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FM LIMA 140405Z
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
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AND IMMEDIATE INFO WASHINGTON
TELEGRAM NUMBER 90 OF 14 APRIL

ADVANCE COPY
IMMEDIATE

FALKLANDS: YOUR TELEGRAM NO 61

1. THE MFA HAVE ASKED ME TO CONVEY TO YOU A MESSAGE IN REPLY TO THE TEXT IN YOUR TUR. THE FOLLOWING IS A TRANSLATION. BEGINS:-
"THE GOVERNMENT OF PERU IS GRATEFUL TO HMG FOR THE CAREFUL ATTENTION IT HAS GIVEN TO ITS PROPOSAL FOR A TRUCE, EVEN THOUGH THIS ACCEPTANCE IS CONDITIONED BY THE REQUIREMENTS WHICH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC SHOULD FIRST FULFILL.

THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT HAS DULY CONSIDERED THE REASONS EXPRESSED BY HMG AND IS AT THE SAME TIME SENSITIVE TO THE DANGERS WHICH DEEPLY CONCERN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND WHICH GROW MORE ALARMING HOUR BY HOUR.

WITH THESE GRAVE CONSIDERATIONS IN MIND, THE GOVERNMENT OF PERU IS DISPOSED TO PERSIST IN ITS FRIENDLY REQUEST TO HMG ON THE IMPORTANCE OF ITS AGREEING TO THE PROPOSED TRUCE OF 72 HOURS - A PERIOD IN WHICH THERE SHOULD NOT EXIST ANY RISK OF HOSTILITIES OCCURING - PRECISELY TO CREATE THE OPTIMUM CONDITIONS WHICH MAY PERMIT THE NEGOTIATION OF THE DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION WHICH IS BEING SOUGHT TO RECONCILE THE POSITIONS OF THE TWO SIDES.

THE GOVERNMENT OF PERU, PROFOUNDLY CONSCIOUS OF THE GRAVITY OF THE PRESENT SITUATION, CONSIDERS THAT IT NEITHER CAN NOR SHOULD SPARE ANY EFFORT TO AVOID A CONFRONTATION WHICH WOULD HAVE INCALCULABLE AND DISASTROUS CONSEQUENCES." ENDS.

2. IT IS CLEAR THAT THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT IS MUCH CONCERNED BY THE SEEMING LACK OF PROGRESS OF THE HAIG GOOD OFFICES MISSION AS REPORTED BY THE MEDIA. THE PUBLIC AND PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT FOR THE ARGENTINES SEEMS TO BE GAINING MOMENTUM AND IT IS OBVIOUSLY GETTING MORE DIFFICULT FOR PRESIDENT BELAUNDE TO MAINTAIN THE CONCILIATORY AND STATESMANLIKE POSTURE HE HAS SO FAR ADOPTED IN ALL HIS PUBLIC PRONOUNCEMENTS ON THE CRISIS IN WHICH HE HAS MADE REPEATED REFERENCES TO PERU'S FRIENDSHIP WITH BRITAIN. MY TELEGRAM NO. 89 (NOT TO

HAS SO FAR ADOPTED IN ALL HIS PUBLIC PRONOUNCEMENTS ON THE
CRISIS IN WHICH HE HAS MADE REPEATED REFERENCES TO PERU'S
FRIENDSHIP WITH BRITAIN. MY TELEGRAM NO. 88 (NOT TO
WASHINGTON) ALSO REFERRED TO THE PRESSURES TO WHICH HE IS
BECOMING INCREASINGLY SUBJECTED BY THE PRO-ARGENTINE PERUVIAN
~~XXXXXXXX~~ MILITARY HARDLINERS, WHO STILL REPRESENT A
SIGNIFICANT ELEMENT IN THE POLITICAL BALANCE OF THE PRESENT
DEMOCRATIC REGIME. I BELIEVE THAT PRESIDENT BELAUNDE'S TRUCE
SUGGESTION IS INTENDED TO BE A GENUINELY WELL DISPOSED INITIATIVE
WHICH HAS NOT BEEN INSPIRED BY THE ARGENTINES.

2- WALLACE

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