

Argentina
Rth

39+37

FALKLAND ISLANDS GENERAL (ADVANCES)

PS
 PS/MR HURD
 PS/MR ONSLOW
 PS/MR RIFKIND
 PS/PUS
 SIR J BULLARD
 SIR I SINCLAIR
 MR GIFFARD
~~MR WRIGHT~~
 MR ADAMS
 LORD N G LENNOX
 MR EVANS
 MR URE
 MR GILLMORE
 HD/PUSD (2)
 HD/SAMD
 HD/FID
 HD/DEFENCE DEPT
 HD/NEWS DEPT
 HD/ERD
 HD/ECD(E)
 HD/UND
 HD/PLANNING STAFF

PS/NO 10 DOWNING ST (3)
 PS/S OF S FOR DEFENCE
 MR J STEWART AUSD STAFF MOD
 PS/CHANCELLOR)
 MR ILETT) TREASURY
 MR LITTLER)
 SIR R ARMSTRONG)
 MR A D S GOODALL) CABINET OFFICE
 DIO)
 MR M A PATTISON, FID, ODA
 MR A TITCHENER)
 MR C U ROBERTS, IAT) DOT

RESIDENT CLERK

IMMEDIATE

ADVANCE COPY

[fw]

GRS 300

UNCLASSIFIED

(FM BERNE 091050Z)

FM BIS BUENOS AIRES
 TO IMMEDIATE FCO
 TELNO 105 OF 08 MARCH
 AND TO IMMEDIATE MOD
 INFO PRIORITY MONTEVIDEO SANTIAGO BRASILIA CARACAS
 WASHINGTON UKMIS NEW YORK CIVIL COMMISSION ER PORT STANLEY

PRESS SUMMARY

1. TOP COVERAGE TODAY IS GIVEN TO THE INAUGURAL SESSION OF THE NAM SUMMIT. ALL PAPERS CARRY FULL PRESS AGENCY REPORTS. HIGHLIGHTED ARE PRESIDENT BIGNONE'S ADDRESS AND CUBAN PREMIER FIDEL CASTRO'S VALEDICTORY SPEECH AS CHAIRMAN OF THE MOVEMENT WHERE HE EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR ARGENTINA'S POSITION ON THE FALKLANDS DISPUTE. THERE ARE REPORTS THAT ARGENTINA WILL NOT BE SATISFIED MERELY WITH RECOGNITION OF HER SOVEREIGNTY RIGHTS BUT WILL SEEK A CLEAR CONDEMNATION OF THE UK'S QUOTE COLONIALIST UNQUOTE STANCE IN THE FINAL CONFERENCE DOCUMENT.

2. ACCORDING TO REPORTS IN THE BUENOS AIRES HERALD AND CONVICION THE CENTRE FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR THE FATHERLAND INTENDS TO SAIL A GROUP OF RELATIVES OF ARGENTINE DEAD TO THE ISLANDS AS SOON AS THEY OBTAIN INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS PROTECTION. OSVALDO DESTEFANIS, THE CENTRE'S PRESIDENT, HAS SAID THAT BRITISH REFUSAL TO ALLOW THE GROUP TO LAND ON THE ISLANDS MAY RESULT IN REPRISALS AGAINST BRITISH CITIZENS IN ARGENTINA.

3. THE GOVERNMENT YESTERDAY FROYE THE REPAYMENT OF PRINCIPAL ON PRIVATE DEBTS WITH FOREIGN BANKS WHICH FALLS DUE IN MARCH

3. THE GOVERNMENT YESTERDAY FROZE THE REPAYMENT OF PRINCIPAL ON PRIVATE DEBTS WITH FOREIGN BANKS WHICH FALLS DUE IN MARCH AND APRIL, UNTIL NEW MEASURES TO DEAL WITH THESE DEBTS EXPECTED SOON, ARE ANNOUNCED. PAPERS DIFFER ON THE AMOUNT IN QUESTION RANGING FROM 300 MILLION US DOLLARS IN THE NORMALLY RELIABLE AMBITIO FINANCIERO TO 1.4 BILLION IN THE OTHER DAILIES. THE FREEZE HOWEVER SHOULD NOT AFFECT THE PAYMENT OF INTERESTS ON THESE LOANS.

4. THE MULTIPARTIDARIA (FIVE-PARTY GROUPING) MEETS TODAY TO DISCUSS PRODUCTION OF A SOCIO-ECONOMIC EMERGENCY PLAN. THERE IS ALREADY DISAGREEMENT AMONGST THEM WHETHER SUCH A DOCUMENT SHOULD BE PRODUCED AT ALL AND, IF SO, WHETHER IT SHOULD BE PASSED ON TO THE GOVERNMENT.

5. ALL PAPERS NOTE THAT ARGENTINA WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE ANNUAL US-SPONSORED UNITAS NAVAL EXERCISES THIS YEAR.

6. ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL FIGURES PUBLISHED TODAY THE RETAIL COST OF LIVING IN FEBRUARY ROSE 13 PER CENT.

JOY

POWELL-JONES

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SENT AT RED AT 091113 ZTWPM/ RR