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GPS 200
 UNCLASSIFIED
 FM BUENOS AIRES 24/1610Z FEB 82
 TO IMMEDIATE FCO
 TELEGRAM NUMBER 48 OF 24 FEBRUARY 1982
 AND TO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK
 INFO IMMEDIATE PORT STANLEY

FALKLANDS TALKS

1. ROS, LEADER OF THE ARGENTINE DELEGATION, IS QUOTED IN TODAY'S PRESS AS TELLING JOURNALISTS ON HIS DEPARTURE FOR NEW YORK YESTERDAY THAT HE RECOMMENDED QUOTE PATIENCE UNQUOTE TO THOSE URGING DIRECT ACTION TO RECOVER THE MALVINAS. HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT WAS TAKING THE RIGHT DECISIONS QUOTE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND KEEPING IN MIND NOT ONLY THE PAST BUT A VISION OF THE FUTURE UNQUOTE. ARGENTINES WERE UNITED IN THEIR DESIRE QUOTE TO SEE THE ARGENTINE FLAG WAVING IN THE MALVINAS ONE DAY UNQUOTE. HE STRESSED THAT THE TALKS WERE PART OF A PROCESS STARTED IN RESPONSE TO UN RESOLUTIONS AND ARGENTINA'S OWN CONTINUAL WILL TO NEGOTIATE. ASKED IF ARGENTINA WISHED TO ACCELERATE THE NEGOTIATIONS, HE SAID HE PREFERRED NOT QUOTE TO HYPOTHESISE, SINCE MY PROFESSION REQUIRES ONE TO HAVE ONE'S FEET ON THE GROUND, TAKE ONE SAFE STEP AT A TIME UNQUOTE. ARGENTINA WAS SURE OF HER POSITION, BUT ALTHOUGH THE TIME FACTOR WAS IMPORTANT AND COULD BE FRUSTRATING, QUOTE IN POLITICAL AND DIPLOMATIC MATTERS TIME-SCALES ARE DIFFERENT UNQUOTE.

WILLIAMS

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