

*Mufaxed to Cheques at 1015, 1974*  
TYPISTS  
ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS

(35)

IMMEDIATE

PS No.10 DOWNING ST.

PS/CHANCELLOR  
SIR K COUZENS  
MR LITTLER  
MR HAWTIN  
MR PERETZ  
MR ILETT  
MR McINTYRE

H.M.TSY

Miss DICKSON (EIP DIV) D/EN

DIO CABINET OFFICE  
MR WADE-GERY CABINET OFFICE  
MR FULLER ~~SAPU~~ CABINET OFFICE  
DIO

~~PS/...~~  
PS/MR ONSLOW  
~~PS/MR RIFKIND~~  
PS/PUS  
MR GIFFARD  
MR WRIGHT  
MR ADAMS  
MR URE  
MR GILLMORE

HD/SAmD (FCO DIST + A/D F/I)  
HD/DEF D  
HD/NEWS D  
HD/UND  
HD/PLANNING STAFF  
HD/HKGD

RESIDENT CLERK

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

UNCLASSIFIED  
FM WASHINGTON 161704Z APR 82  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 1310 OF 16 APRIL

1910  
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FALKLANDS : JACK ANDERSON ARTICLE

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF ARTICLE FROM NEW YORK POST OF 15 APRIL, HEADED HAIG'S POST-SHUTTLE IMPRESSIONS.

BEGINS

SECRETARY OF STATE HAIG HAS TOLD PRESIDENT REAGAN THAT ARGENTINA MAY BE WILLING TO PULL OUT OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS IF AN INTERNATIONAL PEACE FORCE CAN BE SENT INTO THE DISPUTED TERRITORY.

A TRANSCRIPT OF THE CONFIDENTIAL CONVERSATION BETWEEN HAIG AND THE PRESIDENT CONTAINS SOME SURPRISING LANGUAGE. FOR EXAMPLE, THE GENERAL FEELING IN THIS COUNTRY IS THAT THE ARGENTINE MILITARY JUNTA IS THE INTRANSIGENT PARTY IN THE CONFRONTATION. THE RHETORIC OF THE ARGENTINE LEADERS HAS BEEN EVEN MORE INFLAMMATORY THAN THE BELLICOSE STATEMENTS ISSUING FROM NO. 10 DOWNING STREET.

YET AFTER SHUTTLING BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN LONDON AND BUENOS AIRES, HAIG TOLD THE PRESIDENT: THE ARGENTINIANS ARE A LITTLE MORE FLEXIBLE THAN THE BRITISH, IN FACT, AS THE TRANSCRIPT MAKES CLEAR, HAIGS AND REAGANS BIGGEST FEAR IS THAT A MILITARY ACTION WILL OCCUR BEFORE

... AN INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING

IN FACT, AS THE TRANSCRIPT MAKES CLEAR, HAIGS AND REAGANS BIGGEST FEAR IS THAT A MILITARY ACTION WILL OCCUR BEFORE THE US SPONSORED COMPROMISE - AN INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCE TAKING OVER THE ISLANDS FROM ARGENTINE TROOPS - CAN BE ACCEPTED BY BOTH SIDES.

AND IT IS OBVIOUS FROM THE TRANSCRIPT THAT ITS THE BRITISH WHO WORRY REAGAN AND HAIG.

THEYLL WANT A SKIRMISH TO SAVE FACE, THE PRESIDENT REMARKED GLOOMILY AT ONE POINT

THEY INTEND TO REMAIN IN FORCE UNTIL THE PEACEKEEPING FORCE ARRIVES, HAIG TOLD REAGAN.

ONE THING EMERGED CLEARLY FROM THEIR CONVERSATION: REAGAN HAS CONFIDENCE IN HAIGS ABILITIES AS A SHUTTLE DIPLOMAT, THOUGH HE APPEARED TO FEEL THAT EVEN HAIGS BEST EFFORTS MIGHT NOT BE ENOUGH TO ACHIEVE A PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF THE CRISIS.

DO WHAT YOU CAN, THE PRESIDENT TOLD HAIG. DONT PUT PRESSURE ON EITHER COUNTRY. THEN HE ADDED: BUT I BELIEVE YOUVE GOT YOUR WORK CUT OUT FOR YOU.

REAGAN EXPRESSED MILD SURPRISE AT THE BELATED BRITISH REACTION TO THE ARGENTINE INVASION OF THE ISLANDS. HE OBSERVED THAT A BRITISH NUCLEAR SUBMARINE HAD BEEN IN THE AREA FROM THE START, AND SUPPOSEDLY WAS KEEPING TRACK OF ARGENTINE MILITARY MOVEMENTS.

TOWARD THE END OF THE CONVERSATION, REAGAN INSTRUCTED HAIG NOT TO SAY TOO MUCH ABOUT THE U.S. PROPOSAL TO THE PRESS. KEEP THE SPECULATION DOWN TO A MINIMUM, HE TOLD HIS SECRETARY OF STATE.

ENDS

2. AN ARTICLE IN TODAY'S WASHINGTON POST REPORTS THAT THE CONVERSATION TOOK PLACE ON THE NIGHT OF 11 APRIL AS HAIG WAS FLYING TO LONDON. IT QUOTES PRESIDENT REAGAN TELLING HAIG QUOTE IN THOSE TALKS (WITH THE BRITISH), IF ITS HELPFUL AT ALL, WHY, DONT HOLD BACK ON MAKING ME THE BAD GUY AND INSISTING ON RESTRAINT IF THATS NECESSARY. UNQUOTE HE IS QUOTED AS ASKING HAIG QUOTE INCIDENTALLY, THAT SUBMARINE OF THEIRS, DO YOU THINK ITS APT TO GO AHEAD WITH RETRIBUTION AND SINK ANYTHING WITHIN 200 MILES, AND WOULD THAT BE ENOUGH TO VINDICATE THEM ? UNQUOTE

HENDERSON