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FROM UKMIS NEW YORK 292255Z APR 80
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 TELEGRAM NUMBER 677 OF 29 APRIL
 INFO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES PORT STANLEY AND WASHINGTON

FROM MINISTER OF STATE
 FALKLAND ISLANDS TALKS

1. MY TALKS WITH UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE, COMODORO CAVANDOLI, HAVE GONE WELL AND PROBABLY MUCH BETTER THAN WE MIGHT HAVE EXPECTED. HE MADE EVERY EFFORT TO BE CO-OPERATIVE, WHILE CONTINUING TO REPRESENT THE FORMAL ARGENTINE POSITION ON SOVEREIGNTY. WE WERE AGREED THAT THE TALKS WERE EXPLORATORY, ASSISTING EACH OTHER TO AN UNDERSTANDING OF OUR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS. EVERY ASPECT OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS SITUATION WAS DISCUSSED. CAVANDOLI SEEMED TO COME WITH THE INTENTION, WHICH CORRESPONDED CLOSELY TO OURS, TO EXPLORE POSITIONS IN A POSITIVE MANNER AND TO SEE WHAT AREAS FOR CO-OPERATION MIGHT BE WORTH PURSUING IN THE FUTURE. WE WERE THEREFORE CLOSELY IN ACCORD ON THE NEED FOR CO-OPERATION IN LICENSING FISHING BY THIRD PARTIES, AND AGREED ALSO THAT WE HAD MUTUAL INTERESTS IN FURTHERING EXPLORATION AND POSSIBLE EXPLOITATION OF ANY OIL DEPOSITS. WE AGREED NEVERTHELESS THAT EVERYTHING HAD TO BE AD REFERENDUM TO OUR COLLEAGUES AND THAT WE WOULD BOTH REPORT BACK. THE ONLY DECISION TAKEN, STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY ISLAND COUNSELLOR MONK, WAS THAT WE SHOULD DEVELOP A FURTHER DIRECT CHANNEL OF CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE ISLANDERS AND THE ARGENTINES TO CLARIFY ANY DAY TO DAY MATTERS WHICH CAUSED THE ISLANDERS PARTICULAR DIFFICULTY, BUT ALSO INCLUDING FURTHER ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION.

2. COMODORO CAVANDOLI WAS CLEARLY IN CHARGE OF HIS DELEGATION, KEEN TO ESTABLISH A GOOD ATMOSPHERE AND TO MAKE PROGRESS AND WISHING IN NO WAY TO RAISE THE TEMPERATURE ON THE ISSUE. THE ARGENTINES APPEAR TO WISH TO CONTINUE TO WOO THE ISLANDERS BY EXPANDING AND DEVELOPING CONTACTS. THEY WELCOMED THE PRESENCE OF COUNSELLOR MONK AND TOOK EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN FRANKLY TO HIM THEIR VIEWS AND THEIR CONCERNS.

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3. I THINK WE HAVE MADE A GOOD BEGINNING. THE ARGENTINES ARE NOW FULLY AWARE THAT WE ADHERE TO THE STATED POSITION THAT NOTHING WHICH IS NOT ACCEPTABLE TO THE ISLANDERS WILL BE PROCEEDED WITH. THEY OBVIOUSLY WISH TO CONTINUE OUR TALKS, PROVIDED THAT THEY CAN SHOW AT HOME THAT SOME PROGRESS IS BEING MADE, IF ONLY IN TERMS OF OUR CONTINUING TO TALK TO EACH OTHER. WE AGREED (AFTER A SLIGHT WRANGLE ON THE WORD "NEGOTIATIONS", TO ISSUE A SHORT COMMUNIQUE (TEXT IN MIFT) AND TO SEND NOTES IN PARALLEL TO THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL, SIMPLY STATING THAT WE HAD MET AND TALKED. I PROPOSE ALSO TO SEND A MESSAGE TO ISLAND COUNSELLORS AND COUNSELLOR MONK INTENDS TO SPEAK BROADLY IN THE SAME TERMS TO HIS FELLOW COUNSELLORS WHEN HE RETURNS TO THE ISLANDS.

PARSONS

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FALKLAND ISLANDS

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