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FM BUENOS AIRES 09/1306Z FEB 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 33 OF 09 FEBRUARY 1982

INFO IMMEDIATE PORT STANLEY (PERSONAL FOR GOVERNOR)

UKM13 NY

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YOUR TELS NOS 28 AND 32 : FALKLAND TALKS

Aw 040/325/1		
RECEIVED IN SECRETARY'S OFFICE 18		
10 FEB 1982		
DESK OFFICER	REGISTRY	
INDEX	PA	Action Taken

1. I WAS ABLE TO SEE AMBASSADOR ROS, WITH AMBASSADOR BLANCO, YESTERDAY EVENING AND SPOKE AS INSTRUCTED, LEAVING MY SPEAKING NOTES IN ENGLISH. I MADE IT CLEAR THAT THIS WAS A RESTATEMENT OF OUR BASIC APPROACH, COMPLEMENTING THE ARGENTINES' OWN STATEMENT IN THE FIRST PART OF THEIR BOUT DE PAPIER.
2. ROS RAISED NO QUERY OR OBJECTION IN REGARD TO THE BODY OF MY STATEMENT, BUT EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN OVER THE REFERENCE TO QUOTE THE PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH WORKING GROUPS UNQUOTE. HE ASKED IF THIS FORESHADOWED A BRITISH COUNTERPROPOSAL ON MECHANISMS, SINCE IT WAS CENTRAL TO THE ARGENTINE SUGGESTION THAT THERE SHOULD BE A SINGLE OVER-ALL BODY, TREATING THE MATTER QUOTE GLOBALLY UNQUOTE, EVEN IF IT HAD WORKING GROUPS UNDER IT. THERE WAS A HISTORY TO THE PHRASE QUOTE WORKING GROUPS UNQUOTE FROM MR ROWLAND'S TIME, WHICH HAD DISAPPOINTING CONNOTATIONS FOR THE ARGENTINES. I HAD TO SAY THAT I HAD NO READY EXPLANATION FOR THIS ALTERED PRASEOLOGY AND NOTHING I KNEW OF SUGGESTED THAT IT HAD HIDDEN SIGNIFICANCE; I WOULD REPORT HIS CONCERN AND TRY TO GET HIM A CLARIFICATION QUICKLY. I SHOULD BE GLAD OF THIS.
3. ROS WAS CLEARLY ALSO SOMEWHAT DISAPPOINTED THAT I COULD NOT YET GIVE HIM ANY EVEN PRELIMINARY REACTION TO THE QUOTE PROPOSAL UNQUOTE AT THE END OF HIS BOUT DE PAPIER. I EXPLAINED THAT MR LUCE WOULD WANT TO DISCUSS MATTERS WITH THE COUNCILLORS IN NEW YORK AND THEY THEMSELVES MIGHT NEED TO REPORT TO THEIR COLLEAGUES BEFORE REACHING A DECISION. ROS RESPONDED THAT HE VERY MUCH HOPED WE COULD AT LEAST REACH SOME DECISION ON MECHANISMS BEFORE THE END OF THIS NEW YORK ROUND. OTHERWISE WE WOULD HAVE NOTHING LEFT ON THE TABLE. I THINK THIS MAY HAVE BEEN A FRIENDLY WARNING OF THE DIFFICULTY WE MIGHT PUT HIM IN VIS-A-VIS THE FIRE-EATERS AT THIS END.
4. AS REPORTED IN TELECON WITH RESIDENT CLERK, ROS READILY ACCEPTED POSTPONEMENT OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT SCHEDULED FOR TODAY, BUT EMPHASISED HIS UNDERSTANDING FROM AMBASSADOR ORTIZ DE ROZAS THAT THE DELAY WOULD NOT EXTEND BEYOND THIS WEEK. I MADE IT CLEAR THAT IT WAS CANADIAN CONSTITUTIONAL CONSIDERATIONS AND NOTHING BILATERAL WHICH PROMPTED US TO REQUEST ARGENTINE INDULGENCE IN THIS MATTER.

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5. THE INTERVIEW WAS, AS USUAL, CORDIAL AND INFORMAL. BUT, AS PRESS ITEMS WHICH WE ARE REPORTING SEPARATELY CLEARLY INDICATE, THE PRESSURES ON THOSE ARGENTINES WHO ARE TRYING TO BE SENSIBLE ARE ON THE INCREASE.

WILLIAMS

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NEWS D
PS/MR LUCE
MR DAY
MR URE

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