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CONFIDENTIAL

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TELELETTER

FROM G A DUGGAN, SOUTH AMERICA DEPARTMENT

FOLLOWING FOR H M CARLESS CMG CHARGE D'AFFAIRES BUENOS AIRES  
SECRETARY OF STATE'S MEETING WITH ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER:  
NEW YORK: 26 SEPTEMBER

1. YOU WILL WANT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED IN NEW YORK.
2. PASTOR WAS ACCOMPANIED BY ORTIZ DE ROSAS WHOM HE INTRODUCED AS HIS NOMINEE FOR AMBASSADOR TO LONDON.
3. PASTOR REFERRED WITH SATISFACTION TO MR RIDLEY'S VISIT TO BUENOS AIRES AND TO RECENT VISITS TO LONDON BY ARGENTINE OFFICIALS AND MENTIONED HIS OWN MEMORIES OF BRITAIN. HE DESCRIBED THE EXPANSION OF THE ARGENTINE ECONOMY AND REFERRED TO PROSPECTS FOR BRITISH INDUSTRY.
4. ON 'MALVINAS' PASTOR CLAIMED THAT THE ISLANDS WERE A LOW BRITISH PRIORITY BUT TOP OF THE LIST FOR ARGENTINA. THE ARGENTINES DID NOT SHARE THE BRITISH VIEW THAT ISLANDER WISHES WERE PARAMOUNT ALTHOUGH THEY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THEY HAD TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. A FORMULA HAD TO BE FOUND TO RECONCILE THIS DIFFERENCE. THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT WAS READY TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE BEST POSSIBLE INTENTIONS.
5. PASTOR PROPOSED WHAT HE CALLED A PROGRAMME OF WORK ON 3 LEVELS: (I) OUR RESPECTIVE FOREIGN MINISTRIES SHOULD KEEP IN TOUCH THROUGH AMBASSADORS AT LEAST WEEKLY. AMBASSADORS SHOULD BE NOMINATED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE: (II) MR RIDLEY AND HIS ARGENTINE COLLEAGUE SHOULD MEET TWICE A YEAR VERY INFORMALLY WITH AN OPEN AGENDA, SWITCHING TO OFFICIAL MEETINGS WHEN THERE WAS SOMETHING AGREED TO BE FORMALISED: (III) THE 2 FOREIGN MINISTERS SHOULD MEET ONCE A YEAR AT THE UN, ALSO PERHAPS ELSEWHERE: THE SECRETARY OF STATE WOULD BE WELCOME IN ARGENTINA AT ANY TIME.
6. THE SECRETARY OF STATE REGRETTED THAT THERE WAS DISAGREEMENT WITH A COUNTRY WITH WHICH BRITAIN HAD ENJOYED A LONG TRADITION OF FRIENDSHIP. PASTOR HAD PINPOINTED OUR DIFFICULTY. AS WITH GIBRALTAR, BRITISH OPINION WOULD NOT COUNTENANCE ANY SOLUTION WHICH IGNORED THE INHABITANTS OF THE TERRITORIES CONCERNED. THE PROBLEM WAS DIFFICULT BUT NOT INSOLUBLE PROVIDED EACH UNDERSTOOD THE OTHER'S POSITION. BUT OVERRIDING PROBLEMS OF EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS AND SOUTHERN AFRICA HAD MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO THINK DEEPLY ABOUT THE FALKLAND ISLANDS. HE HAD NO SOLUTION AT PRESENT BUT WAS CONSIDERING THE MATTER. ONCE APPOINTED, AMBASSADORS SHOULD BE INVITED TO DEPLOY THEIR IMAGINATION AND EXPERIENCE ON THE PROBLEM.
7. PASTOR DID NOT ASK THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO AGREE FIRM DATES/VENUE FOR A FURTHER NEGOTIATING ROUND. ONCE POLICY DECISIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN, WE WILL SEND YOU FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS.
8. PLEASE HAVE A COPY FORWARDED BY QUICKEST MEANS TO FORT STANLEY FOR THE GOVERNOR. THE GOVERNOR MAY AT HIS DISCRETION DRAY ON ABOVE IN TALKING TO COUNCILLORS. MR RIDLEY WILL BE SENDING THEM A MESSAGE ONCE POLICY GUIDELINES ARE SETTLED.

SIGNED G A DUGGAN