

PS (6)
 PS/MR HURD
 MR ONSLOW
 PS/PUS
 MR BULLARD
 SIR I SINCLAIR
 MR GIFFARD
 MR WRIGHT
 MR ADAMS
 LORD N G LENNOX
 LORD BRIDGES
 MR URE
 MR GILLMORE
 HD/PUSD
 HD/S AM D
 HD/DEF DEPT
 HD/NEWS DEPT
 HD/ERD
 HD/ECD(E)
 HD/UND
 HD/PLANNING STAFF
 MR ANTHONY WILLIAMS W60
 EMERGENCY ROOM
 RESIDENT CLERK

PS/NO 10 DOWNING ST (2)
 PS/S OF S FOR DEFENCE
 MR J STEWART AUSD STAFF MOD
 PS/CHANCELLOR)
 SIR K COUZENS) TREASURY
 MR LITTLER)
 SIR R ARMSTRONG)
 SIR M PALLISER) CABINET
 MR WADE-GERY) OFFICE
 MR FULLER SAPU/DIO)
 DIO)

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MY TELNO 156: FALKLANDS: BRAZILIAN POSITION

1. AS FORECAST IN PARA 3 OF TUR, FOREIGN MINISTER YESTERDAY DEFENDED IN THE SENATE THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT'S POSITION ON THE FALKLANDS CRISIS.

2. GUERREIRO ENDURED THREE HOURS OF POLITE GRILLING BY THE ASSEMBLED SENATORS, IN THE COURSE OF WHICH HE MADE THE FOLLOWING SALIENT POINTS:

(A) SINCE 1833, WHEN BRITAIN OCCUPIED THE MALVINAS (SIC)

- (A) SINCE 1833, WHEN BRITAIN OCCUPIED THE MALVINAS (SIC) BY FORCE, EXPELLING THE ARGENTINE GOVERNOR, BRAZIL HAD CONSTANTLY SUPPORTED THE ARGENTINE CLAIM. SINCE THAT DATE, THERE HAD NEVER BEEN ANY ARBITRATION, JUDICIAL SENTENCE OR INTERNATIONAL TREATY WHICH GAVE JURIDICAL VALIDITY TO THE BRITISH OCCUPATION.
- (B) BRAZIL'S PRINCIPAL PREOCCUPATION WAS TO REVERSE THE PRESENT ESCALATION OF VIOLENCE AND TRY TO GET NEGOTIATIONS GOING IN A SPIRIT OF CONCILIATION AND JUSTICE. SHE HAD NEVER HAD ANY ASPIRATION TO ASSUME THE ROLE OF MEDIATOR IN THIS CONFLICT OR TO SEEK TO EXERCISE ANY KIND OF CONTINENTAL LEADERSHIP. SHE WOULD TRY TO MAKE HERSELF USEFUL, BUT NO MORE THAN THAT.
- (C) THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT CONSIDERED THE UNITED NATIONS THE BEST INSTRUMENT FOR SECURING A SOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT. THE THREE ELEMENTS OF SCR 502 (VIZ CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES, WITHDRAWAL OF FORCES AND BEGINNING OF NEGOTIATIONS) MUST ALL BE FULFILLED IN THEIR ENTIRETY.
- (D) BRAZIL'S POSITION SHOULD BE SEEN IN A LONG TERM CONTEXT AND IN THE LIGHT OF THE EXCEPTIONAL DEGREE OF DIALOGUE WHICH SHE HAD REACHED WITH NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES, BY dint OF OVERCOMING LONG-STANDING RESENTMENTS. HER POSITION HAD TO BE ONE WHICH REFLECTED HER PREOCCUPATION WITH THE LATIN AMERICAN REGION OF WHICH SHE FORMED A PART, AS WELL AS HER EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH ARGENTINA. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE UNITED KINGDOM WAS ALSO A FRIENDLY COUNTRY WITH WHOM BRAZIL HAD NOT THE SLIGHTEST POINT OF DIFFERENCE, RATHER THE CONTRARY.
- (E) ON THE QUESTION OF ARMS SALES, IT WAS ITAMARATY'S PRACTICE NOT TO MAKE STATEMENTS ABOUT THEM. BUT HE COULD GUARANTEE THAT THE GUIDELINE ADOPTED BY THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT WAS THAT ANY SALES SHOULD NOT CREATE DISEQUILIBRIUM BETWEEN THE CONFLICTING PARTIES.
- (F) THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT WAS OPPOSED TO THE UNITED STATES' DECISION TO SUPPORT BRITAIN AND ADOPT ECONOMIC AND MILITARY SANCTIONS AGAINST ARGENTINA. IT HAD UNDOUBTEDLY DAMAGED THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM, WHICH COULD NEVER BE QUITE THE SAME AGAIN. THOUGH IT WAS NOT

AND MILITARY SANCTIONS AGAINST ARGENTINA. IT HAD UNDOUBTEDLY DAMAGED THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM, WHICH COULD NEVER BE QUITE THE SAME AGAIN, THOUGH IT WAS NOT NECESSARILY TRUE THAT IT WOULD FALL APART.

3. THOUGH SUBJECTED TO SOME FAIRLY TRENCHANT QUESTIONING, PARTICULARLY ON THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT'S EVIDENT TILT TOWARDS ARGENTINA, GUERREIRO GAVE A GOOD ACCOUNT OF HIMSELF AND BY THE END OF THE SESSION APPEARED TO HAVE WON THE UNDERSTANDING, IF NOT THE SUPPORT, OF MOST SENATORS.

4. THIS WAS A CAUTIOUS VENTURE IN THE DIRECTION OF MINISTERIAL ACCOUNTABILITY OF A KIND WHICH BRAZIL HAS SCARCELY SEEN SINCE THE REVOLUTION OF 1964. INsofar AS IT IS LIKELY TO MAKE THE GOVERNMENT MORE SENSITIVE TO PARLIAMENTARY OPINION, WHICH SEEMS MARGINALLY FAVOURABLE TO US IN THE PRESENT CONFLICT, THE OUTCOME WAS SATISFACTORY.

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SENT AT 07:1453Z HM