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MIPT: FALKLANDS

1. TEXT OF SECRETARY GENERAL'S LETTER TO AMBASSADOR LING QING, PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL (RELEASED TO THE PRESS AT 21 : 0135Z ):

AS I INFORMED THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL YESTERDAY, I FELT THE TIME FOR REACHING AGREEMENT THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS THAT WOULD RESTORE PEACE IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC WAS EXTREMELY SHORT. IT REMAINS MY VIEW THAT SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS WAS ACHIEVED IN THE PAST TWO WEEKS TOWARDS A DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION, BUT I MUST NOW STATE THAT THE NECESSARY ACCOMMODATIONS WHICH WERE STILL NEEDED TO END THE CONFLICT HAVE NOT BEEN FORTHCOMING. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES I FEEL IT MY DUTY TO INFORM YOU THAT, IN MY JUDGEMENT, THE EFFORTS IN WHICH I HAVE BEEN ENGAGED, WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE COUNCIL, DO NOT OFFER THE PRESENT PROSPECT OF BRINGING ABOUT AN END TO THE CRISIS, NOR INDEED OF PREVENTING THE INTENSIFICATION OF THE CONFLICT. I HAVE THOUGHT IT ESSENTIAL TO PROVIDE YOU WITH THIS APPRAISAL ON A MOST URGENT BASIS IN THE LIGHT OF THE RESPONSIBILITY WHICH THE SECURITY COUNCIL BEARS UNDER THE CHARTER. AT THE SAME TIME I WOULD LIKE TO ASSURE YOU OF MY CONTINUING COMMITMENT TO THE SEARCH FOR A LASTING RESOLUTION OF THIS PROBLEM.

PARSONS

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