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TELNO 626 OF 19 SEPTEMBER 1984

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PRESS SUMMARY

1. TODAY'S TOP NEWS IS ECONOMY MINISTER GRINSPUN'S ANNOUNCEMENT YESTERDAY OF A 'TECHNICAL AGREEMENT' WITH THE IMF WHICH HE HAS TAKEN WITH HIM TO WASHINGTON AND WHICH HE SAYS SHOULD ENABLE ARGENTINA TO SEEK A STANDBY CREDIT OF OVER 1.5 BILLION DOLLARS FROM THE FUND TO RUN FROM 1 OCTOBER FOR 15 MONTHS. GRINSPUN CAREFULLY AVOIDED REFERRING TO A FULL AGREEMENT WITH THE FUND, INDICATING THAT THERE WAS STILL A LONG NEGOTIATION AHEAD.
2. FOLLOW-UP REPORTS ON THE MAR DEL PLATA CONFERENCE SUGGEST THAT MOST LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES ARE REACTING CAUTIOUSLY TO REPORTS OF US OFFICIAL OPPOSITION TO A CREDITOR/DEBTOR SUMMIT CONFERENCE.
3. AS THE AIRLINE AND BANK STRIKES CONTINUE, AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED TO DEBATE THIS YEAR'S BUDGET ON 24 SEPTEMBER AND POSTPONE THE DATE FOR NORMAL CONSIDERATION OF THE 1985 BUDGET UNTIL

THE DATE FOR NORMAL CONSIDERATION OF THE 1985 BUDGET UNTIL NOVEMBER. SOCIAL CONTRACT DISCUSSIONS SEEM TO BE DRAGGING.

4. MOST PAPERS ARE PREPARING FOR THIS WEEK'S BIG NEWS EVENT, PUBLICATION TOMORROW OF THE SABATO COMMISSION REPORT ON THE DISAPPEARED WHICH IS EXPECTED TO NAME SOME 1,300 OFFICERS AND NCOS PRESUMABLY INVOLVED IN HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS. THERE ARE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN BITER ARGUMENTS WITHIN THE COMMISSION OVER PUBLICATION OF NAMES. INCREASED TENSION IN THE ARMED FORCES IS FORECAST AS THE DATE APPROACHES.

5. INTERNAL CONTROVERSY CONTINUES WITHIN THE RADICAL PARTY WHOSE NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING HAS BEEN POSTPONED AGAIN.

6. TODAY'S 'TIEMPO ARGENTINO' SAYS A BAHIA BLANCA PAPER YESTERDAY REPORTED THAT QUOTE SERIOUS COMPLICATIONS ARISING IN THE HOLY SEE COULD PARALYSE THE (BEAGLE) NEGOTIATIONS COMPLETELY, LEADING TO SUSPENSION OF THE PLEBISCITE UNQUOTE. THE DIFFICULTIES ARE NOT SPECIFIED BUT RADICAL DEPUTY JOSE BIELICKI MAINTAINS THE PLEBISCITE WILL GO AHEAD.

7. SENATE DEFENCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ANTONIO BERTHONGARAY MAINTAINS, AFTER HIS CONVERSATION WITH BRITISH MP DONALD ANDERSON, THAT HE IS CONVINCED ARGENTINA WILL GET THE FALKLANDS BACK IN THE MEDIUM TERM. SEVERAL PAPERS CARRY REPORTS FROM THE UN OF SIR JOHN THOMSON'S PRESS BRIEFING UNDER THE HEADLINE 'GREAT BRITAIN TRIES TO AVOID DEBATE AT THE UN'. THE BRITISH REPRESENTATIVE IS REPORTED SAYING QUOTE DEBATES HERE TEND TO SHARPEN MATTERS AND CAUSE CONFRONTATIONS: THEY ARE NOT A NORMAL PRELUDE TO NEGOTIATIONS. I WOULD SAY THAT IF THE ARGENTINES DECIDED THEY DID NOT WANT A DEBATE THIS YEAR I SHOULD CONSIDER THIS ENCOURAGING UNQUOTE.

8. IGLESIAS ROUCO IN 'LA PRENSA' WRITING OF THE QUOTE TOADS UNQUOTE ALFONSIN AND THE RADICALS ARE HAVING TO SWALLOW (MEANING CLIMB-DOWN OVER THE IMF AND OTHER INTERNAL PROBLEMS) SUGGESTS THAT KISSINGER LEFT WITH FAR FROM OPTIMISTIC A VIEW OF THE TRUE POSITION OF ALFONSIN'S GOVERNMENT OVER THE FALKLANDS AND NEGOTIATIONS WITH BRITAIN, BELIEVING, ACCORDING TO ROUCO'S SOURCES, THAT THE ARGENTINE LEFT IS PUSHING THE GOVERNMENT IN THE SAME DIRECTION AS THOSE WHO ENCOURAGED GALTIERI, ANAYA AND LAMI DOZO TO REJECT HAIG, BELAUDE TERRY AND LONDON'S PEACE PROPOSALS AND CONTINUE THE WAR AGAINST THE BRITISH IN 1982 (COPY AND TRANSLATION BY BAG TO FCO)

JOY

POWELL-JONES

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