

GRS 440

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Pre Month:

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(FM BERNE 071215Z)

*This did not
leave much
privacy.*

FM BISABA
TO PRIORITY FCO

TELNO 538 OF 5 AUGUST

AND TO PRIORITY MONTEVIDEO, SANTIAGO, BRASILIA, WASHINGTON, *It confers with*
UKMIS NEW YORK, PORT STANLEY

*to know news of
The Archbishop of York*

MY TELNO 533 : FALKLANDS

1. A JOINT STATEMENT "ON RECONCILIATION AND THE SOUTH ATLANTIC
CONFLICT" BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL OF
CHURCHES OF ARGENTINA AND THE BRITISH COUNCIL CHURCHES WAS
ISSUED TO THE PRESS ON SATURDAY 3 AUGUST.

Dr

2. MAIN POINTS IN THE STATEMENT ARE :

8/8

A. RECENT MOVES BY BOTH GOVERNMENTS (LIFTING OF TRADE
RESTRICTIONS BY BRITAIN AND ARGENTINA'S OFFER TO DECLARE
A CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES IF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT
ENTERED INTO NEGOTIATIONS (INCLUDING SOVEREIGNTY) CAN
BE INTERPRETED AS ATTEMPTS TO IMPROVE THE CLIMATE BETWEEN
THE TWO GOVERNMENTS.

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B. RECOGNITION OF THE STRONGLY HELD VIEWS ON SOVEREIGNTY
IN BOTH COUNTRIES. IF A SETTLEMENT IS TO BE REACHED AGREEMENT
ON SOVEREIGNTY WILL BE REQUIRED. WHEN IT BECOMES POSSIBLE
TO INCLUDE THIS ISSUE IN A FUTURE AGENDA, OTHER BILATERAL
ISSUES (DIPLOMATIC AND TRADE RELATIONS AND FISHING AGREEMENTS)
COULD SERVE AS A BENEFICIAL PREMILINARY TO THIS CENTRAL
CONCERN.

C. REJECTION OF ANY KIND OF MILITARY SOLUTION. EMPHASIS IS
PLACED ON THE NEED FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE
ON RESOLUTIONS OF UNITED NATIONS.

D. THE IMPORTANCE FOR THE ARGENTINE CHURCH REPRESENTATIVES
OF A "GEOPOLITICAL AND GEOSTRATEGIC UNDERSTANDING OF THE
CONFLICT". THE BCC REPRESENTATIVES THOUGHT THAT THIS MERITED
DEEPER STUDY AND INDEPENDENT EVALUATION.

E. SUPPORT FOR THE "DEEP CHANGE" IN ARGENTINA AS DEMOCRACY
IS RE-ESTABLISHED AND MILITARY INFLUENCE RESTRICTED. THE BCC
REPRESENTATIVES THOUGHT THAT THESE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES WERE NOT
SUFFICIENTLY APPRECIATED BY THE BRITISH PEOPLE.

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F. IMPORTANCE OF FURTHER AND DEEPER CONTACT BETWEEN THE CHURCHES IN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND OF INVOLVEMENT OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH. BOTH DELEGATIONS COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO FURTHER STUDY OF THE FACTORS IMPEDING A SOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT AND CALL UPON THE LATIN AMERICAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST (USA) AND THE WCC COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS TO HELP IN THIS WORK.

3. THE JOINT STATEMENT DID NOT RECEIVE PROMINENT PRESS COVERAGE - PROBABLY BECAUSE OF ITS WEEKEND RELEASE. LOCAL PAPERS REPORTED IT AS JOINT SUPPORT FOR THE INCLUSION OF SOVEREIGNTY IN ANY NEGOTIATIONS.

4. MR PHILIP MORGAN, SECRETARY OF THE BCC, IS QUOTED SEPARATELY AS SAYING THAT THE BCC WOULD TRY TO ACHIEVE THE INCLUSION OF SOVEREIGNTY DISCUSSIONS IN THE NEXT AGENDA FOR OFFICIAL CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THE FALKLANDS. THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK SAID THAT DISCUSSIONS ON SOVEREIGNTY MUST NOT BE BASED ON THE FOREGONE CONCLUSION THAT THEY COULD HAVE ONLY ONE CONCLUSION - TRANSFER TO ARGENTINA IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER. BOTH DELEGATIONS AGREED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BCC CONTINUING TO SEEK DIALOGUE WITH CHURCH PEOPLE IN THE FALKLANDS.

5. TRANSLATION OF TEXT OF STATEMENT AND CUTTINGS FOLLOW BY BAG.

SHARKEY

UNQUOTE

RICH

FALKLAND ISLANDS

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MAED
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MCAD
ECD(E)
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NEWS D
INFO D
PLANNING STAFF
ECON ADVISERS
RESEARCH D
PUSD
PRU
LEGAL ADVISERS
PS
PS/LADY YOUNG

PS/MR RAISON
PS/MR RENTON
PS/PUS
SIR W HARDING
MR DEREK THOMAS
MR GOODALL
MR DAVID THOMAS
MR DAUNT
SIR C TICKELL (ODA)
MR BROWNING (ODA)
MR VEREKER (ODA)

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