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FM FCO 021830Z APR 82

TO FLASH BUENOS AIRES

TELEGRAM NUMBER 91 OF 2 APRIL

AND TO IMMEDIATE: BERNE, WASHINGTON, UKMIS NEW YORK

MY TEL NO 89

ARGENTINA: SEVERANCE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

1. THE PUS SUMMONED THE ARGENTINE CHARGE THIS EVENING. HE TOLD HIM THAT FOLLOWING HIS GOVERNMENT'S INVASION OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS HMG WERE BREAKING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT.

2. SIR MICHAEL PALLISER SAID THAT THE SWISS GOVERNMENT HAD AGREED TO PROTECT OUR INTERESTS IN BUENOS AIRES. HE ASKED THE CHARGE TO CONSULT PROTOCOL AND CONFERENCE DEPARTMENT ABOUT THEIR CHOICE OF THIRD COUNTRY TO ACT AS PROTECTING POWER FOR ARGENTINA IN LONDON. IT WAS AGREED THAT A SMALL INTERESTS SECTION MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE IN THE EMBASSIES OF THE PROTECTING POWERS AT EITHER END. SIR M PALLISER ASKED THAT THE REST OF THE ARGENTINE EMBASSY SHOULD DEPART WITHIN 4 WORKING DAYS, IE BY MIDDAY ON THURSDAY 8 APRIL.

CARRINGTON

Handwritten initials: n. n. 5/4.

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