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 MR GIFFARD
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 MR ADAMS
 LORD N G LENNOX
 MR EVANS
 MR URE
 MR GILLMORE

DB 140800Z

PS/NO 10 DOWNING ST (2)
 PS/S OF S FOR DEFENCE
 MR J STEWART AUSD STAFF MOD
 PS/CHANCELLOR)
 MR ILETT) TREASURY
 MR LITTLER)
 MISS DICKSON D/ENERGY
 SIR R ARMSTRONG)
 MR A D S GOODALL) CABINET OFF
 DIO)

HD/PUSD (2)
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 RESIDENT CLERK -

~~ROOM 6 FOR MODERN OFFICE~~

Mr. Colin Roth, LACPD, ODA
 Mrs M Pattison, LACPD, ODA
 Ms Alan Titchener AUS DOT
 MR CW ROBERTS IAT/DOT

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FROM UKMIS NEW YORK 132353Z OCT 82
 TO IMMEDIATE F C O
 TELEGRAM NUMBER 1636 DATED 13 OCTOBER 82

Hand - free

MY TELSNOs 1561 AND 1566, PARAGRAPH 7: ARGENTINE STATEMENT IN GENERAL DEBATE

1. I DELIVERED MY RIGHT OF REPLY TO AGUIRRE LANARI IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THIS EVENING (13 OCTOBER). THE ARGENTINE REPRESENTATIVE RESERVED HIS RIGHT TO REPLY AT SOME LATER DATE.
2. FOLLOWING IS MY TEXT:

ON 1 OCTOBER THE DISTINGUISHED FOREIGN MINISTER OF ARGENTINE TREATED THIS ASSEMBLY TO A DISTORTED ACCOUNT OF THE 18TH AND 19TH CENTURY HISTORY OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS. HIS STATEMENT CONTAINED SEVERAL OTHER TENDENTIOUS OR MISLEADING ASSERTIONS. IT IS NOT MY DELEGATION'S PURPOSE TO RESPOND IN DETAIL NOW: THE PROPER TIME FOR THAT WILL BE NEXT MONTH WHEN THE DEBATE WHICH ARGENTINA AND OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES HAVE ASKED FOR TAKES PLACE IN THIS ASSEMBLY. AT PRESENT I WILL RESTRICT MYSELF TO CORRECTING ONE OR TWO DISTORTIONS OF THE FACTS.

THE DISTINGUISHED FOREIGN MINISTER SOUGHT TO MAKE OUT THAT THE UNITED KINGDOM HAD NEVER VOLUNTARILY OBSERVED THE CHARTER PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION. THAT ASSERTION WILL AMUSE IF NOT ANAZE

OF SELF-DETERMINATION. THAT ASSERTION WILL AMUSE IF NOT AMAZE MANY DELEGATIONS OF SOVEREIGN COUNTRIES WHICH WERE ONCE BRITISH COLONIES. THE BRITISH EMPIRE EXISTS NO MORE. INSTEAD THERE IS THE COMMONWEALTH. THIS CONSISTS OF INDEPENDENT COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE EXERCISED SELF-DETERMINATION. IF ARGENTINE WOULD CHANGE HER ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE PRINCIPLE AND EXERCISE OF SELF-DETERMINATION WE MIGHT NOT HAVE ANY DISPUTE OVER THE FALKLANDS/MALVINAS.

THE DISTINGUISHED FOREIGN MINISTER HAS SOUGHT TO OBSCURE BOTH THE POSITION OF MY GOVERNMENT AND THAT OF HIS OWN IN REGARD TO SELF-DETERMINATION BY TRYING TO DRAW ANALOGIES BETWEEN 150 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS AND ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. THE FACTS ARE AGAINST HIM. THE PRESENT POPULATION OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS ARE DESCENDANTS OF PEOPLE WHO ESTABLISHED THE FIRST AND ONLY SETTLED POPULATION OF THE ISLANDS. THE MAJORITY OF THEM ARE DESCENDANTS OF PEOPLE WHO SETTLED THERE BEFORE 1850. THE ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS ON THE OTHER HAND ARE OF RECENT DATE AND HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED IN FACE OF THE NEARLY UNIVERSAL CONDEMNATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ON TERRITORY OVER WHICH ISRAEL NEITHER CLAIMS NOR EXERCISES SOVEREIGNTY AND WHICH ALREADY HAD A SETTLED POPULATION. MY GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE PALESTINIANS. SO TOO DOES THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT. WHY THEN DO THEY CLAIM THAT THERE SHOULD BE A SPECIAL EXCEPTION SOLELY IN THE CASE OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS TO THE UNIVERSAL AND FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION?

THE DESCRIPTION GIVEN BY THE DISTINGUISHED FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE EVENTS OF LAST APRIL IS A TRAVESTY OF THE FACTS. I NEED NOT REHEARSE THESE FACTS BECAUSE THEY ARE ALL IN RECENT MEMORY. BUT IT IS NOT TRUE THAT THERE WAS ANY BRITISH ACTION WHICH JUSTIFIED THE ARGENTINE INVASION OF THE ISLANDS IN TOTAL DISREGARD NOT ONLY OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL BUT ALSO OF THE PRINCIPLE OF THE NON USE OF FORCE. I BELIEVE ALL DELEGATIONS WILL FIND IT DIFFICULT TO SQUARE WITH THE TRUTH THE DISTINGUISHED FOREIGN MINISTER'S STATEMENT THAT 'THE RECOGNITION BY ARGENTINA OF THE AUTHORITY OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL IN THIS DISPUTE WAS MADE QUITE CLEAR IN MANY STATEMENTS BY MY GOVERNMENT IN FAVOUR OF AN EFFECTIVE AND FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION 502 (1982).'

I LEAVE IT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ITSELF TO JUDGE WHICH OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS HAS STRIVEN BY EVERY MEANS TO OBSERVE ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER ARTICLE 73 OF THE CHARTER AND WHICH OF THEM CHOSE, BY ILLEGAL RECOURSE TO ARMS A MERE SIX MONTHS AGO, FORCIBLY TO SUPPRESS THE RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION OF THE PEOPLE OF A NON SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY AND TO SUBJECT THEM TO ALIEN DOMINATION. IT IS STRANGE THAT WHILE THE DISTINGUISHED FOREIGN MINISTER OF ARGENTINA ATTACKS COLONIALISM HIS GOVERNMENT SHOULD TRY TO CREATE A NEW COLONY BY FORCE OF ARMS.