

FM UKMIS NEW YORK 142315Z MAY 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCC

TELEGRAM NUMBER 755 OF 14 MAY

IMMEDIATE ATHENS BONN BRUSSELS COPENHAGEN DUBLIN THE HAGUE
LUXEMBOURG PARIS ROME UKREP BRUSSELS CANBERRA WELLINGTON
OTTAWA AND WASHINGTON.

ACTION
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177
7 6 5 4

MY TEL NO 740: FALKLANDS: BRIEFING OF COMMUNITY AMBASSADORS.

1. I SAW THE TEN AGAIN AT 1930Z TODAY (14 MAY).

2. MY BELGIAN COLLEAGUE TOLD ME BEFORE THE MEETING THAT SHE HAD BEEN LOBBIED TODAY BY ROCA (ARGENTINA). IT SUBSEQUENTLY TURNED OUT THAT THE ARGENTINES HAD BEEN SYSTEMATICALLY SEEING ALL MEMBERS OF THE TEN HERE. THEIR LINE HAD BEEN:

- (A) ARGENTINA WAS NEGOTIATING IN GOOD FAITH;
- (B) SANCTIONS HAD NOT HELPED THE BRITISH; THEIR EFFECT HAD SIMPLY BEEN TO CONSOLIDATE LATIN AMERICAN AND THIRD WORLD SUPPORT FOR ARGENTINA; THEIR RENEWAL WOULD EXTEND THE CONFRONTATION AND HEIGHTEN THE NORTH/SOUTH CONFLICT;
- (C) THE SOVEREIGNTY QUESTION HAD BEEN RESOLVED AS A RESULT OF AN ARGENTINE CONCESSION;
- (D) THERE REMAINED THREE MAIN ISSUES;
- (E) THE MOST IMPORTANT OF THESE WAS THE NATURE OF THE INTERIM ADMINISTRATION, WHERE ARGENTINA WANTED A PURELY UN ADMINISTRATION, BUT THE BRITISH WERE INSISTING ON RETENTION OF QUOTE THE COLONIAL STRUCTURES UNQUOTE.
- (F) THE OTHER TWO WERE WITHDRAWAL, WHERE THE ARGENTINES HAD ACCEPTED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S CONCEPT OF SIMULTANEOUS OR PARALLEL WITHDRAWAL, BUT THE BRITISH HAD NOT; AND THE SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS WHERE THE BRITISH WERE REFUSING TO ACCEPT A DEADLINE, EVEN THOUGH ARGENTINA HAD BEEN FLEXIBLE IN EXPRESSING READINESS TO ACCEPT EXTENSION OF THE DEADLINE BY A FEW MONTHS IF NECESSARY.

(THIS WAS CLEARLY A COORDINATED DIPLOMATIC EFFORT BY THE ARGENTINES HERE IN ADVANCE OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE'S MEETING, WITH THE OBJECT OF PUTTING US ON THE WRONG FOOT BY PRETENDING THAT WE HAVE BEEN HOLDING UP PEREZ DE CUELLAR'S NEGOTIATIONS).

3. I SAID THAT I HAD BEEN RECALLED TO TAKE PART IN MINISTERIAL MEETINGS OVER THE WEEKEND AT WHICH THE WHOLE SITUATION WOULD BE REVIEWED. I HAD SO INFORMED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL THIS MORNING AND HAD PUT TO HIM THAT IT WAS ESSENTIAL THAT NOTHING SHOULD HAPPEN IN NEW YORK UNTIL I GOT BACK. I HAD ASKED HIM TO PERSUADE ROCA (ARGENTINA) THAT THE UK WAS NOT PLAYING GAMES AND WAS NEGOTIATING IN GOOD FAITH.

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4. MOST OF THE SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION COVERED THE SAME GROUND AS THAT REPORTED IN MY TELEGRAM UNDER REFERENCE. I AGAIN SAID THAT PARTICIPATION OF THE ISLANDERS IN THE INTERIM ADMINISTRATION WAS A VERY IMPORTANT ISSUE FOR US. I DECLINED TO BE DRAWN (BY THE FRG AND GREECE) IN ANY DETAIL ABOUT WHAT THE OTHER REMAINING POINTS OF DIFFICULTY WERE. DORR SAID THAT HE DID NOT THINK THAT ANYONE WOULD ROCK THE BOAT IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL, FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS AT ANY RATE.

5. AT THE SAME TIME, WHYTE WAS BRIEFING MY CANADIAN, NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIAN COLLEAGUES IN SIMILAR TERMS.

PARSONS

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