

UNCLASSIFIED  
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TELNO 314  
OF 071540Z AUGUST 89  
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*Prime Minister 2*

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UK/ARGENTINA: PRESS COVERAGE 5-7 AUGUST (ALL ITEMS FAXED TO FID)

1. FOREIGN SECRETARY JOHN MAJOR HAS SENT FOREIGN MINISTER DOMINGO CAVALLO A MESSAGE IN WHICH HE DESCRIBES THE RECENT ARGENTINE DECISION TO ELIMINATE TRADE RESTRICTIONS AS REFLECTING THE GESTURES THE TWO COUNTRIES ARE ADOPTING IN THE COMMON TASK OF SEEKING TO RE-ESTABLISH NORMAL RELATIONS. (SAT HERALD P11, CLARIN P9) (SEE MIFT)
2. THE PERONISTS' LEADER IN THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES JOSE LUIS MANZANO HAS TOLD CAVALLO THAT THE PARTY SUPPORTS THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY TOWARDS THE UK. (SAT NACION P3, CLARIN P9)
3. ON 4 AUGUST CAVALLO TOLD REUTERS THAT ARGENTINA WISHED TO CLEAR AWAY ALL VESTIGES OF THE WAR WITH GREAT BRITAIN AND SAID THERE WERE NO OBSTACLES FOR DECLARING A CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES. ARGENTINA SOUGHT THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH THE UK PROVIDED THAT HER CLAIMS TO THE FALKLANDS WERE NOT JEOPARDISED. PROGRESS WOULD NOT DEPEND ON PRECISE RECIPROCITY. IF ARGENTINA AND THE UK BEGAN TALKS, THERE WOULD BE NO UN FALKLANDS RESOLUTION THIS YEAR. (SAT CLARIN P9, PRENSA P3)
4. ON 5 AUGUST CAVALLO REITERATED ARGENTINA'S INTEREST IN RESTORING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. HE TOLD JOURNALISTS THAT DISCRETION WAS NECESSARY. CONCRETE RESULTS WOULD BE ANNOUNCED AS AND WHEN THEY OCCURRED. THE US HAD FACILITATED EXCHANGES ON FISHING AND CONFLICT AVOIDANCE IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC, AND THIS CHANNEL COULD AT SOME POINT LEAD TO NEGOTIATIONS. (SUN NACION P5, CRON COM P5)
5. IN A LETTER TO LA NACION, RETIRED REAR ADMIRAL CARLOS BUSSER ARGUES AGAINST RAPPROCHEMENT WITH THE UK ON THE GROUNDS THAT HMG HAS NO INTENTION OF EVER DISCUSSING THE ISLANDS' SOVEREIGNTY. (SUN NACION P8)
6. AN ARTICLE IN THE TIMES CLAIMS THAT PRIME MINISTER MARGARET THATCHER HAS APPROVED DIRECT TALKS WITH ARGENTINA. THE TALKS WOULD

TAKE PLACE IN NEW YORK BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES' UN AMBASSADORS, SIR CRISPIN TICKELL AND MARCELO DELPECH. BRITISH OFFICIALS HAD SPOKEN OF INDIRECT CONTACTS BETWEEN BRITAIN AND ARGENTINA. BUT A DOWNING STREET SPOKESMAN COULD NOT CONFIRM THE STORY. DELPECH IS REPORTED AS SAYING HE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE MATTER. A SENIOR FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCE IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT HE DOUBTED THAT THE MEETING WOULD TAKE PLACE AND ATTRIBUTING THE REPORT TO PRESS SPECULATION. (MON CRON COM P3, CLARIN P2, PRENSA P2, NACION P1)

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