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TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (HAIG, ALEXANDER)

SUBJECT: REMAINING ARTICLES FROM MORNING PAPERS, 4/8/82

NO.2

1. "A NOT-SO-COMIC OPERA"

BY ANTHONY LEWIS, NYT OP ED

BOSTON, APRIL 7 - LAST FRIDAY EVENING APRIL 2 THE ARGENTINE EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON GAVE A DINNER IN HONOR OF JEANE KIRKPATRICK, THE U.S. REPRESENTATIVE AT THE UNITED NATIONS. THAT MORNING ARGENTINA HAD INVADED THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.

MRS. KIRKPATRICK DID NOT LET A LITTLE THING LIKE AN ACT OF ARMED AGGRESSION KEEP HER AWAY FROM THE DINNER. SHE WAS THERE. SO WAS THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE, WALTER J STOESSEL

THAT ASTONISHING DINNER PARTY POINTS TO AN ASPECT OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS AFFAIR THAT HAS NOT HAD ENOUGH ATTENTION SO FAR. THAT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION FOR THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT'S RECKLESS MOOD. FROM ALMOST THE DAY IT TOOK OFFICE, THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION HAS FAWNED ON THE MILITARY TYRANTS WHO RULE ARGENTINA IT STOPPED PUBLIC CRITICISM OF THE SAVAGE BRUTALITIES CARRIED OUT BY ARGENTINE AUTHORITY-THE THOUSANDS OF "DISAPPEARANCES," THE VICIOUS ANTI-SEMITISM.

IN FEBRUARY 1981, A NEW AMERICAN DELEGATE TO THE UN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS TRIED TO SOFTEN ITS WORK ON "DISAPPEARANCES." HE PREPARED A SPEECH SAYING, "WE RECOGNIZE IN ARGENTINA ONE OF THE WORLD'S ADVANCED CIVILIZATION, A RELIGIOUS CULTURE..." OUR EUROPEAN ALLIES RESISTED THE PROPOSED WEAKENING AND MANAGED TO WORK OUT A COMMITMENT.

IN MARCH, GEN. ROBERTO VIOLA, THEN ARGENTINA'S PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE, VISITED WASHINGTON AND GOT A WARM WELCOME FROM THE ADMINISTRATION. LATER MRS. KIRKPATRICK WENT TO BUENOS AIRES, WHERE SHE SAID THE US WOULD IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH THE MILITARY GOVERNMENTS IN ARGENTINA AND NEARBY COUNTRIES.

IN MAY, SECRETARY OF STATE HAIG TOLD A CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WANTED TO RESUME MILITARY AID TO ARGENTINA BECAUSE OF THE TWO COUNTRIES' SHARED VALUES. ALL THIS HAD A PREDICTABLE EFFECT ON THE GENERALS IN ARGENTINA: THEY THOUGHT THEY HAD WASHINGTON IN THEIR HIP

POCKET, NO MATTER WHAT THEY DID. AND THAT BELIEF WAS CRITICAL IN THE DECISION TO GOBBLE UP THE FALKLANDS.

THE DINNER FOR MRS KIRKPATRICK WAS INDICATIVE. IT WAS ARRANGED WHEN THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT HAD ALREADY MADE, IN SECRET, ITS DECISION TO ATTACK THE FALKLANDS. IN SHORT THE DINNER WAS PLANNED AS A DEVICE TO SHOW THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATIONS'S ATTACHMENT TO ARGENTINA AFTER THE INVASION. EVEN BY TODAY'S DEGRADED STANDARDS, IT IS SHOCKING TO THINK OF AMERICAN OFFICIALS ATTENDING AN AGGRESSOR'S DINNER PARTY ON THE NIGHT OF THE AGGRESSION. BUT THERE IS MORE TO IT THAN ONE'S DISGUST AT SUCH BEHAVIOR. THERE IS THE PRACTICAL POINT THAT THE REAGAN POLICY OF CUDDLING UP TO ARGENTINA HAS BEEN AGAINST THE INTEREST OF THE UNITED STATES.

THE NOTION SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN THAT WE COULD NUDGE THE ARGENTINE RULERS TOWARD DECENCY IF WE TREATED THEM WITH RESPECT. BUT THAT IS NOT KIND OF PEOPLE THEY ARE. THEY ARE COLDBLOODED OPPORTUNISTS WHO HARBOR AMONG THEM MURDERERS AND PLAIN FASCISTS - PEOPLE WHO DISPLAY SWASTIKAS IN CELLS WHERE THEY TORTURE JEWS. ROBERT COX, THE FORMER ARGENTINE EDITOR, SAID A YEAR AGO:

"MANY OF THESE GENERALS IN ARGENTINA ARE LAUGHING AT THE UNITED STATES.... THESE ARE GENUINE NEO-TOTALITARIANS WHO THINK THE OUTCOME OF WORLD WAR II WAS A GREAT MISTAKE."

EXPRESSIONS OF FRIENDSHIP FOR SUCH PEOPLE HAVE NOT GIVEN OUR REAL ALLIES CONFIDENCE IN AMERICAN POLICY. AND THE JOKE OF IT IS THAT THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT IS NOT EVEN A HELPFUL PARTNER AGAINST SOVIET AGGRESSION.

- - - ARGENTINA BROKE THE GRAIN EMBARGO IMPOSED ON THE SOVIET UNION AFTER THE INVASION OF AFGHANISTAN, AND IT OFTEN JOINS THE RUSSIANS IN DIPLOMATIC FORUMS.

IN THE END, OF COURSE, PRESIDENT REAGAN WAS STUCK WITH THE RESULTS OF HIS FAILED POLICY. HE WAS REDUCED TO TELEPHONING GENERAL GALTIERI, THE ARGENTINE PRESIDENT, AND PLEADING PATHETICALLY AND UNSUCCESSFULLY WITH HIM TO CALL BACK THE INVASION FLEET.

THE RESULT IS DEVASTATING FOR OUR CLOSEST FRIEND IN THE WORLD, BRITAIN. THE BRITISH ARE UNDERKING A MILITARY OPERATION WHOSE COST IS IMMENSE, ITS OUTCOME FAR FROM CLEAR. AND NOW, AFTER A YEAR OF MISGUIDED POLICY THAT ENCOURAGED ARGENTINE ADVENTURISM, THE UNITED STATES IS TRYING TO MEDIATE.

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FOR THE WEST AS A WHOLE THERE IS A PARTICULAR LOSS IN THE FALKLANDS AFFAIR. THAT IS THE RESIGNATION OF LORD CARRINGTON AS FOREIGN SECRETARY. HE IS QUITE SIMPLY

THE ABLEST DIPLOMAT WHO HAS HELD OFFICE IN ANY WESTERN COUNTRY FOR YEARS.

LORD CARRINGTON SETTLED THE BLOODY RHODESIAN CONFLICT WHEN IT SEEMED BEYOND HOPE. HE WAS DEEPLY COMMITTED TO THE UNITED STATES, BUT HE HAD AN UNDERSTANDING OF EUROPEAN FEELINGS THAT LET HIM HELP GREATLY IN HOLDING THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE TOGETHER. HE HAD THE SELF-ASSURANCE THAT MAKES DIPLOMATIC DARING POSSIBLE.

AT A TIME OF POLITICAL EXTREMES, OF BRITTLE IDEOLOGIES, LORD CARRINGTON WAS THE MAN OF MODERATION - AND OF REALISM. HE DEALT WITH THE WORLD AS IT IS. IT IS NASTY, AND IT WILL BE MORE DIFFICULT TO MANAGE WITHOUT HIM.

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES ARE FROM THE BALTIMORE SUN:

1. "HAIG BOUND FOR LONDON, ARGENTINA"

WASHINGTON - "PRESIDENT REAGAN YESTERDAY ORDERED SECRETARY OF STATE ALEXANDER M. HAIG, JR., TO FLY FIRST TO LONDON AND THEN TO BUENOS AIRES IN AN EFFORT TO RESOLVE THE GROWING CONFRONTATION BETWEEN BRITAIN AND ARGENTINA."

DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGES ALTERED PLANNING FROM HOUR TO HOUR. HE IS EXPECTED TO JOURNEY ON TO BUENOS AIRES LATE TOMORROW OR SATURDAY.

--SENIOR OFFICIALS SAID YESTERDAY THERE IS NO PREFERRED AMERICAN SOLUTION. IN THE ABSENCE OF ONE, SPECULATION YESTERDAY COVERED THE RANGE OF POSSIBILITIES, FROM THE HUMILIATION OF EITHER SIDE TO A COMPROMISE BY WHICH THE UNITED NATIONS MIGHT DEVISE A SHARING OF SOVEREIGNTY OR ADMINISTRATION.

--PRIVATELY U.S. OFFICIALS BLAME ARGENTINA FOR PRECIPITATING THE CRISIS AND RECALL THAT ARGENTINA HAS UNDERMINED AMERICAN POLICY IN SEVERAL RESPECTS, INCLUDING THE SALE OF GRAIN TO THE SOVIET UNION DURING AN AMERICAN EMBARGO.

2. "BRITAIN TO PUT NAVAL 'FENCE' AROUND ISLANDS"
BY ROBERT A. ERLANDSON

LONDON- "BRITISH DEFENSE SECRETARY JOHN NOTT SAID LAST NIGHT THAT, STARTING MONDAY MORNING, BRITAIN WOULD ENFORCE A 200-MILE "NAVAL EXCLUSION ZONE" AROUND THE FALKLAND ISLANDS AND WOULD CONSIDER HOSTILE ANY ARGENTINE VESSELS FOUND WITHIN THE ZONE.

ZONE IS AIMED AT PREVENTING FURTHER REINFORCEMENT AND RESUPPLY OF THE ARGENTINE OCCUPATION FORCE ON THE SOUTH ATLANTIC ISLANDS.

"...ANY ARGENTINE WARSHIPS AND ARGENTINE NAVAL AUXILIARIES

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FOUND WITHIN THIS ZONE WILL BE TREATED AS HOSTILE AND ARE LIABLE TO BE ATTACKED BY BRITISH FORCES," MR. NOTT SAID.

EMPHASIZED THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED FOR ARMED CONFLICT IF NECESSARY TO REESTABLISH ITS ADMINISTRATION IN THE ISLANDS.

"THE ARGENTINES WERE THE FIRST TO USE FORCE IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH THEIR PRESENT CONTROL OF THE FALKLANDS," MR. NOTT SAID. "THE ISLAND IS NOW SUBJECT TO AN ILLEGAL AND ALIEN MILITARY RULE. THAT IS A SITUATION WHICH MUST NOT ENDURE FOR ONE DAY LONGER THAN IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY."

"WE HAVE NO WISH TO SHED BLOOD BUT WE SHALL NOT ACQUIESCE TO ANY ACT OF UNPROVOKED AGGRESSION—UNDERTAKEN PRESUMABLY IN THE FALSE BELIEF THAT WE LACK COURAGE AND THE WILL TO RESPOND."

AMERICAN SOURCES EMPHASIZED THAT MR. HAIG IS NOT VISITING LONDON AND THEN BUENOS AIRES AS A "MEDIATORS," BUT AS PRESIDENT REAGAN'S SPOKESMAN TO OFFER WHATEVER HELP HE CAN TO AVERT AN ARMED CLASH.

BRITISH, ARE RELYING HEAVILY ON HIS HELP. "IF THERE IS ONE POWER THAT CAN ACHIEVE A SOLUTION IT IS THE UNITED STATES," SAID A SENIOR BRITISH SOURCE.

THE SOURCE SAID TREMENDOUS INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE IS MOUNTING ON THE ARGENTINE REGIME OF GEN. LEOPOLDO GALTIERI AS MORE COUNTRIES JOIN THE CONDEMNATION OF THE INVASION AND IMPOSE DIPLOMATIC, MILITARY AND ECONOMIC SANCTIONS TO FORCE ARGENTINA TO WITHDRAW ITS TROOPS.

-- CALLAGHAN URGED THATCHER TO DECLARE A 'WAR ZONE TO PREVENT "THIRD-PARTY INCIDENTS" OFF THE FALKLANDS, SUCH AS OVERFLIGHTS OF THE FLEET BY PLANES CHARTERED BY NEWS AGENCIES OR FOREIGN NAVIES. "I AM SURE SOVIET SUBMARINES WILL BE POKING THEIR NOSES IN," HE SAID.

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-- DENIS HEALEY, LABOR'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS SPOKESMAN, ATTACKED MRS. THATCHER'S "LACK OF JUDGEMENT" BUT OF THE NAVAL TASK FORCE, SO LONG AS IT IS BACKED UP BY DIPLOMACY.

--MR. HEALEY SAID, "IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO NEGOTIATE WITH A MILITARY DICTATORSHIP EXCEPT AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF STRENGTH. THE DICTATOR WILL NEVER CONCEDE IN NEGOTIATIONS WHAT HE CAN KEEP BY FORCE."

WHILE THE EMPHASIS IS ON DIPLOMACY, IT APPEARS BRITAIN'S INTENTION IS TO MOUNT A NAVAL BLOCKADE OF THE FALKLANDS RATHER THAN ATTEMPT A LANDING IN THE FACE OF A CONTINUING BUILDUP OF MEN AND EQUIPMENT ON THE ISLANDS.

"THE MORE THERE ARE THE FASTER THEY'LL STARVE," THE SOURCE COMMENTED.

3. "RENOUNCE FIRST USE OF A-ARMS, U.S. URGED" BY HENRY TREWHITT

WASHINGTON--"FOUR FORMER SENIOR OFFICIALS YESTERDAY URGED A U.S. POLICY SHIFT TOWARD RENOUNCING THE FIRST USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, SAYING THE CHANGE WOULD PROMOTE STABILITY AND MAKE NUCLEAR DETERRENCE MORE BELIEVABLE."
-- EMPHASIZED CHANGE WOULD REQUIRE REFINEMENT AND PROBABLY EXPANSION OF CONVENTIONAL FORCES TO MEET A SOVIET NON-NUCLEAR ATTACK IN EUROPE. IT WOULD NOT DIMINISH THE U.S. COMMITMENT TO USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS FOR RETALIATION IN KIND, THEY SAID.

--MONEY SAVED IN NUCLEAR DEPLOYMENTS COULD BE USED TO PROVIDE NON-NUCLEAR FORCES, THEY SAID. QUESTION WAS NOT WHETHER THE NATIONS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC ALLIANCE HAD THE RESOURCES TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE NON-NUCLEAR FORCES, BUT "IT IS A QUITE DIFFERENT QUESTION WHETHER THEY CAN SUMMON THE NECESSARY POLITICAL WILL."

--FOUR FORMER OFFICIALS ARE:
ROBERT S. MCNAMARA, MCGEORGE BUNDY, GERARD C. SMITH.
AND GEORGE F. KENNAN.

IN EFFECT, HAIG ALREADY HAS TURNED DOWN THE IDEA. ANTICIPATING THE PROPOSAL, HE SAID IN AN ADDRESS TUESDAY THAT THE CHANGE IN DOCTRINE WOULD PUT EUROPE AT THE MERCY OF SUPERIOR SOVIET NON-NUCLEAR FORCES AND DESTROY ANY INCENTIVE FOR THE SOVIETS TO NEGOTIATE BALANCED ARMS-CONTROL AGREEMENTS.

