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 PS/MR HURD
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 SIR J BULLARD
 SIR I SINCLAIR
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 MR WRIGHT
 MR ADAMS
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 MR EVANS
 MR URE
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 MR A D S GOODALL) CABINET OFFICE
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 MR M. PATTISON) FID
 MR C. ROTH) ~~WAS~~ ; ODA
 MR A TITCHENER) DOT
 MR C W ROBERTS , IAT)

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TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 3755 OF 19 NOVEMBER

INFO UKMIS NEW YORK, OAS POSTS, INCLUDING NASSAU, EXCLUDING BUENOS AIRES

OAS/FALKLANDS

1. SUMMARY. OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY APPROVED THE FALKLANDS RESOLUTION 21-0-7. UNCHARACTERISTICALLY BRIEF DEBATE WITH ROUTINE CONDEMNATION OF U K QUOTE COLONIALISM UNQUOTE. NO CRITICISM OF THE U.S. ANGLOPHONE CARIBBEANS ABSTAINED TO BE CONSISTENT WITH THEIR UN VOTES.

2. DETAILS. THE RESOLUTION WAS CARRIED: 21 VOTES FOR (LATINS PLUS GRENADA, U.S.), 0 VOTES AGAINST, 7 ABSTENTIONS (ANTIGUA/BARBUDA, BAHAMAS, BARBADOS, DOMINICA, ST LUCIA, JAMAICA, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO). ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES AND EL SALVADOR WERE UNINTENTIONALLY ABSENT.

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3. FOREIGN MINISTER LANARI INTRODUCED THE RESOLUTION USING AN ABRIDGED VERSION OF HIS UN SPEECH. HE DEALT ESPECIALLY ON BRITISH QUOTE COLONIALISM UNQUOTE (A THEME TAKEN UP BY OTHER SPEAKERS) AND SAID THAT THE U K MILITARY PRESENCE ON THE ISLANDS THREATENED THE ARGENTINE PEOPLE. HE CITED AS EXAMPLES A NUMBER OF MILITARY ACTIONS WHICH HE CLAIMED TO HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THE ZONE SURROUNDING THE ISLANDS IN RECENT MONTHS.

4. 17 LATIN CO-SPONSORS MADE BRIEF SUPPORTIVE STATEMENTS. A NUMBER (PARTICULARLY THE DOMINICA REPUBLIC), DWELT ON THE NEED TO RESOLVE DISPUTES PEACEFULLY, ALTHOUGH THIS WAS NOT TAKEN AS CRITICISM OF ARGENTINA.

5. IN EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE, THE ANGLOPHONE CARIBBEANS SAID THAT THEY HAD BEEN UNABLE TO SUPPORT THE RESOLUTION SINCE IT WOULD HAVE BEEN INCONSISTENT WITH THEIR VOTES IN THE UNITED NATIONS ON A SIMILAR RESOLUTION. DOMINICA IMPLICITLY CRITICISED ARGENTINA FOR ITS INVASION. THE UNITED STATES' EXPLANATION OF VOTE INCLUDED THE QUALIFIERS WE HAD BEEN PROMISED (PARAS 3 AND 4 OF MY TELNO 3713) (FULL TEXT TO F C O ONLY).

6. WINDING UP THE DEBATE, THE ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER THANKED THE U.S. FOR JOINING IN SUPPORT OF ARGENTINA BOTH IN THE UN AND NOW IN THE OAS. IN KEEPING WITH THE LOW KEY TONE OF THE DEBATE AND THE THEME OF INTER-AMERICAN RECONCILIATION WHICH HAS COLOURED THE WHOLE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, HE THANKED THE CARIBBEANS FOR NOT ACTUALLY OPPOSING ARGENTINA'S RESOLUTION.

WRIGHT

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