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TO IMMEDIATE FCO

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INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON PRIORITY UKDEL NATO AND OTHER NATO POSTS UKREP BRUSSELS UKHIS NEW YORK

MY TELNO 147 (NOT TO ALL):

NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL MINISTERIAL MEETING:

SUPER RESTRICTED SESSION - FALKLANDS

1. THE SECRETARY OF STATE BROUGHT HIS COLLEAGUES IN THE NAC UP-TO-DATE ON THE FALKLAND ISLANDS PICKING UP A REFERENCE IN HAIG'S OPENING STATEMENT, HE SAID THAT THE SOUTH ATLANTIC PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE ALLIANCE TO SHOW SOLID-ARITY AND ITS RESOLUTION IN DEFENCE OF ITS PRINCIPLES. HE THANKED HAIG FOR HIS EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT A SOLUTION. THE FOCUS WAS NOW IN NEW YORK AND THE TALKS WERE IN A CRITICAL STAGE. THE UK PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UN HAD RETURNED THERE THAT DAY AND WOULD BE SEEING THE SECRETARY GENERAL AT ABOUT LUNCHTIME NEW YORK TIME. IT SEEMED LIKELY THAT NEGOTIATIONS WOULD COME TO A HEAD THIS WEEK. WE COULD NOT CONTINUE INDEFINITELY. AGREEMENT WAS ENTIRELY POSSIBLE BUT IT WAS NOT EASY DEALING WITH THE ARGENTINES AMONG WHOM THERE WERE MANY VOICES. IF AN AGREEMENT WAS ACHIEVED IT WOULD. BE THE RESULT OF DIPLOMATIC, ECONOMIC, AND MILITARY PRESSURES, ALL BASED ON SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 502 WHICH HAD CALLED FOR CEASEFIRE, WITHDRAWAL AND A DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION. THROUGHOUT WE HAD BEEN PUTTING THE SQUEEZE ON ARGENTINA. HE HAD DESCRIBED THE STATE OF PLAY IN THE DIPLOMATIC FIELD. THE MILITARY PRESSURE WAS BUILDING UP AND WE WERE SECURING THE TOTAL EXCLUSION ZONE AS WELL AS OUR LINES OF COMMUNICATION (WE HAD GIVEN THE ARGENTINES NOTICE SOME TIME AGO, AND HAD REPEATED, THAT IF THEY CHALLENGED US THERE, THEY SHOULD KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT). THE ECONOMIC MEASURES HAD BEEN EFFECTIVE AND WE WERE GRATEFUL TO OUR PARTNERS IN THE EC. TO NORWAY, PORTUGAL, THE UNITED STATES, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMONWEALTH. THIS SUPPORT HAD BEEN VERY IMPORTANT, AND ITS CONTINUATION IN THIS VERY CRITICAL WEEK WAS VITAL. IT WOULD BE VERY

NUMBER OF PEOPLE, BUT WE WERE ALSO TALKING ABOUT A VERY. MAJOR ISSUE, ABOUT AGGRESSION AND ABOUT UPHOLDING THE RULE OF LAW. THE PUBLIC GENERALLY UNDERSTOOD THIS. THE ARGENTINES WERE ILLEGAL INVADERS. WE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THEY HAD A CLAIM TO SOVEREIGHTY, INVALID IN OUR VIEW, BUT THERE WERE WAYS OF RESOLVING THAT WITHOUT THE USE OF FORCE. THE ARGENTINES HAD USED FORCE AND HAD FIRED THE FIRST SHOT. OUR OBJECTIVE WAS TO ACHIEVE THEIR WITHDRAWAL AND A SOLUTION IN WHICH THE ISSUE OF SOVEREIGNTY WOULD NOT BE PRE-JUDGED. WE WOULD DO THIS ONE WAY OR ANOTHER: WITH THE HELP OF OUR ALLIES BY PEACEFUL HEANS, WHICH WOULD SHOW THE UNITY AND SOLIDARITY OF THE ALLIANCE. BUT IF NOT BY PEACEFUL MEANS, BY OTHER MEANS. HOWEVER OUR OBJECTIVES WERE ACHIEVED THE WORLD WOULD HEAVE A SIGH OF RELIEF BECAUSE OTHER SMALL COUNTRIES WOULD FEEL A LITTLE BIT MORE SECURE. MOREOVER, THERE WOULD BE A PSYCHO-LOGICAL IMPACT ON THE CONCEPT OF DETERRENCE BY BRINGING OUT THAT OUR DEFENCE IN THE ALLIANCE EXISTED TO PRESERVE PEACE.

- 2. ALL SPEAKERS EXPRESSED SOLIDARITY WITH THE UK.
 HAIG SPOKE OF BRITAIN'S BRAVE STAND NOT ONLY BECAUSE
 BRITISH TERRITORY HAD BEEN INVADED BUT BECAUSE THE
 COLLAPSE OF THE PRINCIPLE OF RESISTING AGGRESSION COULD
 HAVE DANGEROUS RESULTS. THE US SUPPORTED THE UK DESPITE
 THE COST TO ITSELF AND THE POSSIBLE DANGERS TO US
 CITIZENS IN LATIN AMERICA. THE PRINCIPLE WAS OF WIDER
 APPLICATION.
- 3. PEREIRA (PORTUGAL) SPOKE OF POGTUGAL'S SUPPORT
 FROM THE BEGINNING. THE ARGENTINE ACTION WAS AN
 INADMISSIBLE USE OF FORCE WHICH COULD NOT BE PERMITTED
 SO LONG AS THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION HAD NOT
 BEEN CARRIED OUT.

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ete na 1919 par il li li la 1944. Il norto della di la 4. GENSCHER (GERMANY) SAID THAT AGGRESSION SHOULD

NOT PAY. NOTHING WOULD CONVINCE PEOPLE OF THIS MORE THAN

THE CLIDARITY AND UNITY DISPLAYED AMONG FRIENDS

AS A SIGNAL TO ARGENTINA AND THE WORLD. CHEYSSON (FRANCE)

SAID THAT FRANCE HAD BEEN AT BRITAIN'S SIDE FROM THE FIRST

AND WOULD REMAIN SO, AS LONG AS RESOLUTION 502 HAD NOT BEEN

APPLIED. COLOMBO (ITALY) SAID THAT ITALY WAS BEHIND THE UK

IN THE BASIS OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 502, BECAUSE

AGGRESSION HAD BEEN COMMITTED BY ARGENTINA AGAINST INTERNATIONAL

LEGALITY, THROUGH THE INVASION OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS: AND

BECAUSE ITALY BELIEVED THAT THOSE WHO TOOK SUCH MEASURES SHOULD

PAY. ALL THE OTHERS SPOKE IN SIMILAR SENTENCES. STRAY (NORWAY)

NOTED THE IMPORTANCE OF NOT GIVING THE WRONG IMPRESSION IF

DETERRENCE WAS TO WORK.

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