--BUT MR. MCNAMARA SAID YESTERDAY THAT THE SECRETARY HAD NOT READ THE PROPOSAL BEFORE THE SPEECH. IN FACT, HE REPORTED, HE AND MR. BUNDY DELIVERED A COPY TO MR. HAIG LATER TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

--IN THEIR ARTICLE, THE FOUR FORMER OFFICIALS CAREFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED MILITARY AND POLITICAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE PROPOSAL. TO THE EXTENT THAT EARLY USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS HAS BEEN BUILT INTO EXISTING FORCES, THEY WROTE,

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"THERE COULD BE A DANGEROUS GAP BETWEEN REAL CAPABILITIES AND THOSE WHICH POLITICAL LEADERS MIGHT WISH TO HAVE IN TIME OF CRISIS."

--MANY MILITARY OFFICERS, THEY SAID. "WILL BE INITIALLY UNENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT ANY FORMAL POLICY THAT PUTS LIMITS ON THEIR RECOURSE TO A WEAPON OF APPARENTLY DECISIVE POWER. YET THE BASIC ARGUMENT FOR A NO-FIRST-USE POLICY CAN BE STATED IN STRICTLY MILITARY TERMS: THAT ANY OTHER COURSE INVOLVES UNACCEPTABLE RISKS TO THE NATIONAL LIFE THAT MILITARY FORCES EXIST TO DEFEND."

-- POLITICALLY, THEY SAID, EUROPEANS MIGHT TAKE THE NEW DOCTRINE AS EVIDENCE OF REDUCED AMERICAN INTEREST. IN REALITY, THEY ARGUED, "SUCH A POLICY IS THE BEST ONE AVAILABLE FOR KEEPING THE ALLIANCE UNITED AND EFFECTIVE," ESPECIALLY IF THE UNITED STATES MAKES A DEEPER NON-NUCLEAR COMMITMENT.

--THEY EMPHASIZED REPEATEDLY THAT THEY WERE NOT ADVOCATING SOME "MINIMUM LEVEL" OF NUCLEAR FORCES, BUT A POLICY OF RENOUNCING THEIR USE EXCEPT FOR RETALIATION.

4. "HAIG AS FALKLANDS MEDIATOR"
EDITORIAL

SECRETARY OF STATE ALEXANDER HAIG'S PERSONAL ENTRY INTO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS DISPUTE WAS ALMOST PREDESTINED AFTER BRITAIN AND ARGENTINA HAD PAINTED THEMSELVES INTO HOSTILE CORNERS. IF FIGHTING IS TO BE AVOIDED, BOTH BELLIGERENTS WILL HAVE TO BE GIVEN A WAY OUT THAT WILL PROTECT BOTH THEIR HONOR AND THEIR NATIONAL INTERESTS. ONLY THE UNITED STATES HAS SUFFICIENT CAUSE AND LEVERAGE TO MAKE ITSELF USEFUL IN SUCH AN ENTERPRISE. WHETHER MR HAIG IS TO SUCCEED, THOUGH, WILL DEPEND ON POLITICAL CALCULATIONS THAT ARE BEING MADE IN LONDON AND BUENOS AIRES EVEN AS PROPAGANDA WARFARE CONTINUES.

IF A MUTUAL WILL TO REACH A SETTLEMENT CRYSTALIZES DURING THE MERCIFULLY LONG VOYAGE OF THE BRITISH NAVY TO THE

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SOUTH ATLANTIC, ANY NUMBER OF SOLUTIONS CAN BE ENVISAGED. ONE IS THE SO-CALLED HONG KONG APPROACH. BRITAIN WOULD CEDE SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE ISLANDS TO ARGENTINA BUT WOULD REMAIN IN DE FACTO CONTROL THROUGH A LONG LEASING ARRANGEMENT. ANOTHER DEVICE WOULD TURN ADMINISTRATION

OF THE TERRITORIES OVER TO THE UNITED NATIONS OR THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES, WITH QUESTIONS OF SOVEREIGNTY TO BE SETTLED LATER. EITHER APPROACH, OR ANY OTHER CONCOCTED BY INTERNATIONAL LAWYERS, WOULD REQUIRE AT LEAST A TEMPORARY DIVISION OF OIL RIGHTS TO DEPOSITS IN THE 250-MILE OCEAN STRETCH BETWEEN THE FALKLANDS AND ARGENTINA.

AS MR. HAIG INTERVENES IN THE DISPUTE, TO THE OBVIOUS RELIEF OF BOTH BRITAIN AND ARGENTINA, HE ~~INEVITABLY~~ WILL PUT A LOT OF NATIONAL AND PERSONAL PRESTIGE ON THE LINE. THE RISK, HOWEVER, IS EMINENTLY WORTH THE TAKING. A SUCCESS WOULD BE IN THE TRADITION OF JIMMY CARTER'S CAMP DAVID TRIUMPH. EVEN A FAILURE WOULD BE BETTER THAN HAVING THE UNITED STATES WATCH PASSIVELY AS TWO VALUABLE ALLIES BLOODY ONE ANOTHER. //

THE UNITED STATES IS NOW COMMITTED TO SUCH A DELICATE ROLE THAT IT SHOULD WATCH ITS WORDS VERY CAREFULLY. EVEN PRONOUNCEMENTS OF NEUTRALITY CAN BE SUBJECT TO COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE INTERPRETATION. THIS COUNTRY QUITE WILLING TO ACCEPT MR. HAIG'S GOOD OFFICES. THE MILITARY DICTATORSHIP IN BUENOS AIRES KNOWS IT WILL GET THE SUPPORT OF MOST LATIN COUNTRIES, EVEN OF SOME THAT DETEST THE NATURE OF THIS REGIME, AND THAT U.S. POLICY WILL HAVE TO BE PURSUED IN THE CONTEXT OF THAT REALITY.

BOTH THE ARGENTINE AND BRITISH GOVERNMENTS UNDERESTIMATED ONE ANOTHER. NOW THEIR HEADS OF GOVERNMENT ARE HOSTAGE TO THE FALKLANDS CONFRONTATION. THEY ARE GLADIATORS COMMITTED TO A BATTLE EACH ONE DREADS THE CLOSER IT GETS. THE SITUATION CRIES OUT FOR PEACEMAKING. PRESIDENT REAGAN WAS RIGHT TO GIVE AL HAIG THE ASSIGNMENT.

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES ARE FROM THE WALL ST. JOURNAL -
1. "HAIG DISPATCHED TO TRY TO SETTLE FALKLANDS CRISIS"
"SECRETARY SETS TALKS IN U.K., ARGENTINA AS WHITE HOUSE OPTS TO TAKE VISIBLE ROLE" BY GERALD F. SEIB, WALL ST. JO.

"THE WHITE HOUSE DECIDING TO TAKE A VISIBLE ROLE IN TRYING TO SETTLE THE FLAKLAND ISLANDS CRISIS IS SENDING SECRETARY OF STATE ALEXANDER HAIG TO BRITAIN AND ARGENTINA FOR TALKS."

MAJOR POINTS: HAIG SCHEDULED TO LEAVE FOR LONDON THEN FLY TO BUENOS AIRES, RETURNING HOME FROM THERE. THE STATE DEPT. SAID. NEITHER THE DEPARTMENT NOR THE WHITE HOUSE WOULD BE SPECIFIC ABOUT TIMETABLE.

-- SIGNS THAT THE TWO SIDES CONTINUE TO MOVE CLOSER TO A MILITARY CONFRONTATION.

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-- BRIT. DEF. SEC. JOHN NOTT DECLARED A 200-MILE "MARITIME EXCLUSION ZONE" AROUND THE ISLANDS. EFFECTIVE NEXT MONDAY. HE WARNED THAT ANY ARGENTINE SHIPS IN THE ZONE "WILL BE TREATED AS HOSTILE AND ARE LIABLE TO BE ATTACKED BY BRITISH FORCES."

-- THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HASN'T SAID WHETHER IT WILL HAVE ANY SHIPS THAT CLOSE TO THE FALKLANDS BY MONDAY.

