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OO WASHINGTON  
OO UKMIS NEW YORK  
GRS 708  
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FM FCO 271440Z OCT 83  
TO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 1803 OF 27 OCTOBER  
INFO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK  
INFO ROUTINE EC POSTS

*AOZ 21/10.  
h.a.*

YOUR TEL NO 3031 FALKLANDS AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. PLEASE LET THE AMERICANS KNOW AT A SUITABLY HIGH LEVEL THAT THE PRIME MINISTER AND I ARE DISAPPOINTED AND DISTRESSED THAT THE UNITED STATES SHOULD ONCE AGAIN BE PROPOSING TO VOTE WITH ARGENTINA AND DIRECTLY OPPOSITE US ON A MATTER OF SUCH IMPORTANCE TO US. WE CONTINUE TO FIND THIS AN EXTRAORDINARY POSTURE FOR ONE CLOSE ALLY TO ADOPT TOWARDS ANOTHER AT THE UNITED NATIONS. WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT THE UNITED STATES' ATTITUDE WILL SET BACK RATHER THAN ADVANCE THE PROSPECTS FOR A RELAXATION OF TENSION IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC BECAUSE IT CAN ONLY ENCOURAGE THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT PRESENT AND FUTURE TO CONTINUE ON THE PRESENT STERILE COURSE AND DAMAGE THE CHANCES OF THE CHANGE OF HEART IN ARGENTINA WITHOUT WHICH THERE CAN BE NO IMPROVEMENT IN THE SITUATION.
2. FOR YOUR OWN INFORMATION. I DO NOT PROPOSE TO PRESS THE AMERICANS TO CHANGE THEIR POSITION. WE HAVE ALWAYS THOUGHT IT LIKELY THAT THEY WOULD FEEL BOUND TO SUPPORT A DRAFT RESOLUTION WHICH SO CLOSELY RESEMBLES LAST YEAR'S. AS YOU HAVE POINTED OUT THE DRAFT HAS BEEN SLIGHTLY STRENGTHENED WITH THE INSERTION OF THE SEVENTH PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPH AND THE EXPRESSION OF REGRET AT THE LACK OF PROGRESS SINCE LAST YEAR WHICH IMPLIES A CRITICISM OF US. BUT I HAVE CONCLUDED THAT IT IS NOT (NOT) IN OUR INTEREST TO PRESS THESE POINTS TOO HARD WITH THE AMERICANS. WE DO NOT WANT THEM TO ATTEMPT TO PLACATE US BY PERSUADING THE ARGENTINES TO MAKE SOME MODEST ADJUSTMENT TO THE DRAFT WHICH COULD THEN LOSE US THE VOTES OF SOME IF NOT ALL OF OUR EUROPEAN PARTNERS.
3. LAST YEAR THE AMERICANS ANNOUNCED THEIR DECISION TWO DAYS

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BEFORE THE VOTE. THUS COMPOUNDING OUR DIFFICULTY WITH OUR PARTNERS IN THE FINAL STAGES OF OUR LOBBYING. THIS TIME THEY HAVE GIVEN THE ARGENTINES THE WEEKS NOTICE OF THEIR POSITION. WE MUST EXPECT THE ARGENTINES TO MAKE MAXIMUM USE OF THIS IN THEIR INTENSIVE CONTACTS WITH THE EUROPEANS. PLEASE POINT OUT TO THE AMERICANS THAT THEY HAVE DONE US A DISSERVICE BY TAKING THIS STEP AT SO EARLY A STAGE AND URGE THEM TO DO NOTHING WHICH MIGHT ENCOURAGE THE ITALIANS, THE FRENCH OR OTHER PARTNERS TO CHANGE THEIR VOTE. WE NOTE THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT DO NOT PROPOSE TO BE ACTIVE IN SUPPORT OF THE ARGENTINE DRAFT BUT THEY MAY WELL BE APPROACHED.

4. WE HOPE THE AMERICANS COULD MAKE IT CLEAR TO ANY EUROPEAN ENQUIRERS THAT WHILE THEY, FOR REASONS PECULIAR TO THEMSELVES WERE PROPOSING TO MAINTAIN THE POSITION THEY ADOPTED LAST YEAR THEY SAW NO REASON WHY THE UNITED KINGDOM'S PARTNERS IN EUROPEAN POLITICAL COOPERATION SHOULD CHANGE THE POSITION THEY HAVE ADOPTED. WE PARTICULARLY HOPE THAT THE AMERICANS WILL REFRAIN FROM ENDORSING THE ITALIAN IDEA THAT A VOTE DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSITE TO THE UNITED KINGDOM OVER THE FALKLANDS IS A GOOD WAY OF OFFERING ENCOURAGEMENT TO A NEW DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT IN ARGENTINA. THERE ARE MANY WAYS IN WHICH SUCH A GESTURE COULD BE MADE. IT SHOULD NOT BE AT OUR EXPENSE.

5. BURT OFFERED NO HELP REGARDING ARMS SALES. IT IS ONLY SMALL CONSOLATION THAT THE AMERICANS DO NOT NOW INTEND TO CERTIFY HUMAN RIGHTS IN ARGENTINA BEFORE THE CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN POWER. YOU SHOULD KEEP UP THE PRESSURE ON THIS SUBJECT, WHICH I REGARD AS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE UNGA DECISION YOU SHOULD EMPHASISE THAT THE RESUMPTION OF UNITED STATES ARMS DELIVERIES TO ARGENTINA COULD SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE THE THREAT TO THE FALKLANDS. IT WOULD THEREFORE BE TAKEN VERY BADLY BY THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT AND PUBLIC. ARGENTINE ATTITUDES REMAIN MENACING. THE JUNTA HAVE NOT EVEN DECLARED A FORMAL CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES AND LEADING CONTENDERS IN THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN HAVE GIVEN NO INDICATION WHATEVER THAT THEY MIGHT BE PREPARED TO RENOUNCE THE USE OF FORCE IN THE FUTURE. DECISION IN FAVOUR OF CERTIFICATION AND ARMS SUPPLIES WOULD GIVE PRECISELY THE

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WRONG SIGNALS TO THE INCOMING ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT AND  
MISTAKENLY, CONFER A MARK OF INTERNATIONAL RESPECTABILITY ON A  
NATION WHICH HAS RECENTLY COMMITTED A BRUTAL VIOLATION OF  
INTERNATIONAL LAW. THE MESSAGE IN THESE SIGNALS WILL BE  
INTENSIFIED IF THERE ARE FURTHER LEAKS SUCH AS THE REPORT  
DATELINED WASHINGTON IN THE DAILY TELEGRAPH OF 22 OCTOBER.

HOWE

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