

ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS

(30)

PS
PS/MR HURD
PS/MR ONSLOW
PS/PUS
MR GIFFARD
MR WRIGHT
MR ADAMS
MR URE
MR GILLMORE

HD/S AM D (FCO DIST + A/D F/I)
HD/DEF D
HD/NEWS D
HD/UND
HD/PLANNING STAFF
MR ANTHONY WILLIAMS W60
RESIDENT CLERK

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PS/S OF S FOR DEFENCE

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

MISS DICKSON (EIP DIV) D/EN
DIO CABINET OFFICE
MR WADE-GERY CABINET OFFICE
MR FULLER SAPU/DIO " "

SIR M PALLISER CABINET OFFICE
SIR R ARMSTRONG " "

(Copy passed to Emergency Staff)

CONFIDENTIAL

IMMEDIATE

DESKBY 010700Z MAY
FROM UKMIS NEW YORK 010014Z MAY 82
TO IMMEDIATE F C O
TELEGRAM NUMBER 616 DATED 30 APRIL 82
INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON

ADVANCE COPY

MY TWO IPTS AND YOUR TELNO 333: FALKLAND ISLANDS

1. I AGREE THAT COSTA MENDEZ'S VARIOUS STATEMENTS HERE TODAY AMOUNT TO A SMART PR MOVE. WE KNOW THAT HE HAD A LONG SESSION WITH HIS MISSION HERE LAST NIGHT, BY WHICH TIME HE MUST HAVE HAD AN INKLING THAT ARGENTINE REJECTION OF HAIG'S PROPOSALS WAS LIABLE TO LEAD TO NEW MOVES BY THE US. MY GUESS IS THAT HIS PURPOSE HAS BEEN TO PRESENT THE ARGENTINE POSITION IN THE MOST FAVOURABLE LIGHT PARTICULARLY IN UN EYES AND TO TRY TO DISTRACT ATTENTION FROM US AND UK RESPONSES TO THE FAILURE OF HAIG'S MISSION. HE HAS SUCCEEDED IN CREATING THE IMPRESSION OF A CHANGE IN THE ARGENTINE POSITION AND HAS BEEN ASSISTED IN THIS BY MISCOMPREHENSION ON THE PART OF KAMANDA, BY INACCURATE REPORTING BY REUTERS, AND, I SUSPECT, BY RAFAE AHMED WHO IS ALTOGETHER

BY MISCOMPREHENSION ON THE PART OF KAMANDA, BY INACCURATE REPORTING BY REUTERS, AND, I SUSPECT, BY RAFEE AHMED WHO IS ALTOGETHER TOO SYMPATHETIC TO THE ARGENTINE CASE.

2. I ALSO AGREE WITH PARA 2 OF YOUR TELNO 333. I DO NOT THINK HOWEVER THAT WE NEED TO TAKE COSTA MENDEZ'S PR'S SUCCESS TOO TRAGICALLY. HIS STATEMENTS HAVE BEEN SMALL BEER BY COMPARISON WITH THOSE OF HAIG AND YOURSELF; AND THEY WILL SOON BE OVERTAKEN BY A PRESUMABLY LESS DIPLOMATIC RESPONSE FROM THE GENERALS IN BUENOS AIRES. WE SHOULD TAKE NO FURTHER ACTION WITH KAMANDA. IF ONE ASSUMES, AS I DO, THAT THE AUTHORITATIVE VERSION OF WHAT COSTA MENDEZ SAID IS THAT GIVEN TO ME BY PEREZ DE CUELLAR, IT IS CLEAR THAT KAMANDA GOT HOLD OF THE WRONG END OF THE STICK PROBABLY FOR LINGUISTIC REASONS. IN ANY CASE KAMANDA CEASES TO BE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AT MIDNIGHT TONIGHT (30 APRIL) AND WILL NOT HAVE BRIEFED HIS SUCCESSOR (LING QING, CHINA).

3. I AGREE WITH THE PRESS LINE IN PARA 5 OF YOUR TELNO 333 EXCEPT THAT, HAVING HAD PEREZ DE CUELLAR'S ACCOUNT, I THINK THAT WE CAN SAY QUITE FIRMLY THAT COSTA MENDEZ'S POINTS FALL SHORT OF OUR ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS.

4. CONTRARY TO WHAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL TOLD ME (PARA 5 OF MY FIRST IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING TELEGRAM) COSTA MENDEZ HAS LEFT NEW YORK AND IS APPARENTLY AT THE AIRPORT ENROUTE FOR BUENOS AIRES.

PARSONS

NNNN