-- AMERICAN OFFICIALS INSISTED THAT MR. HAIG ISN'T CARRYING ANY U.S. PLAN TO SETTLE THE DISPUTE. "THESE ARE PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS AND THE PURPOSE IS SIMPLY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN RESOLVING THE DISPUTE," SAID DEPUTY STATE DEPT. SPOKESMAN ALAN ROMBERG.

-- SECRETARY'S TRIP INDICATES THAT THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION SETTLED INTERNAL DEBATE OVER WHETHER TO ADOPT A HIGH-PROFILE ROLE. THE WHITE HOUSE HAD CONSIDERED STAYING BEHIND THE SCENES BECAUSE OF THE DELICACY OF TRYING TO SETTLE A DISPUTE BETWEEN TWO OF ITS ALLIES.

-- BUT THE ADMINISTRATION APPARENTLY DECIDED THAT THE SITUATION WAS GROWING TOO DANGEROUS FOR A LOW-KEY APPROACH. "OBVIOUSLY WE THINK IT IS A SERIOUS SITUATION," MR. ROMBERG SAID, "OTHERWISE WE WOULDN'T BE ENGAGED AT THIS LEVEL."

-- OFFICIALS SAID SECRETARY'S FIRST MEETING MOST LIKELY WILL BE WITH BRITAIN'S FM FRANCIS PYM. OFFICIALS WOULDN'T SAY WITH WHOM HAIG WOULD MEET IN BUENOS AIRES.

-- HAIG DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE MUCH TIME TO HAMMER OUT A PEACEFUL SOLUTION BEFORE THE BRITISH FLEET ARRIVES. SOME EUROPEAN ANALYSTS SPECULATE, THOUGH, THAT THE BRITISH MIGHT SLOW DOWN THE FLEET IF A DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION TO THE DISPUTE IS IN SIGHT.

STATE DEPT. SAID BRITAIN AND ARGENTINA HAD INVITED MR. HAIG TO ACT AS A GO-BETWEEN.

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-- NOT SAID THAT BRITAIN'S FIRST NAVAL ACTION WILL BE DESIGNED TO SEAL OFF SUPPLIES GOING TO ARGENTINE TROOPS ON THE FALKLANDS.

-- THE WHITE HOUSE INSISTED THAT MR. HAIG INSISTED THAT MR. HAIG SHOULDN'T BE DESCRIBED AS A "MEDIATOR."

-- BRITISH OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN ARGUING THAT THE U.S. SHOULD USE ITS POLITICAL LEVERAGE TO PERSUADE ARGENTINA TO BACK DOWN.

-- THE BRITISH SAY THEY BELIEVE THAT ARGENTINA WHICH HAS ICY RELATIONS WITH MANY COUNTRIES IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE, DOESN'T WANT TO UPSET ITS FRIENDSHIP WITH THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION.

-- U.S. OFFICIALS EXPLAINED YESTERDAY THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WANTED TO APPEAR STRICTLY NEUTRAL SO IT WOULD HAVE GOOD RELATIONS WITH BOTH SIDES WHEN HAIG STARTED A PEACE MISSION. THE WHITE HOUSE ALSO DOESN'T WANT TO APPEAR TOO STRONGLY OPPOSED TO ARGENTINA'S STAND, OUT OF FEAR IT WILL OFFEND LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES THE U.S. WANTS TO SUPPORT ITS CENTRAL AMERICAN POLICIES.

2. "REAGAN VISITS JAMAICA, STRESSES IMPORTANCE OF CARIBBEAN TRADE"
NO BYLINE, WALL ST. JOURNAL

"PRESIDENT REAGAN STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF TRADE ISSUES IN WHAT OTHERWISE WAS LARGELY A GOODWILL VISIT TO THIS CARIBBEAN NATION."

REAGAN STOPPED HERE ON HIS WAY TO A VACATION ON THE ISLAND OF BARBADOS. SEAGA, SAID AFTER MEETINGS WITH THE PRES. THAT THE VISIT WAS MOST IMPORTANT AS A "FOCUS OF ATTENTION" ON THE IMPROVING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN HIS TROUBLED COUNTRY.

-- PRESIDENT EMPHASIZED THE TRADE PORTION OF HIS PROPOSAL HERE. IN HIS ARRIVAL REMARKS, MR. REAGAN DECLARED: "THE U.S. CAN BEST HELP BY EXPANDING THE OPPORTUNITY OF YOUR PEOPLE AND THOSE OF YOUR NEIGHBORS TO TRADE FREELY WITH US, TO GIVE THEM A CHANCE TO PRODUCE AND SELL THEIR PRODUCTS IN A COMPETITIVE FREE MARKET."

SEAGA SAID HE HOPES THE TRADE ACTIONS WOULD "MAGNETIZE" THE CARIBBEAN BASIN TO ATTRACT MORE FOREIGN INVESTMENTS, DEVELOPMENTS AND JOBS.

-- BUT FOR SOME NEIGHBORING NATIONS, THE JAMAICAN LEADER INDICATED, SIMPLY LOWERING TRADE BARRIERS WON'T BE SUFFICIENT. IN A JOINT STATEMENT, THE PRESIDENT AND MR. SEAGA SAID THEY AGREED THAT "SPECIAL ATTENTION SHOULD ALSO BE GIVEN TO THE URGENT INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS" OF EASTERN CARIBBEAN NATIONS, REFERRING TO ROADS AND OTHER DEVELOPMENT NEEDED TO MAKE FURTHER INVESTMENTS AND DEVELOPMENT FEASIBLE.

-- IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT, OFFICIALS OF OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORP. ANNOUNCED PLANS FOR FOUR NEW PROJECTS HERE IN THE BUILDING-MATERIALS AND AGRIBUSINESS SECTORS.

3. "BRITAIN'S ECONOMIC SALVOS AT ARGENTINA COULD BE AS EFFECTIVE AS ITS NAVAL VOLLEYS" BY WILLIAM ELLINGTON

BRITAIN'S FINANCIAL BLOCKADE OF ARGENTINA MAY BE AS EFFECTIVE IN BRINGING ABOUT A SETTLEMENT OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS DISPUTE AS P.M. THATCHER'S DECISION TO SEND WARSHIPS TO THE SOUTH ATLANTIC WATERS.

LITTLE PROSPECT THAT ARGENTINA WILL BE ABLE TO RAISE NEW MONEY ABROAD UNTIL THE DISPUTE IS RESOLVED OR AT LEAST MITIGATED.

-- SOME OF THESE BANKERS CONTEND THAT, IF ARGENTINA CAN'T OBTAIN FURTHER SHORT-TERM TRADE FINANCING, THE IMPACT ON ITS ECONOMY WOULD BE DEVASTATING; AND DRYING UP OF ARGENTINA'S LONG-TERM CREDIT WOULD HURT BANKERS' ASSETS. THEREFORE, IT WOULD THINK TWICE ABOUT PLACING THE NATION'S ECONOMY IN JEOPARDY BECAUSE OF A LACK OF CREDIT.

FURTHERMORE, IT LOOKS AS IF BRITAIN'S FREEZE ON ARGENTINE ASSETS IN BANKS IN BRITAIN; ITS RESTRICTIONS ON TRANSFER OF ARGENTINE FUNDS THROUGH U.K. BANKS AND ITS TRADE EMBARGO ON ARGENTINE GOODS HAVE ALREADY BEGUN TO BITE.

"UNCERTAINTY OVER THE EFFECT OF BRITAIN'S ACTIONS WILL PROBABLY CAUSE FUNDS FOR ARGENTINA TO DRY UP," SAYS AN AMERICAN BANKER.

"THE SITUATION FOR ARGENTINA IS VERY GRIM BECAUSE THEY LIVE ON CREDIT," SAYS A SWISS.

