take over such newsprint as may be expropriated under the provisions of the preceding paragraph.

Article 2. The Ministry of Finance shall authorize the National Treasury, subject to prior action by the Auditing Office, to make available to the Administrative Directorate-General of the Secretariat of Industry and Commerce a sum not exceeding thirty million Argentine pesos (\$30,000,000), for which it shall be held accountable, to be drawn upon as required to cover the cost of newsprint expropriated under the terms of Article 1, the 10 per cent compensation and the expenses incurred in the enforcement of the present Decree.

Article 3. The sum of thirty million pesos (30,000,000) to which the preceding article refers shall be charged on a reimbursable basis against Article 16 of Act No. 12,830.

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Article 4. The Sub-Secretariat of Information, upon deposit of the sum in payment referred to in Article 3, shall take immediate possession of the expropriated newsprint in accordance with the provisions of Article 16 of Act No. 12,830 for distribution to newspaper and periodical publishing firms throughout the country, in such manner as to provide each with the newsprint required for the actual number of copies printed and in accordance with the provisions of Article 6 of the present Decree. Paper shall be furnished to such firms, delivered at Buenos Aires, at the average price of each consignment expropriated.

Article 5. The Treasury Solicitor or, in the event of his absence or inability to serve, the Deputy Attorney attached to the Federal Court of Justice in the capital and the Federal Prosecutor in other jurisdictions shall be designated as special representative (Act No. 3,367, Article 1) to institute such proceedings as may be necessary in accordance with instructions furnished by the Secretariat of Industry and Commerce.

Article 6. Article 1 of Decree No. 31,331/48 shall be amended as follows: "As of the tenth (10th) day of March 1949, editions of daily newspapers and periodical published in the country shall not exceed the number of pages set forth below:

- (a) Daily newspapers and periodicals of large format sold to the public at \$0.05 (five Argentine centavos), 4 (four) pages;
- (b) Daily newspapers and periodicals of large format sold to the public at \$0.10 (ten Argentine centavos), 10 (ten) pages;
- (c) Daily newspapers and periodicals of large format sold to the public at a price exceeding \$0.10 (ten Argentine centavos), 12 (twelve) pages;
- (d) Daily publications may issue a weekly supplement of not more than 8 (eight) pages;
- (e) Daily newspapers and periodicals of medium format (tabloid) double the number of pages in accordance with the preceding scale.

Article 7. The Sub-Secretariat of Information shall be authorized to verify the actual number of copies printed of publications of newspaper and periodical publishing firms and to establish the maximum number of copies returnable, in order to ensure that the quantity of newsprint utilized corresponds to the real sales potential of the publication in question.

/Article 8.

Article 8. The present Act shall be counter-signed by the Ministers of State members of the National Economic Council.

Article 9. The present Act shall be communicated, published, transmitted to the Directorate-General of the National Registry and placed in the archives.

DECREE No. 3,661/50

THE PRESIDENT OF THE ARGENTINE NATION

DECREES:

Article 1. Current stocks of newsprint and supplies imported hereafter shall be expropriated until such time as the National Ministry of Industry and Commerce deems that the supply position is normal.

The National Ministry of Industry and Commerce shall determine when to enforce the provisions of the preceding paragraph, and to that end shall take over such quantities as it may deem essential.

Article 2. The National Ministry of Industry and Commerce, in order to cover expenditures arising from the deposit of the cost of paper expropriated, the 10 per cent compensation and other expenses incurred in the enforcement of the present Decree may make use, on a reimbursable basis, of the funds provided under Articles 2 and 3 of Decree No. 5,702/49 of 7 March 1949.

Article 3. After the deposit of the amount corresponding to the cost of the newsprint expropriated and the 10 per cent compensation referred to in the preceding article, the National Ministry of Industry and Commerce shall take possession of the newsprint in accordance with the provisions of Article 16 of Act 12,830 and shall place it at the disposal of the Sub-Secretariat of Information for distribution to newspaper and periodical publishing firms throughout the country in such a manner as to ensure that each is supplied with the paper required for the actual number of copies printed.

Paper shall be furnished to such firms at Buenos Aires, subject to the usual conditions, at a price reflecting the average cost of the material expropriated.

Article 4. The Treasury Solicitor or, in the event of his absence or inability to serve, the Deputy Attorney attached to the Federal Court of Justice in the

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capital and the Federal Prosecutor in the other jurisdictions shall be designated as special representative (Act 3,367, Article 1) to institute such proceedings as may be necessary in accordance with instructions furnished by the National Ministry of Industry and Commerce.

Article 5. The Sub-Secretariat of Information shall be authorized to verify the actual number of copies printed of the publications of newspaper and periodical publishing firms and to establish the maximum number of copies returnable in order to ensure that the quantity of newsprint utilized corresponds to the real sales potential of the publication in question.

Article 6. The National Ministry of Industry and Commerce shall be authorized, where necessary and subject to prior consultation with the Sub-Secretariat of Information, to reduce the number of pages of publications to the extent required to carry out the purpose of the present Decree.

Article 7. The present Decree shall be counter-signed by the Ministers of State members of the National Economic Council.

Article 8. The present Decree shall be communicated, published and transmitted to the Directorate of the National Registry.

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

ORDER No. 157/51

THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE

ORDERS:

1. The provisions of Decree No. 31331 of 8 October 1948 and of Article 6 of Decree No. 5,702 of 5 March 1949 shall be amended, EIGHT (8) being established as the maximum number of pages for daily newspapers and periodicals of large format or its equivalent of SIXTEEN (16) pages for publications of tabloid size, with effect throughout the country on 2 March next.

The maximum number of pages per publication and/or per day referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be calculated in each case on the basis of the daily average for the week, running from Monday to Sunday.

The number of pages authorized for the weekly supplement of daily publications shall be maintained; the supplement may be issued as such or as an addition to the maximum authorized under the provisions of the first sentence of this paragraph;

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the provisions of the second sentence shall also apply.

2. In accordance with the provisions of the preceding paragraph, a reduction of FORTY PER CENT (40%) shall be effected in the allocation of newsprint to daily newspaper and periodical publishing firms throughout the country on the basis of the normal consumption registered by the users during the period considered by the Sub-Secretariat of Information as representative of normal consumption in 1950 and also on the basis of the availability of newsprint.

3. An immediate reduction of FORTY PER CENT (40%) on the basis established in the preceding paragraph shall also be effected in the allocation of newsprint to publishers for the publication of magazines.

4. The subsidiary organs of this Ministry and of the Sub-Secretariat of Information of the Office of the President (Directorate-General of Supply and Directorate-General of Publicity respectively) shall take joint action to examine and find solutions for any technical difficulties that may prevent or impede the strict enforcement of the effective reduction of newsprint consumption referred to in the preceding clause.

5. Persons violating the provisions of the present order shall be liable to the penalties established by Acts Nos. 12,830, 12,983, 13,492 and 13,906.

6. The present order shall be registered, published, communicated to the Governors of Provinces and national territories, the Sub-Secretariat of Information and the Directorate-General for Price Control and Supply, transmitted to the Directorate-General of Supply and placed in the archives.

(Signed) JOSE CONSTANTINO BARRO
Minister of Industry and Commerce