

## **“Argentine Revolution” 1966-73**

- Onganía, 1966-70
  - “The Night of the Long Batons,” 1966. Military occupation of the University of Buenos Aires.
  - Suspended political parties.
  - Corporatist control over interest groups.
  - *Cordoba*, 1969.
- Lanusse, 1971-73
  - More transitional after *Cordoba*.
  - Was placed under house arrest in 1994 after criticizing President Menem.

## **“National Reorganization Process” (Dirty War) 1976-83**

- Videla, 1976-81
  - Ousted Isabel Peron in military coup, March 24, 1976.
  - Removed by another military coup, Dec. 1981—primarily due to economic difficulties.
  - Generally seen as responsible for some 30,000 disappearances/executions and the theft of babies born to mothers in captivity.
  - 1985, Trial of the Juntas (TOJ)—initiated by President Alfonsín, sentenced to life imprisonment.
  - 1990, pardoned by President Menem, citing the need to “move on.”
  - 1998, briefly returned to prison for kidnapping of babies.
  - 2003, President Kirchner declares that Videla was never a legal president.
  - 2006-07, courts strike down his presidential pardon.
  - July 2, 2010, trial for human rights violations begins.
  - Dec. 22, 2010, sentenced to life imprisonment.
- Viola, 1981
  - Led coup against Videla
  - Ousted by coup, Dec., 1981 by Galtieri, allegedly for economic difficulties, divisions within the military, and “health.”
  - Sentenced to 17 years in prison (TOJ), 1985.
  - Pardoned in 1990 by Menem.
  - Died in 1994.
- Galtieri, 1981-82
  - Falklands/Malvinas War, April-June, 1982.
  - Ousted June 1982 by transitional military government citing the mishandling of the Falklands/Malvinas War.
  - Acquitted in TOJ, 1985.
  - 1986, sentenced to 12 years in prison for mishandling the Falklands/Malvinas War.
  - Pardoned by Menem, 1990.
  - July, 2002, new charges on human rights violations. Placed under House Arrest.
  - Died in 2003 of a heart attack.
- Bignone, 1982-83
  - Transitional
  - 1983 while in office—declared amnesty for all (including himself) accused of human rights violations
  - Tried and acquitted in the TOJ, 1985.

- 2010 trial, sentenced to 25 years in prison.

## **Videla and Pinochet Compared**

- **Videla** ruled 5 years, 1976-81. Ousted by other generals, who themselves were ousted over the next three years.
- **Pinochet** ruled over 15 years, 1973-1989. Left “voluntarily” after losing 1988 plebiscite.
- **Videla** sentenced to live within four years (sentenced in 1985).
  - Pardoned, 1990.
  - Briefly returned to prison, 1998.
  - 2006-07, pardon struck down by courts.
  - December, 2010, sentenced to life imprisonment.
- **Pinochet** , first charges brought in Spain (1996-98) some 7 years after leaving power.
  - Commander-in-Chief, until 1998.
  - Senator-for-Life (with amnesty), 1998-2000—in exchange for a constitutional amendment recognizing him as an “ex-president” and thus immune from prosecution.
  - 1996, Spanish charges.
  - 1998, house arrest in London.
  - British release him in 2000.
  - Returns to Chile, 2000, achieves immunity.
  - But the courts strip him of immunity, 2000.
  - Indicted 2000.
  - Charges suspended, 2001-02, due to health.
  - 2004 new indictment.
  - 2005, courts debate immunity.
  - 2006, charged with human rights violations.
  - Dies in 2006 within a month of the previous charges.