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FM WASHINGTON 111540Z APR 82

TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1230 OF 11 APRIL

YOUR TEL 690: FALKLANDS: SOVIET-ARGENTINIAN COLLUSION.

1. I AM AWARE OF THE ARGUMENTS THAT WE MUST AVOID DRIVING THE ARGENTINIANS INTO THE ARMS OF THE RUSSIANS AND THAT THE AMERICANS, AWARE OF THIS DANGER, SHOULD NOT OUTWARDLY TILT TOO MUCH TOWARDS US.

2. IT IS AN ARGUMENT FOSTERED BY THE ARGENTINIANS. IT IGNORES THE FACT THAT THE ARGENTINIANS ARE ALREADY IN A BEAR HUG. THE ARGENTINIANS ARE CURRYING FAVOUR WITH WASHINGTON BY SHOWING READINESS TO MAKE COMMON CAUSE WITH THEM IN RESISTING COMMUNISM IN CENTRAL AMERICA: WHILE AT THE SAME TIME THEY ARE BECOMING INCREASINGLY DEPENDENT ON THE SOVIETS IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC. IS THERE NOT A CASE FOR EXPOSING INTERNATIONAL CYNICISM OF SUCH A HIGH ORDER?

3. THE ISSUE THAT AROUSES AMERICANS MORE THAN ANY OTHER IS THAT OF ANTI-COMMUNISM. BUT IT NEEDS SOMEONE OTHER THAN THE US GOVT BECAUSE THEY ARE HOOKED ON NOT TAKING SIDES, TO DRAW AMERICAN ATTENTION TO THE DANGER THAT COMMUNISM WILL ADVANCE IN THE AMERICAN HEMISPHERE IF GALTIERI, AIDED AND ABETTED BY THE SOVIETS, HAS HIS WAY.

4. I HAVE DISCUSSED THIS WITH WEINBERGER WHO DOES NOT AT ALL GO ALONG WITH THE KIRKPATRICK-ENDERS SCHOOL OF NOT BEING BEASTLY TO THE ARGENTINIANS FOR FEAR OF DRIVING THEM INTO THE SOVIET CAMP. HE REFERS TO FOUR SOVIET/ARGENTINIAN AGREEMENTS JUST SIGNED IN B.A.. MORE IMPORTANT, HE TELLS ME THAT HE KNOWS THAT THE SOVIETS ARE PASSING TO B.A. INTELLIGENCE ABOUT THE MOVEMENTS OF OUR FLEET, WHICH THEY ARE FOLLOWING VERY CLOSELY BY VARIOUS MEANS. THIS COULD BE VERY SERIOUS WHEN THE FLEET GETS WITHIN RANGE OF THE ARGENTINE AIR FORCE. WE WILL NOT BY EXPOSING SOVIET INVOLVEMENT DO ANYTHING TO MAKE B.A. MORE DEPENDENT ON THE SOVIETS. BUT WE WILL AWAKEN A USEFUL RESPONSE HERE WHERE VIGIL IS NEEDED CONSTANTLY TO KEEP THE AMERICANS ON TRACK.

5. WHAT THEREFORE I WOULD LIKE TO SAY PUBLICLY VERY SOON IS MORE OR LESS AS FOLLOWS.

BEGINS:

NOONE IN THE USA SHOULD OVERLOOK A SINISTER INCREASE IN COMMUNIST INFLUENCE THAT HAS BEEN OCCURRING IN THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE WHILE ATTENTION HAS BEEN FOCUSSED ON CENTRAL AMERICA. MENTION SOVIET GRAIN DEPENDENCE ON B.A. AS A SAFETY-VALVE AGAINST RISK US GRAIN STOPPAGE (ALREADY 80 PERCENT ARGENTINE GRAIN EXPORTS GO TO USSR) MENTION 5-YEAR MEAT AGREEMENTS. MENTION RECENT ANNOUNCEMENT FORMATION JOINT FISHING COMPANIES OFF FALKLANDS. MENTION REPORTS OF DEALS FOR SOVIETS TO PROVIDE ENRICHED URANIUM TO ARGENTINE.

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FINALLY I THINK MENTION COULD BE MADE OF THE KNOWN SOVIET SURVEILLANCE CAPACITY IN THE NORTH AND SOUTH ATLANTIC: THE KNOWN PRESENCE (PUBLISHED BY BOTH WASHINGTON POST AND NEW YORK TIMES) OF BEAR AIRCRAFT WITH 8000 MILES RANGE, AND THEIR ACCESS TO BASES IN CUBA AND ANGOLA.

SO MUCH FOR NOT TAKING SIDES AND DRAWING A LINE RIGHT DOWN THE MIDDLE.
ENDS.

HENDERSON

LIMITED
HD/S AM D
HD/DEF D
HD/EESD
HD/UND
HD/PLANNING STAFF
HD/NEWS D
HD/INFORMATION D
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PS
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