

then to TYPISTS

ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS

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GR 475
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DESKBY 231500Z
FM ANKARA 231340Z APR 82
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 1160F 23 APRIL
VINFO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK
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FALKLAND ISLANDS

1. I WAS CALLED IN AT SHORT NOTICE THIS MORNING BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL IN THE TURKISH MFA RESPONSIBLE FOR LATIN AMERICA, IN ORDER TO ACQUAINT ME WITH A TELEGRAM JUST RECEIVED FROM THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR IN BUENOS AIRES. THIS REPORTED THAT THE AMBASSADOR HAD BEEN SUMMONED BY THE ARGENTINE HEAD OF DEPARTMENT CONCERNED TO BE TOLD THAT THE PRESENCE OF A BRITISH FLEET OF 60 (SIC) WARSHIPS IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC MIGHT LEAD TO AN ATTACK ON ARGENTINE FORCES. SUCH AN ATTACK WOULD HAVE GRAVE EFFECTS ON THE EAST/WEST AND NORTH/SOUTH RELATIONSHIP AND WOULD OPEN THE WAY FOR INCREASED SOVIET INFLUENCE IN SOUTH AMERICA. THE ARGENTINES WISHED TO PREVENT THIS. THEY HAD SHOWN FLEXIBILITY BUT THE BRITISH HAD NOT. THE LATTER WERE INSISTING ON THE RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION OF A POPULATION 80 PER CENT OF WHOM WERE ALLEGED TO BE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS OR MEMBERS OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS COMPANY. THE ARGENTINE WAS ASKING TURKEY

~~WHOM WERE ALLEGED TO BE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS OR MEMBERS OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS COMPANY.~~ THE ARGENTINE WAS ASKING TURKEY AS A FRIEND OF THE UK TO USE ITS INFLUENCE TO AVOID BLOODSHED. THERE WAS A HINT THAT ARGENTINA WISHED TO BE ENABLED TO COMPLY WITH SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 502. THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR WAS TOLD THAT SIMILAR REPRESENTATIONS WERE BEING MADE TO OTHER COUNTRIES.

2. COMMENTING, GUVENER SAID THAT THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT WERE CLEARLY BEGINNING TO REALISE THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE SITUATION. THE PRESENCE OF A BRITISH FLEET HAD HAD A SALUTARY EFFECT. IT SEEMED TO HAVE INCREASED THE POSSIBILITY OF A DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION.

3. REFERRING TO THE ARGENTINE REQUEST FOR TURKISH GOOD OFFICES, I SAID THAT THE MOST HELPFUL THING THAT THE TURKS COULD DO WOULD BE TO TELL THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT PLAINLY THAT THE QUICKEST WAY TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION WAS ACTUALLY TO COMPLY WITH IT. ARGENTINA HAD COMMITTED AGGRESSION. THE ESSENTIAL FIRST STEP WAS TO UNDO THIS BY WITHDRAWING THE ARGENTINE FORCES. THEN THERE WOULD BE NO RISK OF BLOODSHED. IF THE ARGENTINIANS THOUGHT THAT THE UK WAS INFLEXIBLE ABOUT WITHDRAWAL THEY WERE DEAD RIGHT. IF THEY PRETENDED THAT THE UK WAS INFLEXIBLE ON NEGOTIATIONS THEY WERE DEAD WRONG.

4. GUVENER SAID THAT THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT HAD PUBLICLY STATED ITS FULL SUPPORT FOR THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION AND THE WITHDRAWL OF ARGENTINE FORCES. THEY HAD ALSO REPRESENTED THEIR VIEWS TO THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT. I SAID THAT THIS WAS AN OCCASION FOR THEM TO DO IT AGAIN. THE MORE COUNTRIES THAT BROUGHT HOME THE FACTS OF THE SITUATION TO THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT THE QUICKER A PEACEFUL SOLUTION WOULD BE REACHED.

LAURENCE

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