-- THE BANK FOR INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENTS ESTIMATES THAT BANKS IN 15 INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES HAD ABOUT \$21.6 BILLION OF LOANS OUTSTANDING TO ARGENTINA AT THE END OF LAST SEPTEMBER. ANALYSTS SAY THAT MORE THAN HALF THIS AMOUNT

CONSTITUTED SHORT-TERM DEBT OF UP TO A YEAR, WHICH ARGENTINA MUST BE ABLE TO RENEW TO REMAIN SOLVENT.

-- BEARING THIS IN MIND, FRANCIS PYM, BRITAIN'S NEW FOREIGN SECRETARY, SAID IN PARLIAMENT THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS ASKED FRIENDLY COUNTRIES TO ENCOURAGE THEIR BANKS TO MAKE NO NEW LOANS TO ARGENTINA.

-- THERE ARE ALREADY SOME TENTATIVE INDICATIONS THAT ARGENTINA MAY HAVE A PROBLEM ROLLING OVER ITS SHORT-TERM CREDIT.

ALTHOUGH IT SEEMS IMPROBABLY THAT BANKS WOULD CALL A DEFAULT ON ARGENTINE DEBT, THE POSSIBILITY CAN'T BE IGNORED.

-- ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT HAS BANNED ALL PAYMENTS TO BRITISH BANKS IN RESPONSE TO BRITAIN'S FREEZE ON ARGENTINE ASSETS. IF BRITISH BANK LOANS TO ARGENTINA AREN'T PAID, THE BANKS WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO DECLARE A DEFAULT, LEGAL EXPERTS SAY.

-- MOREOVER, IF ARGENTINA CAN'T KEEP BORROWING OR ROLLING OVER ITS DEBT, OF WHICH AN ESTIMATED \$3.7 BILLION FALLS DUE THIS YEAR, IT WILL BECOME INSOLVENT BECAUSE IT DOESN'T HAVE LARGE CASH RESERVES TO PAY ITS DEBT, BANKERS SAY. THIS WOULD BRING ABOUT AN EVENT OF DEFAULT, SPECIALISTS NOTE.

-- LASTLY, IF ARGENTINA SHOULD GET INTO A SHOOTING WAR WITH BRITAIN, A DEFAULT COULD BE DECLARED UNDER CLAUSES IN LOAN AGREEMENTS THAT REFER TO A MATERIAL CHANGE IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BORROWER, SPECIALISTS ADD.

-- IN THE EVENT OF DEFAULT, MUCH OF ARGENTINA'S EXTERNAL DEBT COULD BE CALLED FOR IMMEDIATE PAYMENT UNDER CROSS-DEFAULT CLAUSES, WITH SEVERELY DAMAGING RESULTS TO THE COUNTRY'S EXTERNAL TRADE AND COMMERCE.

4. HEADLINE: "HAIG'S PREEMPTIVE STRIKE OF A SPEECH"
BY HODDING CARTER III, OP ED

ALL RIGHT, FOLKS, IT'S PUT UP OR SHUT UP TIME ON THE NUCLEAR WAR FRONT. THE ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN TALKING OUT OF BOTH SIDES OF ITS MOUTH WITH STARTLING FREQUENCY OF RATE, SOMETIMES SCOUNDING LIKE A DOVE AND SOMETIMES LIKE A PROPHET OF ARMAGEDDON, AND THE RESULT HAS BEEN WIDESPREAD CONFUSION. PERHAPS THAT IS THE INTENDED RESULT, BUT THE PEOPLE DESERVE BETTER.

WHAT ARE WE TO MAKE OF SECRETARY OF STATE HAIG'S PREEMPTIVE STRIKE OF A SPEECH TUESDAY IN WHICH HE SOUGHT TO HEAD OFF THE PROPONENTS BOTH OF A NUCLEAR FREEZE AND OF A NO-FIRST-USE PLEDGE? THIS WAS NOT HAIG THE BUREAUCRATIC MUMBO-JUMBO MAN, SPEAKING IN UNKNOWN TONGUES UNDER THE PRESSURE OF CONGRESSIONAL OR JOURNALISTIC QUESTIONING. THIS WAS THE SECRETARY OF THE UNITED STATES VOICING THE CAREFULLY CRAFTED WORDS OF AN ELABORATE STAFF STRUCTURE, WORDS WHICH WERE CLEARED LINE BY LINE WITH THE WHITE HOUSE. AND HERE ARE SOME OF THE THINGS HE SAID:

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"A FREEZE AT CURRENT LEVELS WOULD PERPETUATE AN UNSTABLE AND UNEQUAL MILITARY BALANCE." THAT'S CLEAR ENOUGH. THE RUSSIANS ARE AHEAD OF US.

BUT NO; AS HE ROLLED TOWARD THE CLOSE OF HIS PERORATION, HE REMINDED US THAT DETERRENCE IS "NOT AUTOMATIC. IT CAN NOT BE HAD ON THE CHEAP. OUR ABILITY TO SUSTAIN IT DEPENDS UPON OUR ABILITY TO MAINTAIN THE MILITARY BALANCE NOW BEING THREATENED BY THE SOVIET BUILDUP." AS BEST WE UNDERSTAND BY ENGLISH, TO "MAINTAIN THE MILITARY BALANCE" IS TO PERPETUATE SOMETHING WHICH ALREADY EXISTS -- AND THAT SOMETHING IS NOT OUR OLD FRIEND OF EARLIER PARAGRAPHS, "AN UNSTABLE AND UNEQUAL BALANCE."

PERHAPS WE SHOULDN'T CARP, HOWEVER, SINCE SECRETARY HAIG FINALLY MANAGED TO COME CLOSE TO SAYING WHAT THE PRESIDENT AND HIS SECRETARY OF DEFENSE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO ARTICULATE. THERE'S NO SUCH A THING AS A LIMITED NUCLEAR WAR. MR. HAIG ALMOST SAID.

"FLEXIBLE RESPONSE IS NOT PREMISED UPON THE VIEW THAT NUCLEAR WAR CAN BE CONTROLLED," HE SAID. "EVERY SUCCESSIVE ALLIED AND AMERICAN GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN CONVINCED THAT A NUCLEAR WAR, ONCE INITIATED, COULD ESCAPE SUCH CONTROL. WELL, "COULD" ISN'T EXACTLY "WOULD," BUT IT'S CLOSE ENOUGH TO GIVE EVERYONE A WHIFF OF THE REALITY OF THE WARNING WHICH LIES JUST AROUND THE NUCLEAR WARNING SHOT CORNER AND

JUST OVER THE HORIZON OF AN EXCHANGE OF TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

THE REAL QUESTION, HOWEVER, IS WHETHER THE PRESIDENT AND HIS CHIEF ADVISERS BELIEVE AN ALL-OUT NUCLEAR WAR IS WINNABLE. THE OLD REPLY WAS SOMETHING ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINE, TO PARAPHRASE DEFENSE SECRETARY WEINBERGER:

"WELL, I DON'T THINK I WANT TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION, BUT THE RUSSIANS APPARENTLY THINK THAT IT IS."

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IN THE FACE OF THE BURGEONING, GRASSROOTS DEMAND FOR AN END TO THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE AND THE RHETORIC WHICH ACCOMPANIES IT, A NEW APPROACH HAS BEEN ADOPTED. THUS, PRESIDENT REAGAN AT HIS PRESS CONFERENCE LAST WEEK SPOKE THE SIMPLE, UNALTERABLE TRUTH THAT "I DON'T THINK THERE COULD BE ANY WINNERS -- EVERYBODY WOULD BE A LOSER IF THERE'S A NUCLEAR WAR." THAT'S A DECLARATIVE SENTENCE TO WARM THE HEART OF ANYONE CONCERNED ABOUT MAN'S FATE.

