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A.S.C. 26/3

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*on sabbatical leave 1983-84

An Argentine friend who has given useful information in the past telephoned me yesterday from Buenos Aires. He purports to have spoken to Ayonsin.

The latter wishes to pass the following message: he is naturally waiting for the British reply to his latest communication with the keenest interest. He is "under no illusions that he will be getting anything mammellons but he hopes that it will not be too negative". Above all, he hopes the reply will not be too harsh & uncompromising in tone. He is, he reminds us, facing the second anniversary of the invasion, & he expects brickbats from everyone: unions as well as army. He wd ideally "like something to hang his hat on".

Ayonsin hopes we realize that he & his govt. have steadfastly refused to have conversations with people who he knows are basically unsympathetic to yr. stance: e.g. [?] Montgomery, who has been down in Buenos Aires & has been talking a lot.

Personally, I shd. estimate this piece of information as fairly genuine; & I shd also think that it wd. be advantageous to dress up our message in graceful terms, if that cd. be managed.

Gugh Thomas
March 25 1984