

TOP WOFF

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ZZ BUENOS AIRES

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TO FLASH BUENOS AIRES
TELEGRAM NUMBER 53 OF 3 MARCH
AND TO FLASH PORT STANLEY

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(13) MIPT: FALKLAND TALKS

1. FOLLOWING ME LUCE'S MESSAGE TO ROS. BEGINS.

THE ISSUE OF A STATEMENT BY YOUR MINISTRY ON 1 MARCH GIVING DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL YOU PUT FORWARD AT OUR TALKS LAST WEEK CONTRAVENES OUR UNDERSTANDING IN NEW YORK THAT THESE SHOULD REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL WE HAD EACH HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT OUR GOVERNMENTS. IT ALSO CONTRAVENES THE SPIRIT OF OUR DISCUSSIONS. THIS STATEMENT, TOGETHER WITH THE FURTHER COMMENT IN THE ARGENTINE PRESS, ALSO ATTRIBUTED TO GOVERNMENT SOURCES (AND WHICH HAS RECEIVED WIDE COVERAGE HERE), INEVITABLY CREATES A MORE DIFFICULT AND UNHELPFUL CLIMATE FOR CONTINUING THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS. I AM DEEPLY DISTURBED BY STATEMENTS AND COMMENT WHICH MAY BE INTERPRETED AS THREATS: THE IMPLICATIONS ARE SERIOUS. IT WILL BE VERY DIFFICULT TO MAKE PROGRESS UNLESS THERE IS A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING THAT THIS ISSUE CAN ONLY BE RESOLVED THROUGH PEACEFUL NEGOTIATION. ENDS.

CARRINGTON

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