ALAS, THAT WAS NOT THE END OF IT, SECRETARY HAIG THIS WEEK TOLD THE WORLD THAT "DETERRENCE DEPENDS UPON OUR CAPABILITY EVEN AFTER SUFFERING A MASSIVE NUCLEAR BLOW, TO PREVENT AN AGGRESSOR FROM SECURING A MILITARY ADVANTAGE AND PREVAILING IN A CONFLICT." WHAT CAN "PREVAILING IN A CONFLICT" POSSIBLY MEAN EXCEPT WINNING? AND IF OUR POLICY IS ACTUALLY BASED ON THE FEAR THAT SOMEONE COULD WIN A NUCLEAR WAR, THEN THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT HAS NO OPERATIONAL MEANING. FOR THAT MATTER, THE PRESIDENT'S HEARTFELT CERTAINTY THAT WE ARE BEHIND THE RUSSIANS IN MILITARY MIGHT LED HIM TO CONTEND THAT "THEY COULD ABSORB OUR RETALIATORY BLOW AND HIT US AGAIN."

TO WHAT END DOES ALL THIS BLEAK TALK TAKE US, IF NOT A LANDSCAPE OF ENDLESS COMPUTER-DIRECTED NUCLEAR EXCHANGES FOLLOWED BY THE EMERGENCE OF SOME RADIATION-SINGED SURVIVOR FROM HIS ISLAND CAVE TO PROCLAIM VICTORY?

IT WOULD BE UNFAIR TO SUGGEST THAT AMERICA'S LEADERS ARE NOT SINCERELY CONCERNED ABOUT THE PROSPECT OF NUCLEAR WAR AND DETERMINED TO AVOID IT.

THEY DEEPLY BELIEVE THAT WE CAN GET TO ARMS REDUCTIONS ONLY BY FIRST ACHIEVING REAL ARMS PARITY. UNFORTUNATELY, THEY ALSO APPARENTLY BELIEVE THAT SUCH PARITY DOES NOT NOW EXIST, THAT THE FAMOUS "WINDOW OF VULNERABILITY" GOES EVER BEFORE US IN TIME, AND THAT THE "SOVIET UNION DOES HAVE A DEFINITE MARGIN OF SUPERIORITY," AS THE PRESIDENT PUT IT IN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE.

THAT WAY LIES POLICY MADNESS OR POLICY IMMOBILIZATION, OR BOTH. A YEAR AND A HALF AFTER ITS ELECTION VICTORY, THE ADMINISTRATION STILL HAS NO AGREED POSITION ON STRATEGIC ARMS CONTROL NEGOTIATIONS, APPARENTLY IN LARGE PART BECAUSE IT CAN'T REACH A CONSENSUS ON WHAT STRATEGIC PARITY ENTAILS. THAT'S IMMOBILIZATION. LACKING SUCH AN AGREEMENT, IT CONTINUES TO THROW MONEY AT THE DEFENSE DEPT. IN HOPES THAT IT CAN BUY WHAT NO ONE SEEMS ABLE TO DEFINE: THAT'S MADNESS, A FACT WELL UNDERSTOOD BY THE MARKETS AND OUR ALLIES.

AND IN THE MEANTIME WHAT ONE RHETORICAL HAND GIVES, THE OTHER TAKES AWAY, AND WE ARE LEFT WITH THE INDELIBLE IMPRESSION THAT THE PEOPLE WHO RUN THIS COUNTRY BELIEVE THAT THE SOVIET UNION IS REALLY 10 FEET TALL, INTENDS TO LAUNCH A NUCLEAR WAR JUST AS SOON AS IT HAS AN APPROPRIATE EDGE IN LAND-BASED MISSILES AND MIGHT ACTUALLY SURVIVE THE ENSUING HOLOCAUST AS THE "WINNER." IT'S ALMOST ENOUGH TO MAKE EVEN THE MOST DEDICATED CIVIL DEFENSE SKEPTIC

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TAKE UP A SHOVEL AND START DIGGING.

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES ARE FROM THE LOS ANGELES TIMES:

1. "HAIG SENT TO TWO CAPITALS FOR PEACE TALKS"
BY OSWALD JOHNSTON

"SEC. OF STATE HAGI WAS DIRECTED BY PRES. REAGAN ON WED. TO FLY TO LONDON TODAY AND THEN TO BUENOS AIRES TO PRESS BRITAIN AND ARGENTINA FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS CRISIS."

-- THE STATE DEPARTMENT SAID HAIG WILL HOLD "PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS" AIMED AT HEADING OFF A NAVAL CLASH. THE WHITE HOUSE SAID REAGAN DECIDED ON THE TRIP WED. MORNING AT THE INVITATION OF BOTH PARTIES.

-- ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS SCRUPLOUSLY AVOIDED CALLING HAIG'S MISSION A MEDIATION EFFORT, DESPITE CONTINUING SPECULATION HERE, IN LONDON AND IN BUENOS AIRES THAT U.S. IS TRYING TO PUT TOGETHER A COMPROMISE.

-- "I HAVE DIRECTED OUR SECRETARY OF STATE TO GO TO LONDON AND THEN TO BUENOS AIRES TO SEE IF HE CAN BRING ABOUT A PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF THIS DISPUTE," REAGAN TOLD REPORTERS IN JAMAICA.

-- DEEVER SAID, "I DON'T THINK WE (HAIG) WOULD HAVE GONE IF THERE WEREN'T SOME SIGNS OF HOPE."

-- HENDERSON, THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR, INDICATED THAT LONDON IS FIRM IN DEMANDING A COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL OF ARGENTINE FORCES AS THE CONDITION FOR ANY NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT.

-- TAKACS, HOWEVER, SEEMED MORE OPEN TO COMPROMISE AND MADE IT CLEAR THAT ARGENTINA IS ANXIOUS FOR AMERICAN INTER-CESSION TO AVOID WAR. REPORTS FROM ARGENTINA HAVE SUGGESTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF PRESIDENT LEOPOLDO F. GALTIERI BADLY MISCALCULATED THE BRITISH REACTION.

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 -- NOW, WITH A 35 TO 40 SHIP BRITISH FLEET STEAMING TOWARD THE SOUTH ATLANTIC, WITH ARGENTINA ON THE LOSING SIDE OF A U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL VOTE CALLING FOR ITS WITHDRAWAL AND WITH SOME LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES -- INCLUDING BRAZIL, MEXICO AND CHILE -- OPENLY CRITICAL OF ARGENTINA'S SUDDEN RESORT TO FORCE, IT APPEARED HERE THAT A DOOR MAY BE OPENING TO COMPROMISE.

-- ARGENTINA'S U.N. AMBASSADOR, EDUARDO ROCA, OPENED THAT DOOR A BIT WIDER WED., DURING AN INTERVIEW ON CBS MORNING NEWS BY SUGGESTING THAT ARGENTINA MIGHT CONSIDER WITHDRAWING FORCES FROM THE FALKLANDS AS PART OF AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT OF THE DISPUTE.

-- ROCA NOTED THAT THE U.N. RESOLUTION TOOK A THREE WAY APPROACH, CALLING FOR ARGENTINE WITHDRAWAL IN CONNECTION WITH A CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES AND A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF THE DISPUTE.

-- "WE THINK THE THREE PARTS COULD BE NEGOTIATED," ROCA SAID: "WE CAN TALK ABOUT THE THREE PARTS TOGETHER; IT'S NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO ARRIVE AT A SOLUTION."

-- A BRITISH EMBASSY SOURCE HERE WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT ROCA'S STATEMENT IS "ENCOURAGING" -- PROVIDED HE WAS SPEAKING "WITH THE AUTHORITY OF THE GOVERNMENT AS A WHOLE".

-- THE BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE SAID WED. IT "WARMLY WELCOMES" THE HAIG MISSION. BUT FRANCIS PYM SAID THE FLEET HEADING FOR THE FALKLANDS WILL REMAIN ON COURSE, EVEN THOUGH BRITAIN WILL "SPARE NO EFFORT" TO SOLVE THE CRISIS WITHOUT FORCE.

