

28

SECRET

TELEGRAM NUMBER DEP OF 1 APRIL 1982
INFO FLASH BUENOS AIRES, PORT STANLEY (PERSONAL FOR SECRETARY),
WASHINGTON.

BY TELECONS WITH URE AND MR LUCE: FALKLAND ISLANDS CRISIS

1. THE PLOY WHICH I DISCUSSED WITH URE THIS MORNING WORKED. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL SUMMONED MY ARGENTINE COLLEAGUE AND MYSELF SUCCESSIVELY AND SPOKE TO US IN SIMILAR TERMS. HE SAID THAT HE WAS DISTURBED AT REPORTS OF RISING TENSION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND URGED THAT WE SHOULD SETTLE OUR DIFFERENCES THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS. HE MADE CLEAR THAT HE WOULD PUBLICISE HIS APPEAL. THIS WAS DONE AT THE ACON PRESS CONFERENCE (TEXT WILL FOLLOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE).

2. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TOLD ME THAT ROGA (ARGENTINA) WAS COMPLETELY TAKEN ABACK BY BEING SUMMONED. HE TOLD PEREZ DE CUELLAR THAT HE WAS ON THE POINT OF PRESENTING A NOTE TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL (BUENOS AIRES TELNO 026). HE SHOWED PEREZ DE CUELLAR THE TEXT WHICH AMOUNTED TO A REMINDERS-L OF THE ARGENTINE POSITION OVER THE YEARS, LAYING THE BLAME ON US. (TEXT IN SPANISH SENT BY FACSIMILE TO SAND; SUMMARY FOLLOWS).

3. I TOLD PEREZ DE CUELLAR THAT I WAS GLAD THAT HE HAD SENT FOR ME. I ADDED IN CONFIDENCE AND WITHOUT ANY SUPPORTING DETAIL THAT WE WERE SERIOUSLY WORRIED THAT THE ARGENTINES MIGHT BE CONTEMPLATING USING THE SOUTH GEORGIA INCIDENT AS A PRETEXT FOR MILITARY ACTION. I THEREFORE BELIEVED THAT HIS INITIATIVE PARTICULARLY SINCE IT WOULD BE MADE PUBLIC, COULD HAVE A USEFUL DETERRENT EFFECT.

4. PEREZ DE CUELLAR SAID THAT, IF THE ARGENTINES WERE CONTEMPLATING MILITARY ACTION, THIS WOULD BE PARTLY TO DIVERT ATTENTION FROM THEIR INTERNAL DIFFICULTIES AND FROM THE MESS THEY HAD GOT THEMSELVES INTO WITH CHILE OVER THE BEAGLE CHANNEL.

PARSONS

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