ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS

(27)

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RESIDENT CLERK

PS No.10 DOWNING ST.

PS/CHANCELLOR

SIR K COUZENS

MR LITTLER

MR HAWTIN

MR PERETZ

MR ILETT
MR McINTYRE

Miss DICKSON (EIP DIV) D/EN

DIO CABINET OFFICE

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H.M. TSY

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(Copies passed to Emergency Staff, MOD Sitcen and CinC Fleet)

IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL

FM WASHINGTON 151643Z

TO IMMEDIATE F C O

YELNO 1287 OF 15 APRIL 1982.



## FALKLANDS

- 1. IN DISCUSSION TODAY EAGLEBURGER EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT HOW THE HAIG STATEMENT OF YESTERDAY WOULD HAVE GONE DOWN IN THE UK. THIS LEAD ON TO A DISCUSSION ABOUT REACTIONS IN BRITAIN TO AMERICA'S STANCE ON THE FALKLAND ISLANDS ISSUE.
- 2. EAGLEBURGER SAID THAT HAIG AND HE WERE FULLY AWARE OF THE CONSIDERABLE DOUBTS, TO PUT IT MILDLY, THAT WERE BEING EXPRESSED IN THE UK ABOUT AMERICA AS AN ALLY AT THIS JUNCTURE. THE TRUTH WAS THAT AMERICA WAS HELPING US A GREAT DEAL, AS WE KNEW, BUT THEY COULD NOT GO FURTHER PUBLICLY IF HAIG WAS GOING TO RETAIN ANY CREDIBILITY AT ALL AS A GO-BETWEEN.
- 3. I SAID THAT THERE WAS NO DOUBT ABOUT CONCERN IN THE UK AT THE US GOVERNMENT'S PUBLIC ATTITUDE, WHICH INCIDENTALLY WAS WELL BEHIND THAT OF CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC OPINION, SO FAR AS I COULD JUDGE IT. BUT EVERYTHING WOULD OF COURSE DEPEND UPON THE OUTCOME.

HENDERSON