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PP CARACAS
RR HAVANA
RR TOKYO
GRS 909
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FM FCO 211230Z FEB 84
TO IMMEDIATE ATHENS
TELEGRAM NUMBER 48 OF 21 FEBRUARY
AND TO CERTAIN OTHER POSTS
MIPT : RELATIONS WITH ARGENTINA

A.J.C. 23/2.

f-a.

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF ARGENTINE REPLY.
BEGINS

THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT, INSPIRED BY ITS DEDICATION TO PEACE, FAVOURS CONTACTS WHICH MIGHT MEAN A FIRST EXCHANGE OF IDEAS LEADING TO THE OPENING OF SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME. IT FOLLOWS FROM A REALISTIC APPRAISAL OF THE TOTALITY OF RELATIONS BETWEEN ARGENTINA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM THAT THOSE SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS CANNOT OVERLOOK THE VITAL SUBJECT OF SOVEREIGNTY IF A COMPLETE SOLUTION TO THE DISPUTE IS TO BE ACHIEVED. SUCH NEGOTIATIONS ABOUT SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS), SOUTH GEORGIA AND SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS MUST BE HELD WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE RELEVANT UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTIONS, WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AS ENVISAGED IN THOSE RESOLUTIONS. A GLOBAL NEGOTIATION SUCH AS THAT PROPOSED BY THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT WOULD ALSO GIVE DUE CONSIDERATION TO THE INTERESTS OF THE INHABITANTS OF THE ISLANDS AND LIKEWISE TO THE SUBJECT OF ECONOMIC AND SCIENTIFIC-TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION IN THE AREA. IT MUST BE MADE CLEAR THAT THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT WISHES TO REMOVE THE OBSTACLES WHICH IMPEDE THE NORMALISATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, AND UNDERSTANDS THAT THE AIM OF THAT NORMALISATION IS A RETURN TO THE PRE-CONFLICT SITUATION IN ALL ITS DIMENSIONS. IN THIS CONNEXION THE PROPOSED PLAN DOES NOT ADD ANYTHING SUBSTANTIALLY NEW TO THOSE ISSUES

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WHICH WERE EXPRESSLY ENDORSED IN THE JOINT ARGENTINE-BRITISH COMMUNIQUE OF 26 APRIL 1977.

AS WILL BE KNOWN, THAT COMMUNIQUE WAS BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY THROUGH PARALLEL NOTES PRESENTED BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC AND THE UNITED KINGDOM AT THE UNITED NATIONS IN JUNE 1977.

THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT HAS ANALYSED WITH GREAT INTEREST THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSAL OF 26 JANUARY 1984 IN WHICH THEY SUGGEST AN AGENDA TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

- (A) THE RECIPROCAL LIFTING OF RESTRICTIONS ON TRADE BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND ARGENTINA.
- (B) THE LIFTING OF EXISTING FINANCIAL RESTRICTIONS.
- (C) ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TRANSFER OF THE ARGENTINE DEAD FROM THE ISLANDS, OR, IN THE ABSENCE OF THIS, FOR A VISIT BY NEXT-OF-KIN.
- (D) THE REACTIVATION OF THE AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.
- (E) THE RESUMPTION OF CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC AND SPORTING CONTACTS.
- (F) THE RAISING OF THE LEVEL OF OFFICIAL RELATIONS.

THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THAT THIS BRITISH INITIATIVE CONSTITUTES A POSITIVE STEP INSOFAR AS IT SUGGESTS THE POSSIBILITY OF AN EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AT OFFICIAL LEVEL WHICH COULD LEAD TOWARDS THE PROGRESSIVE NORMALISATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

RECOGNISING THE DESIRABILITY OF EXAMINING THESE QUESTIONS IN DEPTH, THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT IS PERSUADED THAT OTHE UNAVOIDABLY IMPORTANT QUESTIONS WHICH EXIST BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, AND WHICH REQUIRE IMMEDIATE ATTENTION, MUST ALSO BE INCLUDED.

IT THEREFORE BELIEVES THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL TO ADD THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

- (A) THE LIFTING OF THE PROTECTION ZONE (SIC) WHICH THE UNITED KINGDOM PURPORTS TO HAVE ESTABLISHED IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC.

(B) A HALT TO THE FORTIFICATION OF THE ISLANDS, TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE STRATEGIC AIRFIELD AND TO THE WARLIKE CONCENTRATION IN THE AREA.

(C) GUARANTEES THAT NUCLEAR WEAPONS OR ARTIFACTS WILL BE WITHDRAWN FROM THE REGION.

AN AGENDA COMPRISING THE SUBJECTS PROPOSED BY ARGENTINA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM COULD THEN PERMIT CONTACTS TO BEGIN.

SIMILARLY, THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT WISHES TO CONVEY TO THE UNITED KINGDOM THE SPIRIT IN WHICH IT IS APPROACHING THE PROBLEM OF BILATERAL RELATIONS. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT:

(1) ATTACHES VERY GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE DEFINITIVE NORMALISATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC AND THE UNITED KINGDOM.

(2) CONSIDERS THAT TO ACHIEVE THIS, IT IS ESSENTIAL - AND THIS IS ITS WISH - TO PUT AN END, THROUGH PEACEFUL MEANS, TO THE DISPUTE OVER THE FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS), SOUTH GEORGIA AND SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS.

(3) ALSO AGREES ABOUT THE UNDESIRABILITY OF SECRET MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS OR TALKS, IT BEING A FUNDAMENTAL POINT OF ITS FOREIGN POLICY TO KEEP PUBLIC OPINION INFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DEMOCRATIC STYLE WHICH HAS BEEN RESTORED IN THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

(4) CONSIDERS THAT AT THE PRESENT TIME IT WOULD BE HIGHLY DESIRABLE TO EXPLORE THE MATTER SINCERELY AND IN GOOD FAITH, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ALL THE ELEMENTS INVOLVED AND THUS ENABLING EACH SIDE TO ASSESS THE FUTURE PROSPECTS FOR A FORMAL NEGOTIATION.

(5) CONSIDERS, AS HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY INDICATED, THAT THE PRESENCE OF UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING FORCES IN THE ISLANDS, IN PLACE OF OTHER MILITARY FORCES, WOULD SERVE TO REESTABLISH A BETTER ATMOSPHERE IN THE AREA AND SAFEGUARD THE SECURITY OF THE INHABITANTS.

(6) CONSIDERS THAT IN ORDER TO FULFIL A DETERMINED WISH TO PUT A FINAL END TO THE DIVISION EXISTING BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES THE MOST ADVISABLE COURSE WOULD BE TO HOLD A PRELIMINARY AND OPEN EXCHANGE OF IDEAS, AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME INFORMING THE

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SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS OF THE CONTENT THEREOF.
THESE INFORMAL EXCHANGES WOULD PAVE THE WAY TOWARDS SUBSEQUENT
NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WOULD BE HELD IN THE PRESENCE OF THE
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS BY VIRTUE OF THE
MANDATE OF GOOD OFFICES RECEIVED FROM THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.
ENDS

HOWE

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