

20 MAY 1982

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RR TRAFFIC RELAY

GRS 220

CONFIDENTIAL

FM BONN 201859Z MAY 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 467 OF 20 MAY

INFO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK WASHINGTON ATHENS UKREF BRUSSELS
EMBASSY BRUSSELS COPENHAGEN DUBLIN THE HAGUE LUXEMBOURG PARIS
ROME



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YOUR TELNO 90 TO ABIDJAN : FALKLAND ISLANDS

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1. ACTION TAKEN TODAY WITH GENSCHER WHO TOOK NOTE AND SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN LISTENING TO THE PRIME MINISTER ON THE RADIO. I TOOK HIM THROUGH THE NEGOTIATIONS OF THE PAST 6 (SIX) WEEKS AND POINTED OUT THAT ARGENTINE INTRANSIGENCE HAD LED TO THE PRESENT IMPASSE. GENSCHER ACKNOWLEDGED THE DIFFICULTIES IN NEGOTIATING WITH A MILITARY JUNTA BUT SAID THAT HE HOPED NEGOTIATIONS WOULD CONTINUE DESPITE THE PESSIMISTIC OUTLOOK. THE FEDERAL CABINET HAD DISCUSSED THE FALKLANDS CRISIS AT LENGTH YESTERDAY AND THE BRITISH COULD REST ASSURED OF CONTINUED GERMAN SUPPORT.
2. GENSCHER SAID THAT HE REGRETTED THAT EC SANCTIONS HAD BEEN RENEWED ONLY FOR A WEEK. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN PREPARED TO AGREE A LONGER EXTENSION AND GENSCHER HAD SOUGHT TO CONVINCED THE ITALIANS AND THE DANES. HE HAD DISREGARDED THE IRISH. GENSCHER SAID THAT HE HAD HAD A TETE A TETE WITH COLOMBO OVER LUNCH ON 17 MAY AND HAD SECURED COLOMBO'S AGREEMENT TO A 14 (FOURTEEN) DAY EXTENSION WITH ITALY ISSUING A DEVCLARATION STATING ITS POSITION ON THE CRISIS. BUT COLOMBO HAD BEEN UNABLE TO GAIN ACCEPTANCE FOR THIS FROM ROME. THE DECISION TO RENEW SANCTIONS FOR A MERE 7 (SEVEN) DAYS WAS MAINLY BECAUSE THE DANES HAD PARLIAMENTARY DIFFICULTIES. GNSCHER DOUBTED WHETHER THE BRITISH WERE AWARE OF THIS BACKGROUND.
3. MEANWHILE HEAD OF CHANCERY ALSO TALKED TO ZELLER (FEDERAL CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE) WHO INFORMED CHANCELLOR OF THE MESSAGE.

TAYLOR

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