ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS GENERAL (39)

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FALKLANDS: FRENCH REACTIONS AFTER VERSAILLES

1. FRENCH PAPERS WHICH HAVE COMMENTED ON THE FALKLANDS IN THE VERSAILLES CONTEXT HAVE STRESSED THE CLOSENESS OF FRENCH AND US VIEWS. LE QUOTIDIEN (RIGHT-WING) AND LE MONDE SAW MITTERRAND AS HAVING JOINED REAGAN IN PUTTING DISCREET PRESSURE ON MRS THATCHER. DELARUE IN AN ARTICLE IN LE MONDE OF 8 JUNE WHICH SMACKS OF OFFICIAL BRIEFING SAYS THAT BRITAIN SHOULD NOT OVERLOOK THE NUANCE IN MITTERRAND'S REMARK AT HIS PRESS CONFERENCE (PARA 1 OF MY TELNO 598) THAT 'WE SHALL DO EVERYTHING, ONCE ITS (IE BRITAIN'S) RIGHT HAS BEEN REGAINED, SO THAT PEACE TRIUMPHS OVER WAR'. DELARUE WRITES THAT WHILE THE FRENCH AGREE THAT INTERNATIONAL LAW MUST BE UPHELD AND THE ARGENTINES REMOVED FROM THE FALKLANDS, MITTERRAND DOES NOT ENDORSE THE BRITISH CLAIM TO SOVEREIGNTY AND IT IS IMPLICIT IN THE FRENCH VIEW THAT BRITAIN SHOULD NEGOTIATE WITH ARGENTINA A NEW STATUS FOR THE FALKLANDS WHICH WOULD BE FAIR FOR BOTH SIDES.

CINCLE ILOUTINIE WITH ARDENITHA A NEW STATUS FUR THE FALKLANDS WHICH WOULD BE FAIR FOR BOTH SIDES. 2. OF A PIECE WITH THIS WAS AN AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE REPORT OF 5 JUNE, ATTRIBUTED TO EUROPEAN SOURCES AT VERSAILLES, THAT FRANCE ITALY AND GERMANY WERE ABOUT TO PROPOSE A EUROPEAN INITIATIVE ON A LONG TERM SETTLEMENT FOR THE FALKLANDS. THE INITIATIVE WOULD START ONCE PORT STANLEY HAD FALLEN. 3. THE FRENCH PRESS HAS REPORTED WITHOUT COMMENT THE INTENTION OF THE BRITISH AUTHORITIES TO QUESTION ASTIZ. LE MATIN CARRIES AN ARTICLE ABOUT THE "'COMFORTABLE" CONDITIONS IN WHICH ASTIZ IS BEING HELD. FRETWELL. NNNN SENT AT 08/1146Z The state of the s AR MASHINGTON 63 100 2 150 das/23