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CONFIDENTIAL

DESKBY Ø5123ØZ

FM COLOMBO Ø51Ø45Z APR 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 84 OF 5 APRIL

INFO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK

[Tylists]

YOUR TELNOS 99 TO CANBERRA AND 63 TO ANKARA 1. I DELIVERED PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT A.M. 3 APRIL AND FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF YOUR TELNO 63 TO ANKARA HAVE CALLED ON THE ACTING MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, TYRONE FERNANDO. 2. WHILE ACKKNWLEDGING THAT SRI LANKA HAD LITTLE OR NO DEALINGS WITH THE ARGENTINE, I SPOKE ON LINES OF TUR AND GAVE ACTING MINISTER SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE FALKLANDS. 3. IN RESPONSE HE SAID THAT THE ARGENTINE CLAIM HAD BEEN THE SUBJECT OF CONSIDERATION IN THE PAST BOTH WITHIN THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND HE MENTIONED IN PARTICULA THE RESOLUTION AT THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE IN COLOMBO IN 1975 WHICH IN EFFECT SUPPORTED THE ARGENTINE CLAIM. HE SAID HOWEVER THAT SRI LANKA COULD NOT SUPPORT THE USE OF ARMED FORCE AND TOLD ME THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD AGREED A MESSAGE IN RESPONSE TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE. THIS MESSAGE IS LIKELY TO BE DELIVERED BY THE SRI LANKAN HIGH COMMISSION IN LONDON. THE TEXT IS AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE 1. SRI LANKA VIEWS WITH GREAT REGRET THE EVENTS IN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS, INVOLVING A MEMBER OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT AND A MEMBER OF THE COMMONWEALTH. WHAT HAS ALREADY TAKEN PLACE IS CONTRARY TO THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER AND THE ACCEPTED PRINCIPLES OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT, WHICH REJECT THE USE OF FORCE FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF ANY INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES. P. SRI LANKA CONDEMNS THE USE OF FORCE IN THE SETTLEMENT OF ANY

2. SRI LANKA CONDEMNS THE USE OF FORCE IN THE SETTLEMENT OF ANY INTERNATIONAL DISPUTE UNQUOTE.

ABOVE TEXT WILL BE MADE PUBLIC AND SHOULD APPEAR IN LOCAL PRESS TOMORROW.

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