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WONNY003/02

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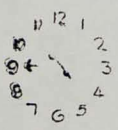
OO ATHENS

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OO BRUSSELS

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OO DUBLIN

(9)

OO UKREP BRUSSELS

OO LUXEMBOURG

OO PARIS

OO ROME

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PP WELLINGTON

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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. OUR TASK FORCES IS THERE TO BACK UP OUR DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS: YOU TEND TO GET A MORE SATISFACTORY AND FAIR RESULT IF YOU NEGOTIATE FROM STRENGTH.

THEREFORE I THINK MY VISIT HERE IS IMPORTANT, WITH MR HAIG FIRST AND THEN WITH THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS, MR PEREZ DE CUELLAR. I WILL EXPLORE WITH HIM WHAT POSSIBILITIES THERE MAY BE FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT AND WHAT DIPLOMATIC MECHANISMS MAY BE NECESSARY FOR THAT PURPOSE. IT IS AN IMPORTANT VISIT AND I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO IT.

ENDS.

HENDERSON

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