TYPISTS

ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS

1305 (31) 34

PS
PS/MR HURD
PS/MR ONSLOW
PS/PUS
MR GIFFARD
MR WRIGHT
MR ADAMS
MR URE
MR GILLMORE

FD/S AM D (FCO DIST + A/D F/I)

ED/DEF B
ED/NEWS D
FD/UND
FD/PLANNING STAFF
AR ANTHONY WILLIAM

LR ANTHONY WILLIAMS W60

RESIDENT CLERK

(Copy passed to Emergency Staff)

PS NO 10 DOWNING ST

PS/CHANCELLOR)
SIR K COUZENS)
MR LITTLER)
MR HAWTIN)

MR PERETZ TREASURY

MR ILETT
MR MCINTYRE

MISS DICKSON (EIP DIV) D/EN

DIO CABINET OFFICE MR WADE-GERY CABINET OFFICE MR FULLER SAPU/DIO " "

SIR M PALLISER CABINET OFFICE SIR R ARMSTRONG " "

PP UKDEL NATO

PP LIMA

GRS 600

CONFIDENTIAL

DESKBY FCO 041300Z

DESKBY WASHINGTON 041400Z

DESKBY UKMIS NEW YORK 041400Z

FM MADRID Ø 410 20 Z MAY 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 242 OF 4 MAY

INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON, UKMIS NEW YORK

INFO PRIORITY GOVERNOR GIBRALTAR (PERSONAL), LIMA, UKDEL NATO.

MY TELEGRAM NO. 241 & SPANISH POSITION ON THE FALKLANDS

WHEN CUENCA (DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY) CONTACTED ME THIS MORNING ON ANOTHER SUBJECT (SEE SEPARATE TELEGRAM) I TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENQUIRE FURTHER SEE SEPARATE TELEGRAM) I TOOK THE SDANISH GOVERNMENT TO HELP IN

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SEE SEPARATE TELEGRAM) I TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENQUIRE FURTHER ABOUT THE ALLEGED WILLINGNESS OF THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT TO HELP IN ANY WAY TOWARDS A DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION. THIS IS SPLASHED OVER THIS MORNING'S SPANISH PRESS. THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAD BEEN DUE TO GO TO WASHINGTON THIS WEEK IN ANY CASE FOR BILATERAL TALKS WITH THE US GOVERNMENT ABOUT THE BASES AGREEMENT ON 5 AND 6 MAY. BUT THE PRESS CLAIM THAT HE ACCELERATED HIS DEPARTURE YESTERDAY IN ORDER TO SEE THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK TODAY.

- 2. CUENCA CONFIRMED THE SPANISH POSITION AS SUMMARISED IN MY
 TELEGRAM UNDER REFERENCE. SPAIN HAD INDEED MADE NO SPECIFIC OFFER
 OF MEDIATION, AS PEREZ LLORCA HAD PUBLICLY MADE CLEAR. BUT HE WENT
 ON TO IMPLY THAT CERTAIN ELEMENTS WITHIN THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT (TO
 NECESSARILY THE FOREIGN MINISTER HIMSELF) WOULD NOT BE AVERSE
 TO SPAIN TRYING TO PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE, IF THIS WERE
 ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH SIDES. PEREZ LLORCA WOULD ASSESS THE POSITION
 AFTER SEEING THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UN AND AFTER HIS FIRST
 TALK WITH HAIG WHICH MIGHT BE IN WASHINGTON THIS EVENING. SPANISH
 WILLINGNESS TO JOIN IN AN INITIATIVE WOULD DEPEND ON THE OUTCOME
 OF THOSE TALKS. (AT THE TIME I HAD NOT SEEN UKMIS NEW YORK
 TELEGRAM NO. 642 ABOUT A POSSIBLE IMMINENT MEETING OF THE SECURITY
 COUNCIL. THIS MIGHT AFFECT PEREZ LLORCA'S PLANS).
- 3. I TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO SAY FRANKLY TO CUENCA, AS THE EUROPEAN EXPERT IN THE MINISTRY, THAT WE HAD BEEN DISAPPOINTED AND CONCERNED BY RECENT STATEMENTS OF THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT. THEE HAD APPEARED TO LINE UP SPAIN MORE CLOSELY WITH ARGENTINA THAN AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CRISIS. IT WAS SURELY DISTURBING THAT THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT NOW FOUND THEMSELVES OUT OF STEP WITH THE COMMBITY, NATO AND INDEED THE REST OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE. CUENCA SAD THAT THE MINISTRY WERE VERY CONSCIOUS OF THESE POINTS. HE HOPED TO BE IN TOUCH WITH ME SHORTLY TO RESUME OUR DIALOGUE OVER GIBRALTAR. THIS GAVE ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS THE STRONG HOPE THAT THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT COULD REFRAIN FROM, OR AT LEAST LIMIT, ANY FUTURE PUBLIC STATEMENTS ABOUT THE FALKLANDS. THESE WOULD IN EVITABLY HAVE A NEGATIVE EFFECT ON OUR DIALOGUE OVER GIBRALTAR.
- 4. I CANNOT BE HOPEFUL THAT, IN THE PRESENT MOOD OF SPANISH OPINION
 THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT WOULD FEEL ABLE TO PLAY A HELPFUL PART
 OVER THE FALKLANDS, AS THE MOTHER COUNTRY OF THE HISPANIC
 WORLD AND THE ONLY WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRY TO FAIL TO CONDEMN
 THE ORIGINAL ARGENTINE AGGRESSION. THE DAMAGE POTENTIAL OF
 SPAIN COULD BE CONSIDERABLE, GIVEN ALSO THEIR CURRENT MEMBERSHIP
 OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL. AFTER PEREZ-LLORCA'S TALK WITH PEREZ
 DE CUELLA AND HAIG, SIR A PARSONS AND /OR SIR N HENDERSON

OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL. AFTER PEREZ-LLORCA'S TALK WITH PEREZ

OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL. AFTER PEREZ-LLORCA'S TALK WITH PEREZ

DE CUELLA AND HAIG, SIR A PARSONS AND /OR SIR N HENDERSON

MICHT THINK IT WORTH WHILE TO SPEAK DIRECT TO PEREZ-LLORCA

OR HIS ABLE SECRETARY OF STATE (MANUECO) WHO IS TRAVELLING WITH

HIM. THEY ARE ALREADY WELL AWARE OF THE SUBSTANCE OF OUR

POSITION (MY TELEGRAM NO 239).

5. SINCE POSSIBLY EXAGGERATED ACCOUNTS OF THE ARGENTINE CASUALITIES ON THE GENERAL BELGRAND ARE ALSO CURRENT HERE (UKMIS NEW YORK TELNO ABOVE MENTIONED) IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WHAT WE CAN SAY ON THIS SCORE.

PARSONS

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