-- STATE DEPT. CONFIRMED A REPORT ORIGINATING WITH THE ARGENTINE EMBASSY HERE THAT JEANE KIRKPATRICK, ENDERS WERE GUESTS AT A GALA DINNER AT THE ARGENTINE EMBASSY RESIDENCE LAST FRIDAY.

-- KIRKPATRICK DID NOT REPRESENT THE U.S. AT THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON SATURDAY. HER DEPUTY, CHARLES LICHTENSTEIN, CAST THE U.S. VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE RESOLUTION CALLING FOR ARGENTINA'S WITHDRAWAL.

2. "SAYS 200-MILE ZONE GOES INTO EFFECT MONDAY"
 BY WILLIAM TUOHY

"BRITAIN ON WEDNESDAY DECLARED A 200-MILE "MARITIME EXCLUSION ZONE --" IN EFFECT A BLOCKADE -- AROUND THE DISPUTED FALKLAND ISLANDS, HEIGHTENING THE POTENTIAL FOR CONFLICT WITH ARGENTINA, WHICH SEIZED THE ISLANDS LAST WEEK.

-- DEF. SEC. JOHN NOTT TOLD PARLIAMENT THAT THE ZONE WILL BE IN EFFECT BEGINNING MONDAY AND THAT ANY ARGENTINE SHIP FOUND IN THE AREA FROM THAT POINT "WILL BE TREATED AS HOSTILE AND ARE LIABLE TO BE ATTACKED BY BRITISH FORCES."

-- "OUR FIRST NAVAL ACTION," NOTT SAID, "WILL BE INTENDED TO DENY THE ARGENTINE FORCES ON THE FALKLANDS THE MEANS TO REINFORCE AND RESUPPLY FROM THE MAINLAND."

-- THE BLOCKADE WILL GO INTO EFFECT AT 4 A.M. MONDAY LONDON TIME. AIMED ONLY AT "ARGENTINE WARSHIPS AND ARGENTINE NAVAL AUXILIARIES," HE SAID. "WE ARE EARNEST AND NO ONE SHOULD DOUBT OUR RESOLVE."

-- BUILDUP OF ARGENTINE FORCES THERE IS CONTINUING, AND REPORTS FROM BUENOS AIRES ON WEDNESDAY SAID THE TOTAL IS EXPECTED TO REACH 10,000. IT IS NOT KNOWN HOW MANY TROOPS WILL BE ABOARD THE BRITISH TASK FORCE VESSELS WHEN THEY REACH THE SOUTH ATLANTIC.

NOTT'S ANNOUNCEMENT STUNNED MOST MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

-- "WE HAVE NO WISH TO SHED BLOOD," NOTT SAID IN HIS SPEECH. "BUT WE WILL NOT AGREE IN AN ACT OF AGGRESSION. MAKE NO MISTAKE. THESE PEOPLE ARE BRITISH, AND WE MEAN TO DEFEND THEM."

-- IN WASHINGTON, THE STATE DEPT. SAID THAT IN VIEW OF HAIG'S PLANNED TRIP, THERE WILL BE NO OFFICIAL U.S. COMMENT ON THE BRITISH ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE BLOCKADE ZONE.

IN RELATED DEVELOPMENTS:

-- FRANCE AND BELGIUM BANNED ARMS SALES TO ARGENTINA, ANSWERING THE BRITISH CALL FOR MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY TO TAKE SANCTIONS AGAINST THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT. THEY JOINED THE COMMITMENT MADE EARLIER BY THE NETHERLANDS AND WEST GERMANY, WHICH HAD BEEN BUILDING FOUR FRIGATES AND A SUBMARINE FOR THE ARGENTINE NAVY.

-- GEN. MARIO BENJAMIN ME'ENDEZ WAS SWORN IN AS ARGENTINE GOVERNOR OF THE FALKLANDS IN STANLEY, THE CAPITAL, WHILE PRES. LEOPOLDO F. GALTIERI MET WITH HIS CABINET IN BUENOS AIRES TO DISCUSS THE THREAT OF WAR.

INTERIOR MINISTER ALFREDO SAINT JEAN DECLARED THAT HIS COUNTRY WILL DEFEND THE ISLANDS, "TO THE LAST ARGENTINE SOLDIER."

-- BRITISH AMEASSADOR ANTHONY WILLIAMS LEFT BUENOS AIRES. STARTING WHAT IS EXPECTED TO BE AN EXCDUS OF THE 17,000 BRITISH NATIONALS IN ARGENTINA, WHO HAVE BEEN ADVISED TO LEAVE ARGENTINA BY THEIR GOVERNMENT.

-- A SMALL BOMB DAMAGED THE HOME OF THE BRITISH NAVAL ATTACHE IN BUENOS AIRES BUT CAUSED NO INJURIES.

-- THE OAS SCHEDULED A SPECIAL SESSION IN WASHINGTON TODAY TO DISCUSS THE CRISIS, WHILE INFORMAL TALKS CONTINUED WEDNESDAY AMONG DIPLOMATS AT THE U.N. IN MEXICO CITY, MEANWHILE, THE FOREIGN MINISTRY EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR ARGENTINA'S CLAIM TO SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE ISLANDS BUT SAID THE BUENOS AIRES GOVERNMENT SHOULD WITHDRAW ITS FORCES FROM THE DISPUTED TERRITORY, WHICH INCLUDES THE FALKLAND ISLANDS, SCUTH GECRGIA ISLAND AND THE SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS.

-- THE SOVIET UNION, WHICH HAS TERMED THE CONFLICT A NATURAL RESULT OF BRITISH COLONIALISM, ADVOCATES A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE CONFLICT WEDNESDAY. THUS APPARENTLY TRYING TO END SPECULATION THAT IT IS SIDING WITH ARGENTINA. ASSOCIATED PRESS QUOTED AN OFFICIAL SOVIET SOURCE AS CALLING A LIE" REPORTS BY THE ARGENTINE NEWS AGENCY TELAM THAT SOVIET SUBMARINES WERE EN ROUTE TO THE FALKLANDS.

-- PYM SAID THAT WHILE BRITAIN WILL DO "ALL IN OUR POWER" TO SEEK A PEACEFUL SOLUTION, IF THOSE EFFORTS FAIL "THE ARGENTINE REGIME SHOULD KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT."

-- BRITAIN "DOES NOT APPEASE DICTATORS," HE DECLARED.

-- MILITARY ANALYSTS HERE SUGGESTED THAT THE BLOCKADE WARNING WAS ONE WAY TO KEEP THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT FROM BUILDING UP ITS FORCES ON THE FALKLANDS.

-- THERE WERE CONTINUING RUMORS IN BRITISH POLITICAL CIRCLES THAT A POSSIBLE SOLUTION TO THE CRISIS MIGHT LIE IN BRITAIN'S CEDING SOVEREIGNTY OF THE FALKLANDS TO ARGENTINA WHILE RETAINING ADMINISTRATION OVER THE 1,800 ISLANDERS.

-- HOWEVER, THE CHANCES ARE STILL "VERY HIGH" THAT HOSTILITIES WILL DEVELOP, SOURCES CLOSE TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE SAID.

-- AND AS FOR THE ARGENTINE BUILDUP ON THE ISLANDS, ONE SOURCE DECLARED. "THE MORE TROOPS ON THE ISLANDS, THE MORE THERE ARE TO STARVE AND THE FASTER THEY WILL STARVE."

