THEM I IN HISSICH NEW YORK & PROSTEZ WHILL UZ

TO FLASH FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 362 OF 1 APRIL

INFO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES PORT STANLEY (PERSONAL) AND WASHINGTON. YOUR TELNO 189: FALKLAND ISLANDS CRISIS.

- 1. I SAW THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, KAMANDA (ZAIRE) AT 2288Z, AND HANDED HIM MY LETTER REQUESTING AN URGENT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL. HE READILY AGREED TO CONVENE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS AS SOON AS THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL GATHERED FOR A PREVIously ARRANGED MEETING ON THE WEST BANK AT 2938Z.
- 2. MY IMMEDIATE PROBLEM WAS MRS KIRKPATRICK (USA). HER INITIAL REACTION WAS THAT WE MUST BE MAD TO BE TAKING THIS CUESTION TO THE COUNCIL: IT OUGHT TO BE SETTLED BILLTERALLY PARTICULARLY BY USING HER DAN PERSONAL RELATIONS WITH ARGENTINE LEADERS: IF WE PERSISTED, SHE WOULD BLOCK US. I TOLD HER THAT SHE WOULD HAVE TO DO SO IN PUBLIC DEBATE AS I WOULD INSIST ON TAKING ON PROCEDURAL CBUECTIONS IN A FORMAL COUNCIL MEETING, HAPPILY SHE THEN DISAPPEARED TO WASHINGTON. AT THE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS IT WAS QUICKLY AGREED THAT THE COUNCIL WOULD MEET IN FORMAL SESSION TO DISCUSS MY LETTER AS SOON AS IT HAD HEARD THE SPEAKERS ON THE WEST BANK QUESTION. BUT WE FAILED TO OBTAIN AGREEMENT THAT THE AGENDA ITEM SHOULD BE ENTITLED QUOTE THE SITUATION IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC UNQUOTE. THE GENERAL FEELING IN THE COUNCIL WAS IN FAVOUR OF A PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT RATHER THAN A RESOLUTION AND I AGREED TO THIS, IN ORDER TO DETAIN A QUICK RESULT. THE AMERICAN DELEGATION WAS UNRESERVEDLY HELPFUL.
- 3. AFTER THE WEST BANK DEBATE WAS FINISHED (AT B0302) KAMANDA CALLED US IN FOR A FURTHER ROUND OF INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS TO DISCUSS A DRAFT PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT WHICH HAD BEEN PREPARED MEANWHILE BY US. AT THIS MEETING THE RUSSIANS RAISED DIFFICULTIES ABOUT THE PROCEDURE, ARGUING THAT THE COUNCIL SHOULD HEAR THE PARTIES BEFORE DISCUSSING THE TERMS OF A PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT. I COUNTERED HEAVILY AND THEY RECEIVED NO SUPPORT. PANAMA, SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE ARGENTINE, PROPOSED TWO AMENDMENTS: SUBSTITUTION OF OUDTE THE FALKLAND ISLANDS (ISLAS MALVINAS) UNGUOTE FOR QUOTE THE SOUTH ATLANTIC UNQUOTE, AND INSERTION OF A PHRASE TO THE EFFECT THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL'S CALL FOR RESTRAINT WAS QUOTE WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE POSITIONS OF THE PARTIES CONCERNED UNQUOTE. I ACCEPTED THE FIRST PROPOSAL BUT VISCHOUSLY RESISTED THE SECOND, WITH US SUPPORT, LEST THE ARGENTINES SHOULD SUBSEQUENTLY ARGUE THAT THE COUNCIL'S APPEAL WAS WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THEIR CLAIM THAT THEY WERE JUSTIFIED IN THE USE OF FORCE. AFTER CONSULTING THE ARGENTINES, PANAMA AGREED TO WITHDRAW HIS SECOND PROPOSAL. 4. THE FORMAL SESSION THEN BEGAN. I SPOKE FIRST (TEXT IN MY FIRST IFT). ROCCA (ARGENTINA) MADE A LONG AND REPETITIVE STATEMENT. HE DEVELOPED AT LENGTH THE ARGENTINE CASE ON SOVEREIGNTY. HE

CONFIDENTIAL

DESCRIBED IN TEDIOUS DETAIL ALL THE ARGENTINE ACTIVITIES IN THE ISLANDS FOLLOWING THE 1972 COMMUNICATIONS AGREEMENT. HE BEHEARSED THE VARIOUS PRONOUNCEMENTS BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. HE REJECTED OUR CASE ABOUT THS WISHES OF THE INHABITANTS (OUDTE THE PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION IS NOT APPLICABLE TO THIS DISPUTE UNOUDTE). HE QUOTED FROM VARIOUS NON-ALIGNED COMMUNIQUES. HE CRITICISED LEGISLATION WHICH PREVENTED ARGENTINES FROM INVESTING IN THE ISLANDS. HE REPEATEDLY DESCRIBED THE SOUTH GEORGIA INCIDENT AS ANOTHER CASE OF BRITISH QUOTE AGGRESSION UNDUOTE. HE SAID THERE WAS A SERIOUS THREAT OF THE 1HM INENT USE OF FORCE BY THE UK. AS HAD BEEN MADE CLEAR BY UK MINISTERS' STATEMENTS IN PAPLIAMENT. THIS LEFT ARGENTINA NO CHOICE BUT TO ADOPT MEASURES TO ENSURE HER LEGITIMATE DEFENCE. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE CHARTER. THE UK SHOULD NOT HAVE CONVENED THE SECURITY COUNCIL. THE UK WAS THE AGGRESSOR AND THE PARTY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LACK OF PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. THE UK WAS DEFYING THE UNITED NATIONS. ARGENTINA WOULD REGOTIATE GENEROUSLY BUT ONLY AFTER UK RECOGNITION OF ARGENTINE SOVEREIGNTY. THAT WAS NOT REGOTIABLE BUT EVERYTHING ELSE WAS. THE TRUE REASON FOR THE CRISIS WAS THE UK'S REJECTION OF ARGENTINA'S EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THE DISPUTE. 5. AFTER THE PRESIDENT HAD READ OUT THE PREVIOUSLY AGREED STATEMENT (TEXT IN MY SECOND IFT), LICHENSTEIN (USA) SPOKE BRIEFLY IN ITS SUPPORT, EMPHASISING ITS CALL FOR RESTRAINT AND NO USE OF FORCE. 6. I THEN SPOKE BRIEFLY IN RIGHT OF REPLY (TEXT IN MY THIRD IFT). CHALLENGING THE ARGENTINE TO JOIN ME IN RESPONDING POSITIVELY TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S AND THE SECURITY COUNCIL'S CALL ON BOTH SIDES TO EXERCISE RESTRAINT AND REFRAIN FROM THE USE OF FORCE. ROCA SAT SILENT, DECLINING MY CHALLENGE, AND THE HEETING WAS ADJOURNED.

7. FOR COMMENT, PLEASE SEE MY FOURTH IFT.

PARSONS

[COPY SENT TO EMERGENCY STAFF]

STANDARD S AM D SED UND ES & SD

CABINET OFFICE

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION PATELAND ISLANDS

- 2 -