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 FM BRASILIA 211825Z JULY 82
 TO IMMEDIATE FCO
 TELEGRAM NUMBER 327 OF 21 JULY
 INFO ROUTINE POET STANLEY, MONTEVIDEO, SANTIAGO

YOUR TELNO 299 TO SANTIAGO: FALKLANDS: AIR AND SEA LINKS.

1. AS YOU KNOW, THE BRAZILIANS HAVE NOT CEASED TO REPEAT THEIR SUPPORT, PAST PRESENT AND FUTURE, FOR ARGENTINA IN HER CLAIM TO SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE FALKLAND ISLANDS. MOREOVER, IN THEIR LATEST PUBLIC DECLARATION ON THE QUESTION ON 16 JUNE (MY TELNO 281), THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT STATED THAT THEY CONTINUED TO FAVOUR A POLITICAL AND DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION TO THE QUESTION, SINCE THEY CONSIDERED THAT THE DISPUTE COULD NOT BE SMOTHERED BY FORCE OF ARMS- THEREBY IMPLYING THAT THEY DID NOT REGARD OUR RECOVERY OF POSSESSION OF THE ISLANDS BY MILITARY MEANS AS IN ANY WAY SETTLING THE QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY.

2. THIS BEING SO, AND IN THE LIGHT OF THEIR CONTINUING ANXIETY ABOUT THEIR DELICATE RELATIONS WITH THE BRUISED MILITARY REGIME IN ARGENTINA, I THINK IT IMPROBABLE THAT THE BRAZILIANS WILL WISH TO MAKE AVAILABLE TO US ON A CONTINUING BASIS AIR AND SEA COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES WHICH THEY MIGHT SEE AS ENABLING US TO CONSOLIDATE OUR HOLD ON A "FORTRESS FALKLANDS". IF, OF COURSE, WE WERE WILLING (WHICH I IMAGINE UNLIKELY) TO GIVE AN UNDERTAKING THAT IN THE FULLNESS OF TIME WE WOULD RE-ENTER NEGOTIATIONS WITH ARGENTINA ON ALL ASPECTS OF THE DISPUTE, THEN THE BRAZILIANS MIGHT INDEED BE READY TO GRANT US FACILITIES IN THE INTERIM.

3. I CONCLUDE THAT IT WOULD BE UNWISE TO BANK ON BRAZILIAN FACILITIES BEING FORTHCOMING IN OUR PLANNING FOR THE RESTORATION OF CIVIL AIR AND SEA LINKS. NEVERTHELESS, I SEE NO HARM IN PUTTING THE POINT TO THE BRAZILIANS THEMSELVES AT AN APPROPRIATE MOMENT. EVEN IF THEY REPLIED IN THE NEGATIVE, AS I THINK THEY WOULD, THEY MIGHT THEN FEEL OBLIGATED TO HELP US IN SOME OTHER

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LESS VISIBLE MANNER. DEPENDING ON THE TIME SCALE OF YOUR PLANNING, EITHER I COULD MAKE A DEMARCHE NOW OR ELSE WE COULD WAIT UNTIL MR ONSLOW'S VISIT NEXT MONTH AND USE THE ADDITIONAL LEVERAGE THAT HIS PRESENCE WILL PROVIDE TO PUT THE BRAZILIANS ON THE SPOT.

4. MY AIR ATTACHE'S EXCHANGE OF SIGNALS WITH MODUKAIR (REF SIC 19F/JDF 161752Z JUL) ON DIPLOMATIC AND STAGING CLEARANCE FOR VC 10 AND HERCULES FLIGHTS ALSO REFERS. WE MIGHT BE WELL ADVISED TO APPLY FOR CLEARANCE FOR A BATCH OF THESE AD HOC MILITARY FLIGHTS BEFORE TACKLING THE BRAZILIANS ON THE LONGER TERM QUESTION OF CIVIL LINKS.

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 FM FCO 290930Z JULY 82
 TO IMMEDIATE BRASILIA
 TELEGRAM NUMBER 239 OF 29 JULY
 INFO CIVIL COMMISSIONER PORT STANLEY, MONTEVIDEO AND SANTIAGO

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YOUR TELNO 327 : FALKLANDS : AIR AND SEA LINKS
 1. MR ONSLOW WILL WISH TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE HIMSELF DURING HIS VISIT, BUT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF YOU COULD PREPARE THE GROUND. PLEASE APPROACH THE BRAZILIANS AS APPROPRIATE.

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