PP MONTE VIDEO

PP B I S BUENOS AIRES.

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UNCLASSIFIED

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FM WASHINGTON 020258Z

TO IMMEDIATE F C O

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FCO PLEASE PASS IMMEDIATE COI.

FOLLOWING FOR NEWS DEPARTMENT FROM FENN.

FALKLAND ISLANDS

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF SECRETARY OF STATE'S STATEMENT ON ARRIVAL AT WASHINGTON THIS EVENING.

BEGINS:-

I UNDERSTAND THAT A NUMBER OF EVENTS HAVE TAKEN PLACE SINCE I LEFT LONDON THIS AFTERNOON. OBVIOUSLY I AM NOT IN A POSITION TO COMMENT ON THESE BUT IT IS CLEAR THAT THEY ADD IMPORTANCE TO THE VISIT THAT I AM MAKING HERE.

I WANT TO SAY AT THE OUTSET THAT BRITAIN IS VERY GRATEFUL TO THE PRESIDENT AND THE UNITED STATES FOR COMING DOWN CLEARLY ON THE SIDE OF THE VICTIM AGAINST THE AGRESSOR. WE NEVER HAD ANY DOUBTS IN BRITAIN THAT THE GREATEST DEMOCRATIC NATION IN THE WORLD WOULD TAKE THAT VIEW.

BRITISH STRATEGY ALL THROUGH HAS BEEN TO APPLY AN INEXORABLE PRESSURE UPON ARGENTINA, DIPLOMATIC, ECONOMIC AND MILITARY, TO INDICATE TO HER QUITE CLEARLY THAT AGRESSION DOES NOT PAY AND I WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT RECENT EVENTS WOULD HAVE BROUGHT THIS HOME RATHER SHARPLY. IT IS NECESSARY FOR THEM TO REMOVE THEIR FORCES FROM THE ISLANDS AND WE INTEND TO ACHIEVE THAT OBJECTIVE, IF POSSIBLE BY PEACEFUL MEANS, IF POSSIBLE BY A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT, AND THAT IS WHAT WE ARE ALL WORKING TO ACHIEVE, BUT IF NECESSARY BY FORCE. AND WHAT WE ARE DOING AT THE MOMENT IS TO SECURE THE TOTAL EXCLUSION ZONE WHICH WE GAVE NOTICE OF SEVERAL DAYS AGO.

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