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FM UKMIS NEW YORK 020355Z NOV 82
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 1777 OF 1 NOVEMBER
INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON

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NY TELNO 1772: FALKLANDS AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. THE REVISED DRAFT RESOLUTION WAS SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARIAT TODAY BUT WILL NOT REACH DELEGATIONS IN ITS FINAL FORM UNTIL FIRST THING TOMORROW (2 NOVEMBER). THIS HAS GIVEN US THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO SOME PRE-EMPTIVE LOBBYING. BUT THE ARGENTINES HAVE BEEN ACTIVE TOO. THERE IS A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF DISARRAY, WITH MOST DELEGATIONS FEELING THAT THEY WILL HAVE TO RECONSIDER THEIR EARLIER RECOMMENDATIONS (IF ANY) AND SEEK NEW INSTRUCTIONS. I WAS THEREFORE GLAD TO SEE FROM YOUR TELNO 771 TO NEW DELHI THAT WE ARE UNDERTAKING A FURTHER ROUND OF LOBBYING IN CAPITALS.
2. THE UNITED STATES' DECISION TO VOTE IN FAVOUR (YOUR TELNO 936) IS LIKELY TO BECOME KNOWN SOON, UNLESS IT CAN BE CHANGED. THE SWEDES HAVE TOLD US THAT THE ARGENTINES SAID TODAY THAT THE REVISED DRAFT HAD BEEN PREPARED IN CONSULTATION WITH THE AMERICANS.
3. IT IS GENERALLY ASSUMED HERE THAT THE ARGENTINE AMENDMENTS WILL HAVE DISPELLED ANY REMAINING DOUBTS ABOUT FRANCE, ITALY AND IRELAND VOTING IN FAVOUR AND THAT OTHERS OF OUR PARTNERS MAY FOLLOW THEM. SOME OF THE NORDICS ARE WOBBLING BUT THE SWEDES AND NORWEGIANS HAVE TOLD US THAT THEY THINK THEY WILL STICK TO AN ABSTENTION. THE JAPANESE HAVE MORE OR LESS TOLD US THAT THEY WILL VOTE IN FAVOUR.
4. THERE IS LITTLE NEW TO REPORT ABOUT THE AFRICANS. IT IS KNOWN HERE THAT THE LARGE COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES HAVE YET TO MAKE UP THEIR MINDS. UNLESS AND UNTIL THEY DO SO, THERE ARE FEW AFRICAN ABSTENTIONS THAT WE CAN COUNT ON.
5. AMONGST THE ARABS, OMAN REMAINS SOLID. I AM REASONABLY HOPEFUL THAT OUR FRIENDS IN THE SUB-CONTINENT (APART FROM INDIA) WILL STICK TO ABSTENTIONS. KOH (SINGAPORE) HAS TOLD ME THAT A JOINT ASEAN ABSTENTION HAS PROVED IMPOSSIBLE AS INDONESIA HAD ALREADY DECIDED TO VOTE IN FAVOUR, HAVING DONE A DEAL WITH THE LATINOS ON THE EAST TIMOR VOTE. THE PHILIPPINES INCLINE TOWARDS A YES VOTE. THE OTHER THREE ARE WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS. THE PACIFICS SEEM TO BE SOUND, FOR THE MOMENT.
6. THE ONLY GROUP WHOM WE KNOW TO HAVE CONSIDERED THE REVISED DRAFT COLLECTIVELY ARE THE COMMONWEALTH CARIBBEANS. MOSELEY (BARBADOS) HAS TAKEN THE LEAD IN TRYING TO ESTABLISH A COMMON POSITION. HIS FIRST PREFERENCE WAS THAT THEY SHOULD TRY TO MANOEUVRE TO AVOID ANY VOTE AT ALL. BUT HIS PRINCIPAL COLLEAGUES THOUGHT THERE WAS NO CHANCE OF PERSUADING THE LATINOS TO ACCEPT THIS AND A TENDENCY EMERGED TO FAVOUR A COMMON POSITION OF NON-PARTICIPATION (THOUGH IT WAS RECOGNISED THAT GRENADA WOULD BE MOST UNLIKELY TO JOIN THIS).

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/KARRAN

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KARRAN (GUYANA) LATER CONSULTED ME. I SAID THAT AVOIDANCE OF A VOTE WOULD HAVE BEEN GOOD BUT THAT I DID NOT LIKE THE IDEA OF NON-PARTICIPATION. WE HOPED THAT SOME OF THE CARIBBEANS WOULD VOTE NO AND THAT THE OTHERS, EXCEPT GRENADA, WOULD ABSTAIN. WE WERE ALSO HOPING FOR GOOD EXPLANATION OF VOTE, STRESSING THE PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION. KARRAN SAID HE WOULD BRIEF HIS MINISTER ACCORDINGLY. WE SHALL CONTINUE TO TRY TO KILL THE IDEA OF NON-PARTICIPATION, WHICH COULD BE DAMAGING IF IT CAUGHT ON.

7. SEE MIFT.

THOMSON

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