

PS  
 PS/LADY YOUNG  
 PS/WHITNEY  
 PS/RIFKIND  
 PS/PUS  
 SIR J BULLARD  
 SIR I SINCLAIR  
 SIR W HARDING  
 MR FRIGET  
 MR ADAMS  
 LORD N GORDON-LENNOX 1  
 SIR C TICKELL  
 MR D C THOMAS  
 MR CARTLEDGE  
 ED/PUSD (2)  
 ED/SALD  
 ED/FID  
~~ED/PLANNING STAFF~~  
 ED/NEES DEPT  
 ED/EDD  
 ED/ECOD(E)  
 ED/LND  
 ED/PLANNING STAFF

PS/NO 10 DOWNING ST (3)  
 PS/S OF S FOR DEFENCE  
 MR J STEWART AUSD STAFF MOD  
 PS/CHANCELLOR )  
 MISS M E CUND ) TREASURY  
 MR LITTLER )  
 SIR R ARMSTRONG )  
 MR A D S GOODALL ) CABINET OFF  
 DIO )  
~~MR V A PATTISON, TD, ODA~~  
 Mr POWER, SAD, ODA  
 Mr A FORTNAM IAT/ D. TRANSPORT

RESIDENT CLERK  
 IMMEDIATE  
 ADVANCE COPY

RESTRICTED  
 FM UKMIS NEW YORK 111835Z APR 84  
 TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
 TELEGRAM NUMBER 375 OF 11 APRIL  
 INFO BERNE, BRASILIA, PORT STANLEY (PERSONAL)

*MS*

MY TELNO 368: RELATIONS WITH ARGENTINA

1. WE ASKED DE SOTO, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, ABOUT MR CAPUTO'S CALL ON THE SECRETARY-GENERAL YESTERDAY AFTERNOON.
2. DE SOTO SAID CAPUTO HAD GIVEN PEREZ DE CUELLAR A COPY OF OUR RESPONSE OF 6 APRIL. HE HAD 'CLARIFIED HIS OWN POSITION' AND ASKED THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL COMMUNICATE THIS TO THE PRIME MINISTER PERSONALLY WHEN HE SAW HER ON 16 APRIL. AS A RESULT DE SOTO WAS RELUCTANT TO GO INTO DETAILS WITH US. BUT HE SAID HE HAD BEEN STRUCK BY CAPUTO'S FLEXIBILITY AND MODERATION. HE HAD PRESENTED THE ARGENTINE PROPOSALS OF 17 FEBRUARY 'IN A NEW LIGHT'. HE HAD IN NO WAY REJECTED OUR LATEST PROPOSALS. DE SOTO THOUGHT THE 'BALL WAS STILL IN PLAY'.

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~~WAS REJECTED OUR LATEST PROPOSALS. DE SOTO THOUGHT THE 'BALL WAS STILL IN PLAY'.~~

3. CAPUTO HAS SAID VERY LITTLE TO THE PRESS ABOUT THE FALKLAND ISLANDS DURING HIS CURRENT VISIT TO NEW YORK. BEFORE HIS CALL ON THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, HE BRIEFED A GROUP OF ARGENTINES AND OTHER SPANISH-SPEAKING CORRESPONDENTS. HE TOLD THEM THAT HE WOULD INFORM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE CONTENTS OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S LATEST MESSAGE TO ARGENTINA, BUT WOULD NOT BE DRAWN FURTHER.

4. WHEN CAPUTO LEFT THE UN, HE TOLD THE PRESS THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED OUR MESSAGE WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, BUT ONCE AGAIN WOULD NOT ELABORATE ON THE GROUNDS THAT THIS WAS A CONFIDENTIAL MATTER.

5. FOR THE PRESS, THE SECRETARIAT HAVE SIMPLY LISTED THE SUBJECTS DISCUSSED BETWEEN THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND THE ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER: THE FALKLAND ISLANDS, CENTRAL AMERICA, ARGENTINA'S DEBTS, AND MR GOBBI'S VISIT TO CYPRUS.

MARGETSON

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