

LDX 036/21

FDW G 132/20

PP ROME

PP ATHENS

RR HELSINKI

RR TOKYO

RR MOSCOW

RR CARACAS

RR HAVANA

RR KINGSTON (FOR PORT AU PRINCE)

GRS 350

1/11
Sen

Prime Minister

AR 21/9

CONFIDENTIAL FRAME EXTERNAL

by Jurech

cc Mrs Party

FM UKREP BRUSSELS 201718Z SEP

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 3436 OF 20 SEPTEMBER

INFO PRIORITY BRUSSELS COPENHAGEN THE HAGUE ROME DUBLIN PARIS BONN LUXEMBOURG ATHENS STRASBOURG LISBON MADRID UKMIS NEW YORK WASHINGTON UKDEL NATO ROUTINE HELSINKI STOCKHOLM TOKYO MOSCOW AND LATIN AMERICAN POSTS.

EUROPEAN POLITICAL COOPERATION: MINISTERIAL MEETING: BRUSSELS: 20 SEPTEMBER: FALKLANDS, ARMS EMBARGO AND UN RESOLUTION

SUMMARY

1. CONSENSUS THAT EMBARGO WAS NOT JOINT ACTION BY THE TEN BUT TEN COORDINATED NATIONAL ACTIONS. FRG, ITALY AND NETHERLANDS EXPRESSED INTENTION OF FOLLOWING FRENCH EXAMPLE AND ENDING THEIR EMBARGOES.

2. AGREED THAT MINISTERS WOULD FINALISE ATTITUDE ON UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION ON FALKLANDS AT THEIR DINNER IN NEW YORK.

DETAIL

ARMS EMBARGO

3. VAN AGT (NETHERLANDS) SAID THAT THE TIME HAD COME TO END THE ARMS EMBARGO. THE ARGENTINIANS COULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO RENOUNCE ALL POSSIBILITIES OF PURSUING THEIR CLAIM IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC BEFORE THIS HAPPENED. HE WAS SUPPORTED BY COLOMBO (ITALY) AND CORTERIER (FRG): THE LATTER SAID THAT CONTRACTS HAD TO BE HONOURED AND THAT RELATIONS WITH LATIN AMERICA GENERALLY WERE INVOLVED.

4. YOU POINTED OUT THAT THE ARGENTINIANS HAD STILL NOT ACCEPTED THE COMPLETE END OF HOSTILITIES. THEY APPEARED TO BE KEEPING OPEN THE OPTION OF FURTHER UNLAWFUL RECOURSE TO FORCE. IT WOULD BE A MATTER OF GREAT REGRET FOR THE UK IF PARTNERS LIFTED THE EMBARGO, AND WOULD GIVE THE WRONG SIGNAL TO THE ARGENTINIAN REGIME. YOU CONTESTED CORTERIER'S POINT ABOUT LATIN AMERICA.

5. CHEYSSON (FRANCE) SAID THAT THE FRENCH WOULD HONOUR THEIR EXISTING ARMS CONTRACTS WITH ARGENTINA.

6. THE PRESIDENCY SUMMED UP AS ABOVE.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION

7. CHEYSSON SAID THAT IF THE ARGENTINIANS PUT UP A REASONABLE DRAFT WHICH DID NOT CONTAIN PROVOCATIVE ELEMENTS OR PREJUDGE THE SOVEREIGNTY ISSUE, THE FRENCH WOULD SUPPORT IT. HE WAS BACKED IN THIS BY COLOMBO.

8. YOU SAID THAT, GIVEN THE ARGENTINE ATTITUDE ANY AGREEMENT TO NEGOTIATE MUST INEVITABLE RAISE THE QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY. YOU EXPLAINED WHY THIS WAS IMPOSSIBLE BOTH FOR BRITAIN AND FOR THE FALKLAND ISLANDERS. IF PARTNERS REALLY COULD NOT SUPPORT US THERE WAS ALWAYS THE OPTION OF ABSTENTION.

9. IT WAS AGREED THAT EXCHANGES WOULD CONTINUE ON THIS SUBJECT AT OFFICIAL LEVEL AND MINISTERS WOULD TAKE A FINAL DECISION IN NEW YORK.

BUTLER

~~NNNNYES IT IS~~