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16-Jul-2001

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RELEASED IN PART  
B1, 1.5(B), 1.5(D)

DRAFTED BY RLFUNSETH  
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY  
P:LSEAGLEBURGER  
S/S:LPBREMER, III  
S/S-O:RWERDMAN  
ARA:TENDERS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON FLASH  
INFO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE 7442

[REDACTED] STATE 112102

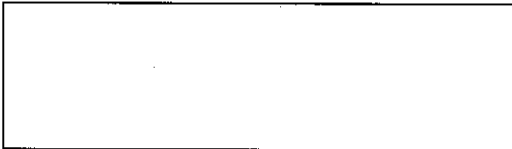
DECAPTIONED

[REDACTED] LONDON FOR AMBASSADOR AND CHARGE ONLY

E.O. 12065; RDS-3 4/26/L2 (HAIG, ALEXANDER M., JR.)  
TAGS: PSDC, UK, US, FA  
SUBJECT: FALKLAND ISLANDS; MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY  
TO FOREIGN SECRETARY PYM

1. [REDACTED] - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY TO THE FCO FOR FORETGN SECRETARY PYM:
3. BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR FRANCIS:



B1

WE BELIEVE THAT YOUR SUCCESS ON SOUTH GEORGIA MAY NOW GIVE US GREATER REASON TO HOPE THAT THE ARGENTINES WILL REGARD THE PRESENTLY DRAFTED FRAMEWORK AS A PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE TO FURTHER ARMED CONFLICT. IF THIS HOPE

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IS NOT MISPLACED, WE MAY HAVE AN EXTREMELY CRITICAL OPPORTUNITY -- PERHAPS THE LAST -- BEFORE AN ESCALATION

OF THE FIGHTING TAKES PLACE AND THE SCENARIO CHANGES IN A WAY WHICH PLUNGES ARGENTINA AND BRITAIN INTO AN ARMED CONFLICT WHICH -- WHATEVER ITS IMMEDIATE OUTCOME -- WILL CREATE LONG-TERM INSTABILITY, INSECURITY AND HOSTILITY.

AS NICKO HAS NO DOUBT TOLD YOU, WE HAVE PROPOSED TO THE ARGENTINES THAT I LEAVE FOR BUENOS AIRES AS SOON AS THAT CAN BE ARRANGED -- PERHAPS IN THE NEXT FEW HOURS. I WILL, IN LINE WITH THE PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE OF APRIL 24, AND YOUR SECOND MESSAGE TODAY, PRESENT OUR IDEAS TO PRESIDENT GALTIERI AND THE JUNTA. I AM NOT GOING TO BUENOS AIRES TO NEGOTIATE; RATHER I WILL BE PREPARED TO EXPLAIN OUR IDEAS AND SEEK A PROMPT RESPONSE. NEED-LESS TO SAY, I WILL NOT REMAIN IN ARGENTINA AN INORDINATE PERIOD OF TIME.

OBVIOUSLY, ALL OF THE ABOVE IS PREDICATED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE ARGENTINES AGREE TO RECEIVE ME. IF THEY DO NOT, WE MUST NEVERTHELESS MAKE AN EFFORT TO PRESENT OUR IDEAS, IF ONLY TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THE ARGENTINES HAD A FAIR PROPOSITION BEFORE THEM WHICH THEY CHOSE TO DECLINE. THEREFORE, IF I DO NOT GO TO BUENOS AIRES, I WILL INSTRUCT OUR AMBASSADOR THERE TO DELIVER OUR TEXT AND ASK FOR A PROMPT ARGENTINE REPLY. THUS,

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WHETHER OR NOT I GO TO BUENOS AIRES, WE SHOULD KNOW WITHIN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO WHETHER THERE IS REASON TO HOPE THAT A SETTLEMENT CAN BE REACHED BEFORE NEW, MORE INTENSE HOSTILITIES ERUPT.

I WILL OF COURSE STAY IN CLOSEST CONTACT WITH YOU.

WITH WARM PERSONAL REGARDS TO YOU AND PRIME MINISTER THATCHER, AL. END TEXT.

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