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FM BRASILIA 162030Z APR 82
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 112 OF 16 APRIL
INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON

FALKLANDS

1. FOLLOWING IS A FREE TRANSLATION OF THE TEXT OF A REPLY FROM
PRESIDENT GALTIERI TO PRESIDENT FIGUEIREDO AS PUBLISHED IN
TODAY'S PRESS (16 APRIL).

BEGINS

MR PRESIDENT

PEACE, THE SUPREME GOOD OF PEOPLE AND NATIONS, HAS BEEN PUT AT
SERIOUS RISK BY THE ANACHRONISTIC ATTITUDE OF AN EXTRA-
CONTINENTAL POWER. IT IS TIMES SUCH AS THESE WHICH DEMONSTRATE
THE GENUINENESS OF FRIENDSHIPS. THEY ARE EASY TO PROCLAIM IN
PERIODS OF CALM; BUT WHEN THEY ARE SUBJECTED TO THE TEST OF
CRITICAL MOMENTS EITHER ALL THEIR DEEP HUMAN AND NATIONAL CONTENT
IS LAID BARE OR THEY DISAPPEAR IN A MIRAGE OF EMPTY RHETORIC.

YOUR EXCELLENCY'S MESSAGE MOVED ME TO THE DEPTHS OF MY SOUL,
BECAUSE WITH A SIMPLE GRANDEUR IT EXPRESSES THE UNSHAKEABLE
FRIENDSHIP OF THE BRAZILIAN NATION AND ITS GOVERNMENT WHICH IS
WELL KNOWN FOR ITS COMMITMENT TO PEACE. I AM ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN
THAT THE ARGENTINE PEOPLE FEEL THAT THE DEEP SEATED AFFECTION THAT
THEY HAVE SHOWN TO YOUR EXCELLENCY IN YOUR VISITS TO THE
REPUBLIC HAVE BEEN GENEROUSLY REPAID WITH THE ATTITUDE THAT HAS
BEEN ADOPTED.

/IN

IN ADDITION, I WISH TO BEAR WITNESS TO THE EMOTIONAL AND INSPIRATIONAL EFFECT WHICH THE SPONTANEOUS SOLIDARITY EXPRESSED BY MILLIONS OF BRAZILIANS HAS HAD IN RECENT DAYS. WITH HOPE PLACED IN OUR LORD, I TRUST THAT THIS CAUSE, WHICH IS NOT ONLY OURS, WILL BE DECIDED BY THE WEIGHT OF JUSTICE - POSTPONED FOR SO MANY YEARS - EFFECTIVELY BACKED UP BY THE CAUTION AND MODERATION WE ARE SHOWING. OUR HOPE FOR A PEACEFUL OUTCOME IS REAFFIRMED BY THE PROOF THAT STATESMEN OF THE VIRTUES OF YOUR EXCELLENCY ARE COMMITTED TO IT.

ENDS

2. THE MESSAGE IS DESCRIBED IN THE PRESS AS DELIBERATELY DRAFTED IN SENTIMENTAL TERMS TO CONTRAST WITH THE PARALLEL REPLY FROM THE PRIME MINISTER.

HARDING

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CABINET OFFICE

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