3. "REAGAN MEETS JAMAICAN PREMIER SEAGA"
SUBHEADLINE: "BEGINS CARIBBEAN TRIP TO PROMOTE POLICIES,
VISIT CLAUDETTE COLBERT"
BY GEORGE SKELTON, KINGSTON, JAMAICA

PRESIDENT REAGAN MET WITH JAMAICAN PRIME MINISTER EDWARD SEAGA ON WED, BEGINNING A 5 DAY CARIBBEAN TRIP TO PROMOTE HIS HEMISPHERIC POLICIES AND VISIT A LONGTIME FRIEND, ACTRESS CLAUDETTE COLBERT.

-- REAGAN IS THE FIRST U.S. PRESIDENT EVER TO VISIT EITHER JAMAICA OR BARBADOS.

-- REAGAN WAS GENTLY CRITICIZED BY JAMAICAN OPPOSITION LEADERS AND EVEN BY SEAGA HIMSELF FOR NOT STAYING LONGER THAN ONE NIGHT AND MAKING THIS AN OFFICIAL STATE VISIT. SOME OPPOSITION LEADERS ALSO COMPLAINED THAT THEY WERE NOT INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE VARIOUS MEETINGS AND A BLACK-TIE DINNER ATTENDED BY JAMAICAN GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS LEADERS.

SEAGA SAID HE REGRETTED THAT THE PRESIDENT COULD NOT STAY LONGER TO SEE FIRSTHAND "THE RESTORATION OF SPIRIT AND A REVIVAL OF HOPE" IN JAMAICA.

SEAGA THANKED REAGAN FOR HIS ADMINISTRATION'S DECISION LAST YEAR TO BUY 1.6 MILLION TONS OF JAMAICAN BAUXITE. HE SAID IT SAVED THE MINING INDUSTRY AND ITS WORKERS FROM A CRISIS THREATENED BY PLANNED PRODUCTION CUTBACKS.

-- REAGAN CALLED JAMAICA "AN INSPIRATION TO ALL OF US WHO BELIEVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND FREEDOM ARE COMPATIBLE AND IN PRACTICE ARE MUTUALLY REINFORCING."

4. "REAGAN TO NAME MORE POLITICAL AMBASSADORS"
SUBHEADLINE: "AIDE REBUFFS CRITICISM IN FOREIGN SERVICE,
SAYS NON-CAREER ENVOYS HAVE ACCESS TO TOP LEADERS"
BY JACK NELSON

REBUFFING CRITICISM FROM CAREER FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS AS "SELF-PROMOTION," WHITE HOUSE PERSONNEL DIRECTOR E. PENDLETON JAMES SAID WEDNESDAY THAT THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION SEEKS TO NAME MORE - NOT FEWER - POLITICAL APPOINTEES AS U.S. AMBASSADORS INSTEAD OF PROFESSIONAL DIPLOMATS.

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"THE QUESTION IS NOT WHETHER WE HAVE TOO MANY POLITICAL APPOINTEES," JAMES SAID. "WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH. I FIGHT IN EVERY CASE FOR A POLITICAL APPOINTEE INSTEAD OF A CAREER OFFICER IF THE POLITICAL APPOINTEE IS QUALIFIED."

JAMES ARGUED THAT POLITICAL APPOINTEES GENERALLY ARE BETTER AMBASSADORS BECAUSE HAVE ACCESS TO THE PRESIDENT AND THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICIALS. "ACCESS IS EVERYTHING," JAMES SAID, "AND CAREER OFFICERS DON'T HAVE IT."

-- JAMES REMARKS REFLECTED THE STRONGEST EFFORT OF ANY RECENT PRESIDENT TO POLITICIZE THE FOREIGN SERVICE. HE CALLED IT PART OF A CONCERTED EFFORT TO STAMP REAGAN'S PHILOSOPHY ON THE GOVERNMENT AND TO REMOVE FROM KEY POSTS ALL DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS WHO DO NOT SHARE THE PRESIDENT'S PHILOSOPHY.

-- IN THE INTERVIEW JAMES WAS SHARPLY CRITICAL OF THE CAREER FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS.

-- "THEY REPRESENT THEIR OWN CONSTITUENCY AND HIERARCHY THEIR FELLOW CIVIL SERVICE OFFICERS," HE SAID. "THEY RISE THROUGH THE FEDERAL CIVIL SERVICE SYSTEM, GOING ALONG, NOT ROCKING THE BOAT WITHIN THE STATE DEPT."

-- JAMES SAID HE BELIEVES MOST CAREER FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS ARE DEMOCRATS SINCE THE DEMOCRATS HAVE CONTROLLED THE WHITE HOUSE FOR THE LAST 12 OF THE LAST 20 YEARS.

-- "THIS PRESIDENT HAS DONE MORE TO CONTROL THE APPOINTMENTS PROCESS THAN ANY OTHER PRESIDENT," SAID JAMES.

-- "NIXON GAVE AWAY THE PROCESS TO THE CABINET SECRETARIES IN THE FIRST YEAR AND TRIED TO REGAIN IT IN THE SECOND YEAR AND NEVER DID; ONCE YOU LOSE IT, IT IS HARD TO GET IT BACK. FORD NEVER HAD IT AND CARTER GAVE IT AWAY AND NEVER GOT IT BACK."

IN CRITICIZING CAREER DIPLOMATS, JAMES SAID THAT CAREER OFFICERS "ARE JUST PERPETUATING THEIR OWN MYTH OF THEIR SUPREME CAPABILITIES, FOSTERING THEIR OWN PROMOTIONAL LADDER," WHEN THEY URGED THAT MORE CAREER OFFICERS AND FEWER POLITICAL APPOINTEES BE NAMED TO AMBASSADORIAL POSTS.

-- EMBASSY STAFFS, JAMES CONTINUED, "ARE LOADED WITH CAREER OFFICERS TO CARRY OUT THE MINUTIAE, THE DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS THAT THE AMBASSADORS DON'T BOTHER WITH."

-- JAMES SAID THE VALUE IN HAVING A POLITICAL APPOINTEE AS AN AMBASSADOR IS THAT HE CAN QUICKLY COMMUNICATE WITH THE PRESIDENT BY GOING DIRECTLY TO HAIG OR TOP WHITE HOUSE OFFICIALS.

-- "A CAREER OFFICER WON'T CALL AL HAIG, HE'LL GO THROUGH THE ESTABLISHED HIERARCHY AND HIS MESSAGE WILL BE FILTERED DOWN BEFORE IT WILL GET TO THE PRESIDENT."

-- JAMES WAS PARTICULARLY IRKED BY RECENT STATEMENTS BY

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MALCOLM TOON. TOON SINGLED OUT FOUR OF REAGAN'S APPOINTEES FOR PARTICULAR CRITICISM.

ONE OF THEM BEING -- THE AMBASSADOR TO ITALY, MAXWELL RABB, A NEW YORK BANKER "WHO SPEAKS NO ITALIAN IN A COUNTRY WHERE THE AMBASSADOR MUST SPEAK THE LANGUAGE TO HAVE AN IMPACT."

-- ALTHOUGH IT WOULD BE PREFERRABLE FOR THE AMBASSADOR TO ITALY TO SPEAK ITALIAN, JAMES SAID, "IT IS NOT ESSENTIAL." ALTHOUGH ITALIAN-AMERICANS "CAME OUT OF THE WALLS CRITICIZING US FOR APPOINTING A JEW AS AMBASSADOR," HE SAID. "RABB'S WIFE IS A CATHOLIC AND THAT HELPS."

RABB--CONSIDERING THAT HIS SUCCESSOR, CARTER POLITICAL APPOINTEE, RICHARD N. GARDNER, SPOKE FLUENT ITALIAN. TRAVELED WIDELY AND CULTIVATED CONTACTS, RAB,'S IMPACT IN ROME AND THUS HIS PERSONAL POWER TO INFLUENCE PEOPLE AND EVENTS HAS BEEN MINIMAL. NOT ONLY IS HE AN AMATEUR WHO DOES NOT SPEAK THE LANGUAGE, HE LACKS DEPTH IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

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