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SENSITIVE

NLRR FOS-096 #34346

BY CU NARA DATE 1/29/08

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

May 18, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

From : Walter J. Stoessel, Jr.  
Acting Secretary of State

1. British Ambassador's Assessment on Falklands. I had a long talk with UK Ambassador Henderson today. He expects the Argentinians will not accept the latest UK proposals, but will come back tomorrow with suggested changes. Henderson anticipates that these in turn will be unacceptable to the British and that the UN Secretary General will thereupon declare his mediation mission at an end. Henderson intimated that a major UK assault on the main island would ensue on the heels of the SYG's declaration; he predicted with confidence that the operation would be successful and that the battle -- while possibly involving high casualties on both sides -- would be over "sooner rather than later." Henderson thought that when the assault takes place there will be pressure in the UN Security Council for a simple ceasefire without withdrawal (which would be unacceptable to the UK) and that -- in his "personal view" -- the time would then be appropriate for the US again to come forward as the only power capable of bringing about a settlement.

2. Meeting with French Ambassador. French Ambassador Vernier-Palliez called on me this morning after his return from consultations in Paris. As we had earlier learned in Paris, he said that the French consider that the hold on delivery of arms to Nicaragua which Mitterrand had promised you has been lifted. Our understanding was that delivery would be suspended pending a joint assessment by our ambassadors in Nicaragua, and we consider that the French have pulled back from the commitment which Mitterrand made to you. Vernier-Palliez also denied knowledge of a broadly-worded invitation from Mitterrand to Fidel Castro to visit Paris, although our intelligence reports indicate the contrary. Additionally, I pressed Vernier-Palliez on the need for the French to be more forthcoming on the question of restricting the extension of credits to the Soviet Union. Noting that the French have recently been anything but forthcoming on the credits issue, I urged the ambassador to stress the need for movement between now and the upcoming Versailles Summit.

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RDS-1 5/18/02 (STOESSEL, Walter J., Jr.)

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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL  
OF CLASSIFIED ENCLOSURE(S)

C/S 2/22/07

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May 19, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

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FROM: WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT: Acting Secretary Stoessel's Evening Report

Attached is Walt Stoessel's Evening Report for May 18, 1982.

cc: The Vice President  
Ed Meese  
Jim Baker  
Mike Deaver

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