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OO BRUSSELS (DESKBY 090500Z)

GRS 1000

8 MAY 1982

CONFIDENTIAL

DESKBY 090500Z (BRUSSELS)

FM UKMIS NEW YORK 090106Z MAY 82

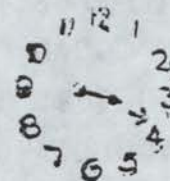
TO FLASH FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 685 OF 8 MAY

AND TO IMMEDIATE BRUSSELS (FOR S OF S'S PARTY).

INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON.

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MY TEL NO 679: FALKLAND ISLANDS.

1. I SAW THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND HIS TEAM AGAIN AT 2130Z TODAY (8 MAY).

2. PEREZ DE CUELLAR SAID THAT HE HAD ASKED ROS (ARGENTINA) FOR AN INITIAL REACTION TO MY REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION OF WHAT THE ARGENTINES MEANT BY QUOTE AN EXCLUSIVE UN ROLE UNQUOTE IN THE INTERIM ADMINISTRATION. ROS HAD REPLIED THAT ARGENTINA FELT THAT SINCE THE INTERIM PERIOD WAS LIKELY TO BE FAIRLY SHORT IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO ADOPT ARRANGEMENTS WHICH, WHILE NOT AFFECTING INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS, SHOULD NECESSARILY COME FULLY UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE INTERIM ADMINISTRATOR, IE THE UN. PEREZ DE CUELLAR SAID THAT THE ARGENTINES SEEMED PREPARED TO RESPECT THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK EXISTING UP TO 31 MARCH 1982 QUOTE REGARDING INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS UNQUOTE BUT THEY INSISTED THAT, IF THE ULTIMATE REGIME OF THE ISLANDS WAS NOT TO BE PREJUDGED, THEN THE POLITICAL STRUCTURES SHOULD ALSO BE KEPT IN ABEYANCE THROUGH-OUT THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD. ARGENTINA DID NOT ACCEPT ANY DISTINCTION BETWEEN NOMINATED AND ELECTED OFFICERS. SHE FELT STRONGLY THAT, IN ORDER TO AVOID CONFUSION AND SO AS TO ENSURE THAT THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD WAS TRULY TRANSITIONAL, IT SHOULD BE UNDER CLEAR-CUT UN ADMINISTRATION, WITH A PRESENCE FROM BOTH THE INTERESTED PARTIES.

3. PEREZ DE CUELLAR COMMENTED THAT THIS SEEMED TO BE A REPETITION OF THE POSITION THE ARGENTINES HAD MAINTAINED ALL ALONG ON THE TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS. I QUESTIONED THIS: AT ONE STAGE IN HAIG'S NEGOTIATIONS THE ARGENTINES HAD SEEMED TO ENVISAGE THAT THE

~~LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE COUNCILS WOULD REMAIN~~

LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE COUNCILS WOULD REMAIN IN BEING. THOUGH WITH SUBSTANTIAL ARGENTINE PARTICIPATION. THEIR NEW POSITION WAS VERY DIFFERENT. THEIR REFERENCE TO QUOTE INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS UNQUOTE PRESUMABLY MEANT EXISTING LAW ON PROPERTY, FAMILY MATTERS, ETC. WHAT IN EFFECT THEY WERE PROPOSING WAS DIRECT UN ADMINISTRATION WITHOUT ANY LOCAL POLITICAL STRUCTURES. THIS WAS A VERY DIFFERENT CONCEPT FROM OURS AND I DID NOT BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO OU: IT WOULD AMOUNT TO DENYING THE ISLANDERS THEIR RIGHT TO HAVE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES. PEREZ DE CUELLAR ASKED WHETHER IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO LET HIM HAVE DETAILS OF THE POSITION THE ARGENTINES HAD TAKEN ON THIS - AND INDEED ON OTHER POINTS - IN PREVIOUS NEGOTIATIONS: IT WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR HIM TO BE ABLE TO POINT OUT, AS NECESSARY, WHEN THEY WERE BEING LESS FLEXIBLE THAN THEY HAD BEFORE. I SAID THAT IT WAS NOT PRIVY TO ALL OF HAIG'S NEGOTIATIONS BUT I WOULD ASK WHETHER YOU COULD LET THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAVE THE INFORMATION HE REQUESTED.

4. PEREZ DE CUELLAR SAID THAT ROS HAD REPEATED VERY CLEARLY THIS AFTERNOON THAT IT WAS NOT THE PURPOSE OF ARGENTINA TO PREJUDGE THE QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY, THOUGH DE SOTO ADDED THAT FOR THE ARGENTINES THIS DEPENDED ON AGREEMENT ON APPROPRIATE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR A DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION. IN CONVERSATION AFTER THE MEETING, AHMED GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE ARGENTINES MAY BE THINKING OF INSERTING INTO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE LANGUAGE ABOUT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS WHICH TEND TO FAVOUR THE ARGENTINE CASE ON SOVEREIGNTY. WE SHALL HAVE TO WATCH THIS CAREFULLY.

5. AHMED SAID THAT ROS HAD TALKED ABOUT 15 TO 20 DAYS AS THE PERIOD FOR WITHDRAWAL. PEREZ DE CUELLAR SAID THAT HE HAD ASKED ROS FOR DETAILS OF WHAT HAD BEEN PROPOSED IN PREVIOUS ROUNDS OF NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE DURATION AND PHASING OF MUTUAL WITHDRAWALS. HE WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF WE TOO COULD LET HIM HAVE THIS INFORMATION. I SAID THAT I WOULD PASS ON HIS REQUEST.

6. MY NEXT MEETING WITH PEREZ DE CUELLAR WILL BE AT 1930Z TOMORROW (9 MAY).

7. PLEASE SEE MIFT FOR COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

PARSONS