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DESKBY 180900Z

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TO IMMEDIATE PARIS

TELEGRAM NUMBER 176 OF 17 APRIL

AND TO IMMEDIATE DESKBY BONN 180900Z. ROME

FALKLANDS: REPORTING ON ARGENTINA

1. SINCE THE WITHDRAWAL OF OUR EMBASSY IN BUENOS AIRES, WE HAVE BEEN WITHOUT THE USUAL FIRST-HAND REPORTING OF DEVELOPMENTS THERE.
2. PLEASE URGENTLY ASK THE QUAI IF THEY WOULD SHARE WITH US THE INFORMATION THEY ARE RECEIVING FROM THEIR EMBASSY WHICH IS RELEVANT TO THE PRESENT CRISIS. WE ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE MOOD OF THE JUNTA, THE PUBLIC VIEW OF THE POSSIBILITY OF CONFLICT, THE DEGREE OF PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR GALTIERI, THE REACTIONS TO OUR PRESSURES, DIPLOMATIC, MILITARY AND ECONOMIC, AND THE STATE OF THE ARGENTINE ECONOMY FOLLOWING THE MEASURES TAKEN BY THE UK, FRANCE AND OTHERS.
3. WE ARE AWARE THAT THE QUAI MAY FEEL THAT WE HAVE NOT ADEQUATELY BEEN TAKING THEM INTO OUR OWN CONFIDENCE, PARTICULARLY REGARDING THE HAIG DISCUSSIONS. IF THIS IS RAISED, PLEASE SAY THAT WE SHALL TELL THEM ALL WE CAN AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE MOMENT. BUT HOPE THEY WILL UNDERSTAND HOW VERY DELICATE THE SITUATION IS REGARDING THE TALKS, AND THAT WE ARE CONVINCED THAT THE PROSPECT OF SECURING A PEACEFUL OUTCOME, WHICH WE WOULD OF COURSE MUCH PREFER, WOULD BEST BE SERVED BY REVEALING AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE NOW ABOUT THE ACTUAL DETAILS OF THE DISCUSSIONS: THIS VIEW IS SHARED BY HAIG.
4. BONN AND ROME PLEASE TAKE SIMILAR ACTION

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