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TO IMMEDIATE F C 0

TELEGRAM NO 1268 OF 13 APRIL

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MY TELEGRAM NO 1252: ECONOMIC MEASURES AGAINST ARGENTINA

1. HORMATS HAS CONFIRMED TODAY THAT ADMINISTRATION POLICY OVER
THE PAST FEW WEEKS HAS BEEN TO ENCOURAGE EXIM BANK TO GO VERY SLOW
ON ARGENTINIAN BUSINESS. HE SAID THERE WERE AT PRESENT SIX
OUTSTANDING PRELIMINARY COMMITMENTS OF WHICH TWO WERE BUE TO COME UP
BEFORE THE FULL BOARD FOR APPROVAL LAST WEEK. THE STATE DEPARTMENT
HAD GOT THESE DEFERRED FOR 'TECHNICAL REASONS' AND THEY HAVE
AGAIN BEEN DEFERRED TODAY. THE LONGER THIS GOES ON, THE MORE
OBVIOUS IT WILL BECOME TO THE ARGENTINIANS THAT POLITICAL PRESSURE
IS BEING APPLIED. WE HAVE SAID THAT IN OUR VIEW THIS CAN ONLY
HELP TOWARDS THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE OBJECTIVE OF GETTING THEM TO
REMOVE THEIR TROOPS.

2. HORMATS BELIEVES (PLEASE PROTECT) THAT BETWEEN NOW AND NEXT WEEK, THE US ADMINISTRATION MAY MOVE INTO A 'DIFFERENT GEAR' AS REGARDS DIRECT PRESSURE ON THE ARGENTINES. HE SAID THERE WAS A GREAT DEAL OF SUPPORT ON THE ECONOMIC SIDE OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR FIRMER ACTION AND A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF CONTINGENCY PLANNING HAD ALREADY BEEN DONE. HORMATS MENTIONED FINANCE AS WELL AS TRADE AS AREAS WHERE PRESSURE COULD BE EXERTED, THOUGH IT DID NOT APPEAR THAT THE US BANKS WERE ANYWAY AIMING TO DO MUCH TO HELP THE ARGENTINIANS IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES.