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CONFIDENTIAL

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FM UKMIS NEW YORK 210005Z MAY 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 803 OF 20 MAY

INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON

MY TELNO 795: FALKLANDS

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21 MAY 82



1. THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAS SPENT THE WHOLE DAY WAITING FOR AN ARGENTINE REACTION TO HIS AIDE MEMOIRE OF 19 MAY. AT 2345Z THIS EVENING (20 MAY) HE HAD STILL NOT RECEIVED ONE.
2. I TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE LULL IN NEGOTIATIONS TO CATCH UP ON BRIEFING OUR FRIENDS AND ALLIES AND THE MEDIA.
3. I SAW THE AMBASSADORS OF NEW ZEALAND AND CANADA AT THE END OF THE MORNING, LUNCHED WITH THE AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER AND BRIEFED MY COLLEAGUES OF THE TEN THIS EVENING. IN EACH CASE I TOOK THEM IN DETAIL THROUGH OUR DRAFT INTERIM AGREEMENT, THE ARGENTINE RESPONSE OF 18 MAY, THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S AIDE-MEMOIRE OF 19 MAY AND OUR RESPONSE TO IT. AND THE DEBATE IN THE HOUSE TODAY. NOTHING OF SIGNIFICANCE EMERGED IN THE SUBSEQUENT QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WITH THE TEN, EXCEPT THAT I TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO TRY TO SMOKE OUT DORR (IRELAND) ABOUT HIS INTENTIONS VIS-A-VIS THE SECURITY COUNCIL. HE TOOK THE VIEW (WITH WHICH I AGREE) THAT ONCE THE SECRETARY GENERAL ANNOUNCED THAT HE COULD DO NO MORE AND/OR INTENSIFIED HOSTILITIES OCCURRED, SOMEONE WOULD BE BOUND TO CALL A FORMAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL. THIS MIGHT WELL BE PEREZ DE CUELLAR HIMSELF. THE EXISTING IRISH REQUEST FOR A FORMAL MEETING COULD BE THE "VEHICLE" FOR THIS. BUT NEITHER DORR NOR ANY OTHER OF THE TEN HAD ANY ANSWER WHEN I ASKED WHAT THEY THOUGHT THE COUNCIL COULD USEFULLY DO IN THE EVENT OF FAILURE BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL. DORR IMPLIED THAT HE MIGHT NEVERTHELESS RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS TO PROPOSE SOME ACTION BY THE COUNCIL.
4. MY PRESS OFFICER IS REPORTING SEPARATELY TO NEWS DEPARTMENT ON THE PRESS CONFERENCE I GAVE THIS EVENING.

PARSONS