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FM BRASILIA 2:1605Z APRIL 82
TO IMMEDIATE DESKBY 021745Z FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 060 OF 2 APRIL
REPEATED TO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES, WASHINGTON, NEW YORK

FALKLANDS ISLANDS
FROM FLYNN

1. I CALLED ON THE HEAD OF THE AMERICAS DEPT IN THE ITAMARATY THIS MORNING. RICUPERO SAID THAT FOLLOWING HM AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON THE ACTING MINISTER YESTERDAY (OUR TELNO 059 NOT TO ALL) THE ITAMARATY HAD INFORMED THE FOREIGN MINISTER, WHO IS IN NEW YORK, AND PRESIDENT FIGUEIREDO. A DECISION WAS STILL AWAITED ON POSSIBLE ACTION, IF ANY, THAT BRAZIL MIGHT TAKE WITH ARGENTINA IN RESPONSE TO OUR REQUEST.
2. RICUPERO WENT ON TO SAY THAT RADIO REPORTS THAT ARGENTINE TROOPS HAD LANDED IN THE FALKLANDS HAD CHANGED THE SITUATION RADICALLY. HE IMPLIED THAT THIS MIGHT AFFECT ANY BRAZILIAN INTERVENTION WITH THE ARGENTINES. I SAID THAT I THOUGHT THAT WE SHOULD STILL HOPE THAT BRAZIL WOULD SPEAK FIRMLY TO THE ARGENTINES.
3. RICUPERO EMPHASISED THAT BRAZIL HAD NO PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF ARGENTINE INTENTIONS TO INVADRE THE ISLANDS AND SAID THAT PRESS REPORTS FROM BUENOS AIRES CLAIMING THAT BRAZIL HAD GIVEN ITS SUPPORT TO ARGENTINA WERE UNTRUE. BRAZIL INDEED HAD SUPPORTED THE ARGENTINE CASE FROM 1833 ONWARDS BUT ONLY WITH REGARD TO PEACEFUL NEGOTIATION. I SAID THAT I HOPED THAT THE BRAZILIANS WOULD CLARIFY THIS DISTINCTION WITH THE ARGENTINES PUBLICLY.

HARDING
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ADDITIONAL DISTN:
FALKLAND ISLANDS.

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