

GPS 210
UNCLASSIFIED
FM LIMA 261933Z MAY 82
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 202 OF 26 MAY

FALKLANDS

1. TODAY'S PRESS HIGHLIGHTS THE MASS HELD YESTERDAY TO COMMEMORATE ARGENTINA'S NATIONAL DAY, WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY PRESIDENT BELAUNDE, THE CABINET AND OTHER LEADING PERSONALITIES.
2. PROMINENCE IS ALSO GIVEN TO BRITAIN'S WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES' DRAFT SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION EMPOWERING THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL TO ARRANGE A CEASEFIRE; MENTION IS MADE OF ARGENTINE DIFFICULTIES IN ACCEPTING THE DRAFT. ATTENTION IS ALSO FOCUSSED ON THE LATEST EFFORTS BY THE PRESIDENTS OF BRAZIL, COLOMBIA AND PERU TO PROMOTE A NEW PEACE INITIATIVE, WITH REFERENCES TO THE VARIOUS TELEPHONE CALLS YESTERDAY BETWEEN THE PRESIDENTS. VENEZUELA IS SAID TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH THIS INITIATIVE.
3. VARIOUS NEWSPAPERS REPORT THAT THE PERUVIAN SENATE HELD A SECRET SESSION LAST NIGHT TO DEBATE POSSIBLE MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO ARGENTINA UNDER THE TERMS OF THE RIO TREATY. SOME SPEAKERS ARE SAID TO HAVE SUGGESTED THAT PERU MIGHT ACT AS THE CHANNEL BY WHICH THE SOVIET UNION SUPPLIED MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO ARGENTINA. THE CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES JOINT COMMAND, YESTERDAY REITERATED THE PERUVIAN ARMED FORCES' READINESS TO PROVIDE MILITARY ASSISTANCE WHENEVER SUCH A DECISION WAS REACHED. HOWEVER, HE AGAIN DENIED THAT AIRCRAFT HAD BEEN SENT TO ARGENTINA, AND RIDICULED REPORTS FROM BOLIVIA ABOUT PERUVIAN MILITARY OVERFLIGHTS.

WALLACE

[COPIES SENT TO NO 10 DOWNING STREET]

FALKLAND ISLAND GENERAL

FCO

S AM D

CABINET OFFICE

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION

FALKLAND ISLANDS