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FM UKDEL NATO 221615Z MAY 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 251 OF 22 MAY

AND TO IMMEDIATE MODUK

INFO PRIORITY ANKARA ATHENS BONN BRUSSELS COPENHAGEN THE HAGUE
LISBON LUXEMBOURG OSLO OTTAWA PARIS REYKJAVIK ROME WASHINGTON
UKMIS NEW YORK AND UKREP BRUSSELS

YOUR GUIDANCE TELNO 105: THE FALKLANDS

BY AGREEMENT WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL I CALLED FOR A MEETING
OF THE NAC AT 1400HRS GMT TODAY, WITH THE OBJECT OF OBTAINING AN
EXPRESSION OF SOLIDARITY. I CIRCULATED A POSSIBLE TEXT IN
ADVANCE BUT THIS RAN INTO TROUBLE WITH THE FRENCH, ITALIANS AND
GERMANS. THE FRENCH OBJECTIONS RELATED TO FORM RATHER THAN
SUBSTANCE AND THE DIFFICULTY OF OBTAINING INSTRUCTIONS IN TIME.
THE ITALIANS, WHO CONSULTED COLOMBO BY TELEPHONE, TOLD ME THAT
THEY COULD NOT GO BEYOND A STATEMENT RECALLING THEIR SOLIDARITY
FROM THE START, NOTING OUR LANDING ON THE ISLANDS, AND EXPRESSING
THE HOPE FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION. THE GERMANS, ALSO ON INSTRUCTIONS
SUGGESTED THAT SINCE THE LUXEMBOURG COMMUNIQUE WAS SO RECENT, THE
SECRETARY GENERAL SHOULD CONFINE HIMSELF TO REITERATING THE
THE ALLIANCE'S POSITION AS SET OUT IN PARA 14 OF THAT COMMUNIQUE.
MEANWHILE THE US RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM HAIG TO SUPPORT OUR
TEXT.

2. LUNS SPOKE TO ME ABOUT THIS JUST BEFORE THE MEETING AND
STRONGLY ADVISED ME TO DROP MY DRAFT AND TO LEAVE IT TO HIM;
OTHERWISE WE SHOULD HAVE A WRANGLE. I AGREED AND EXPLAINED MATTERS
TO THE AMERICANS.

3. IN THE EVENT THINGS WENT AS LUNS HAD FORECAST. I MADE A
STATEMENT, BASED ON VARIOUS TELEGRAMS ESPECIALLY THE TELEGRAM
UNDER REFERENCE, AND STRESSING THAT WE HAD NOT TURNED OUR BACK
ON NEGOTIATIONS. MILREP'S STAFF GAVE A BRIEFING DRAWING ON MR
NOTT'S STATEMENT AND A FEW OTHER SNIPPETS. (WE ARE ARRANGING THAT
THE COUNCIL SHALL RECEIVE ON A REGULAR BASIS COPIES OF THE
SITREPS WHICH MILREP DISTRIBUTES TO THE MILITARY COMMITTEE).
MOST PERMREPS WERE WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS BUT NORWAY, CANADA,
US (ON INSTRUCTIONS) BELGIUM, NETHERLANDS AND TURKEY MADE STRONG
STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT FOR THE UK. FRG, ITALY, DENMARK AND FRANCE
WERE MORE RESERVED BUT WERE READY TO SUPPORT A STATEMENT BY
THE SECRETARY GENERAL REITERATING PARA 14 OF THE LUXEMBOURG
COMMUNIQUE. LEDOGAR (US) POINTED OUT THAT SINCE 19 MAY THERE HAD
BEEN DEVELOPMENTS: SINCE NOBODY CONTRADICTED HIM A REITERATION,

THE SECRETARY GENERAL REITERATING PARA 14 OF THE LUXEMBOURG COMMUNIQUE. LEDOGAR (US) POINTED OUT THAT SINCE 13 MAY THERE HAD BEEN DEVELOPMENTS: SINCE NOBODY CONTRADICTED HIM A REITERATION, MADE IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF THOSE DEVELOPMENTS AMOUNTS TO A STRONG STATEMENT OF SUPPORT. NEVERTHELESS I BELIEVE THAT YOU MAY FIND THE RESERVATIONS OF THE FRG AND ITALY REFLECTED IN THE ATTITUDES OF GENSCHER AND COLOMBO ON 24 MAY. THE FRENCH AS REPRESENTED HERE ARE MORE UNPREDICTABLE.

4. I WAS ASKED TO SAY WHAT OUR MILITARY OBJECTIVES WERE AND WHAT ACTION WE FORESAW IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL. I QUOTED FROM MR NOTT'S STATEMENT FOR THE FIRST, THAT OUR TROOPS WOULD ADVANCE TO HARASS THE ARGENTINE TROOPS AND THAT WE WOULD TIGHTEN THE BLOCKADE WITH A VIEW TO BRINGING ABOUT ARGENTINE WITHDRAWAL. I ALSO RECALLED THAT YOU HAD SAID IN THE NAC ON 17 MAY THAT WE WERE DETERMINED TO ACHIEVE THAT WITHDRAWAL, IF POSSIBLE BY PEACEFUL MEANS, BUT IF NOT, BY ARMS. AS FOR THE SECURITY COUNCIL, I SAID I HAD NO UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION BUT I POINTED OUT THAT A CEASE-FIRE IN (NEXT WORD UNDERLINED) SITU, WHICH LEFT THE ARGENTINES IN OCCUPATION OF ANY PART OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE.

5. TEXT OF SECRETARY GENERAL'S STATEMENT IS IN M I F T.

GRAHAM

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SENT/RECD AT 221656Z JW/VPA