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FM UKMIS NEW YORK 152025Z JUNE 82

TO FLASH FCC

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1001 OF 15 JUNE,

INFO IMMEDIATE E.C. POSTS WASHINGTON OTTAWA TOKYO CANBERRA WELLINGTON  
OSLO UKDEL NATO UKMIS GENEVA AND BERNE.

YOUR TEL NO 149 TO BRUSSELS: FALKLANDS.

CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES.

1. I DO NOT WISH TO SEEM INHUMANE, BUT I AM RELUCTANT TO INVOLVE THE SECRETARY-GENERAL IN THIS EXERCISE. WE WOULD IN EFFECT BE ASKING HIM TO PERSUADE THE ARGENTINES TO ACCEPT A CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES INCLUDING THE LIFTING OF ECONOMIC MEASURES/EXCLUSION ZONES SO THAT THEIR PRISONERS COULD BE RETURNED IMMEDIATELY.
2. I BELIEVE THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND HIS STAFF WOULD SEE THIS AS A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY TO GET THE UN INTO THE ACT AGAIN. AS SEEN FROM HERE, THERE IS ALREADY A RISK THAT THE NOTE IN YOUR TELEGRAM NUMBER 119 TO BERNE MAY EVOKE WELL-WORN ARGENTINE COUNTER-PROPOSALS FOR E.G. A RUN DOWN OF BRITISH FORCES, UN SUPERVISION ETC, WHICH WOULD DRAG US BACK INTO THE MORASS.
3. IF WE OURSELVES INVOKE THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S HELP AND, HAVING CONSULTED THE ARGENTINES, HE COMES BACK WITH PROPOSALS FOR UN INVOLVEMENT OSTENSIBLY ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS, WE COULD FIND OURSELVES IN A DIFFICULT POSITION. THERE IS ALREADY A STRONG FEELING HERE THAT WE SHOULD ACCEPT SOME KIND OF UN INVOLVEMENT EVEN AT THIS LATE STAGE IN ORDER TO SAVE ARGENTINE FACE, AVOID THE ULTIMATE HUMILIATION ETC. I AM MOST RELUCTANT TO DO ANYTHING TO ENCOURAGE THIS.
4. I ACCORDINGLY RECOMMEND THAT WE SHOULD CONFINE OUR REPRESENTATIONS TO THE BILATERAL ADDRESSEES IN YOUR TELEGRAM UNDER REFERENCE AND THAT, AS REGARDS INTERNATIONAL INVOLVEMENT, WE SHOULD STICK TO THE ICRC AS THE CORRECT AGENCY FOR DEALING WITH SUCH SITUATIONS.

PARSONS

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