

CONFIDENTIAL

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FM MOSCOW

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELNO 637

OF 200615Z MAY 86

INF ROUTINE PORT STANLEY, BUENO AIRES, ROME, TOKYO, WASHINGTON

INFO ROUTINE WARSAW, EAST BERLIN, SOFIA

INFO SAYING BELGRADE, BUCHAREST, BUDAPEST, PRAGUE

MY TELNO 536: FALKLAND ISLAND FISHERIES

1. AN OFFICIAL FROM THE ARGENTINE EMBASSY COMMERCIAL SECTION (WYDLER) CONFIRMED AT A MEETING OF MOSCOW AGRICULTURAL ATTACHES ON 19 MAY THAT SOVIET-ARGENTINE FISHERIES TALKS HAVE BEEN BROKEN OFF. AN ARGENTINE DELEGATION LED BY JAIMES (UNDER SECRETARY FISHERIES) AND MARCELO DEL PECH (UNDER SECRETARY MFA) VISITED MOSCOW FROM 4-9 MAY, BUT FAILED TO REACH AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SOVIETS.

2. WYDLER COMMENTED THAT THE TWO SIDES HAD BEEN SPEAKING MUTUALLY INCOMPREHENSIBLE LANGUAGES. THE ARGENTINES WERE ANXIOUS TO SECURE AN AGREEMENT THAT WOULD ESTABLISH FIXED FISHING ZONES, INCLUDING THE WATERS AROUND THE FALKLAND ISLANDS. THEY ALSO WANTED TO NEGOTIATE PORT FACILITIES FOR SOVIET VESSELS IN ARGENTINE HARBOURS. THE SOVIETS, ON THE OTHER HAND, WERE INTERESTED ONLY IN SECURING THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE FISH CATCH QUOTAS. THEY HAD SHOWN NO INTEREST IN PORT FACILITIES OTHER THAN FOR EMERGENCY REPAIRS, AND HAD BEEN UNWILLING TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS CONCERNING DISPUTED WATERS.

3. WYDLER SAID HE FORSAW LITTLE LIKELIHOOD OF A SUCCESSFUL BILATERAL FISHERIES AGREEMENT BEING CONCLUDED. HE ATTRIBUTED THE SOVIETS' RELUCTANCE TO NEGOTIATE AND THE SUBSEQUENT FAILURE OF THE TALKS TO BRITISH DIPLOMATIC PRESSURE ON THE SOVIET UNION.

4. THE PRESENCE OF THE ARGENTINE NEGOTIATING TEAM IN MOSCOW ACCOUNTS FOR KOMPLEKTOV'S UNWILLINGNESS TO GIVE ME ANY REASSURANCES ON 5 MAY.

CARTLEDGE

( Repetition of BUENO AIRES.  
referred to departmental decision,  
repeated as requested to other posts. )

FCO PASS SAYING BELGRADE, BUCHAREST, BUDAPEST, PRAGUE

FALKLAND ISLANDS - FISHERIES LIMITED

FID  
MAED  
NEWS D  
S AM D  
FED

PS  
PS/LADY YOUNG  
PS/MR EGGAR  
PS/PUS  
SIR W HARDING  
MR DAVID THOMAS  
MR WILSON

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