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CONFIDENTIAL

FROM UKMIS NEW YORK 282141Z MAY 82
TO IMMEDIATE F C O
TELEGRAM NUMBER 884 DATED 28 MAY 82
INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON

(77)

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MY TELNO 874: FALKLANDS: SECRETARY-GENERAL'S MANDATE

1. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ASKED TO SEE ME AT 1900Z TODAY (28 MAY). HE HAD SEEN LISTRE (ARGENTINA) AT 1500Z AND HAD TOLD HIM THAT A CEASEFIRE WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE UK IF INSEPARABLY LINKED TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF ARGENTINE WITHDRAWAL AND COMPLETION OF THAT WITHDRAWAL WITHIN A FIXED PERIOD. HE HAD GONE ON TO SAY THAT THE UK DID NOT ACCEPT SIMULTANEOUS WITHDRAWAL OF BRITISH FORCES. THE UK COULD CONSIDER BRITISH WITHDRAWAL BUT FIRST THEY WOULD WISH TO ATTAIN THE FOLLOWING OBJECTIVES: ARGENTINE WITHDRAWAL, RESTORATION OF BRITISH ADMINISTRATION, RECONSTRUCTION, AND CONSULTATIONS WITH THE ISLANDERS (IE THE FOUR STAGES DESCRIBED BY THE PRIME MINISTER IN THE HOUSE YESTERDAY). BRITISH WITHDRAWAL MIGHT BE POSSIBLE ONCE THESE FOUR STAGES HAD BEEN COMPLETED AND IN THE CONTEXT OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS WHICH INCLUDED THE PARTICIPATION OF THE UNITED STATES.

2. PEREZ DE CUELLAR SAID THAT HE HAD ALREADY GIVEN LISTRE ADVANCE WARNING YESTERDAY AFTERNOON THAT THIS WOULD BE OUR POSITION, THOUGH AT THAT TIME HE HAD NOT SEEN THE PRIME MINISTER'S REPLIES IN PARLIAMENT. HE THOUGHT THAT LISTRE HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS OVERNIGHT FROM COSTA MENDEZ AND PERHAPS THE AUTHORITIES IN BUENOS AIRES.

~~3. PEREZ DE CUELLAR WENT ON TO SAY THAT LISTRE HAD THIS MORNING TOLD HIM THAT THE TERMS ON WHICH ARGENTINA COULD ACCEPT A CEASEFIRE WERE AS FOLLOWS:~~

~~"(A) A TOTAL CEASEFIRE WITH SUSPENSION OF ALL OPERATIONS BY TROOPS, SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT, WHICH WOULD REMAIN IN THE PLACES WHERE THEY WERE LOCATED AT THE MOMENT OF THE CEASEFIRE:~~

~~INSTRUCTIONS OVERRIGHT FROM COSTA MENDEZ AND PERHAPS THE
AUTHORITIES IN BUENOS AIRES.~~

3. PEREZ DE CUELLAR WENT ON TO SAY THAT LISTRE HAD THIS MORNING TOLD HIM THAT THE TERMS ON WHICH ARGENTINA COULD ACCEPT A CEASEFIRE WERE AS FOLLOWS:

- “(A) A TOTAL CEASEFIRE WITH SUSPENSION OF ALL OPERATIONS BY TROOPS, SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT, WHICH WOULD REMAIN IN THE PLACES WHERE THEY WERE LOCATED AT THE MOMENT OF THE CEASEFIRE:
- (B) SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH ACCEPTANCE OF THE CEASEFIRE BY THE PARTIES A UN MISSION WOULD BE DESPATCHED TO MONITOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE CEASEFIRE. THE TASKS OF GROUND, SEA AND AIR OBSERVATION WOULD BE CARRIED OUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NECESSARY CONDITIONS FOR THEM TO BE EFFECTIVE, AS DECIDED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS:
- (C) IF NECESSARY SEPARATION ZONES WOULD BE ESTABLISHED ON SEA AND LAND:
- (D) THE PARTIES WOULD NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES BE PERMITTED TO CARRY OUT ANY MILITARY REINFORCEMENT ACTION WITHIN THE ZONES OF OPERATION AND THE ZONES OF COMMUNICATION OF THE RESPECTIVE FORCES:
- (E) THE UN WOULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE FOOD, CLOTHING AND HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF THE GROUND, SEA AND AIR FORCES AND THE POPULATION OF THE ISLANDS TO BE MAINTAINED DURING THE PERIOD NECESSARY FOR THE NEGOTIATION:
- (F) THE CEASEFIRE WOULD BEGIN AT TIME 'T' WHICH WOULD COINCIDE WITH THE ARRIVAL OF THE UN TEAM. SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH THE BEGINNING OF THE CEASEFIRE, NEGOTIATIONS ON THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE FORCES OF BOTH PARTIES AND ON INTERIM ADMINISTRATION OF THE ISLANDS BY THE UN WOULD BE REINITIATED.”

PEREZ DE CUELLAR ADDED THAT IT WAS CLEAR FROM THIS THAT THE ARGENTINES FELT THAT THE MODALITIES OF WITHDRAWAL WOULD BE A MATTER FOR NEGOTIATION DURING (REPEAT DURING) THE CEASEFIRE, TOGETHER WITH ARRANGEMENTS FOR ADMINISTRATION OF THE ISLANDS DURING AN INTERIM PERIOD.

4. PEREZ DE CUELLAR ASKED FOR YOUR REACTION TO THESE IDEAS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE (SEE MY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING TELEGRAM). LISTRE HAD UNDERTAKEN TO OBTAIN HIS AUTHORITIES' REACTION TO OUR IDEAS (PARAGRAPH 1 ABOVE) AND HAD SAID THAT HE MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL PEREZ DE CUELLAR TOMORROW (29 MAY). PEREZ DE CUELLAR WOULD SPEND THE WEEKEND IN NEW YORK. COSTA MENDEZ WAS STILL IN WASHINGTON AND HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER HE WOULD BE COMING BACK TO NEW YORK AFTER THE OAS MEETING.

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5. I CONFINED MYSELF TO SAYING THAT THE ARGENTINE IDEAS WERE MUCH AS WE HAD EXPECTED. I COULD NOT BE OPTIMISTIC. BUT AT LEAST THEY HAD STATED THEIR POSITION WITH CLARITY ("DARK CLARITY", PEREZ DE CUELLAR COMMENTED). I UNDERTOOK TO REPORT TO YOU AND SEEK YOUR REACTION.

6. SEE MY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING TELEGRAM.

PARSONS

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