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GPB 239
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FM QUITO 292030Z JUNE 1982
TO ROUTINE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 096 OF 29 JUNE

YOUR TELNO GUIDANCE 138: FALKLANDS: ARGENTINE POW'S

1. EL TIEMPO OF 28 JUNE CARRIED PARTICULARLY NASTY EFE REPORT THAT A GROUP OF ARGENTINE POW'S WERE SHOT IN THE BACK BY BRITISH SOLDIERS. REPORT QUOTES SERGEANT MIGUEL ANGEL SARAZA OF INFANTRY REGIMENT AND NEWSPAPER LA RAZON. SERGEANT ALSO REPORTED AS SAYING THAT SOLDIERS OF PARACHUTE REGIMENT HELD 400 ARGENTINIAN SOLDIERS CAPTIVE FOR 3 DAYS IN A LEAN TO WITHOUT FOOD OR WATER.
2. WEEKEND PAPERS ALSO CARRIED REPORTS OF MISSING 3000 (MY TELNO 95 REFERS) AND A REPORT BY AN ARGENTINE PRIEST, VICENTE MARTINEZ, THAT THE GURKHAS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR MOST OF THE ARGENTINIAN CASULTIES. HE ACCUSED GURKHAS OF COMMITTING ATROCIOUS CRIMES AND OF SLITTING THROATS TO APPLY PSYCHOLOGICAL PRESSURE ON THE ARGENTINIAN SOLDIERS.
3. GRATEFUL MATERIAL TO COUNTER THESE ACCUSATIONS.

BUXTON

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