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PARIS 12489

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OO RUEHLD

DE RUFHFR #2489 0981528

ZNR UUUUU ZZH

C 081528Z APR 82

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3406

INFO RUFHPFA/NATC COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE

RUESBA/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE 1668

RUSNNOA/USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE PRIORITY

RUCBSAA/CINCLANT NORFOLK VA PRIORITY

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

RUDORRA/USNMR SHAPE BE PRIORITY

BT

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IMMEDIATE

08 APR 82

TOR: 1601

CN: 37705

CHRG: STA

POL S/S(5)

33/FEM

E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: MARR, MASS, PCAT, AR, FR

SUBJECT: FRANCE CUTS OFF DELIVERIES OF ARMS TO ARGENTINA

Folk

1. FOLLOWING THE WEEKLY CABINET MEETING WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, PIERRE BEREGOVY, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE ELYSEE PALACE, ANNOUNCED THAT THE GOF HAD DECIDED TO IMPOSE AN EMBARGO ON DELIVERIES OF ARMS, AMMUNITION AND MILITARY SPARE PARTS TO ARGENTINA. IN PARTICULAR, THE EMBARGO WAS TO BE APPLIED TO CURRENT CONTRACTS FOR AIRCRAFT AND ANTI-AIRCRAFT MISSILES. (COMMENT: THIS WILL HALT DELIVERY OF THE FOURTEEN SUPER ETENDARD AIRCRAFT DESIGNED FOR USE ON AIRCRAFT CARRIERS WHICH HAD BEEN ORDERED BY THE ARGENTINE NAVY IN 1979. END COMMENT.) BEREGOVY ALSO USED THE OCCASION TO FORMALLY DENY RUMORS THAT ARGENTINA HAD SIGNED A CONTRACT WITH A FRENCH FIRM TO PRODUCE ONE THOUSAND ARMORED VEHICLES UNDER LICENSE STARTING IN 1984. BEREGOVY DID ADMIT, HOWEVER, THAT NEGOTIATIONS IN THIS AREA, WHICH HAD BEEN GOING ON SINCE 1979, HAD BEEN SUSPENDED.

2. BEREGOVY PLACED THE ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF A DECLARATION OF THE "SOLIDARITY" OF FRANCE FOR THE UK AND A REAFFIRMATION BY THE GOF OF ITS "HOSTILITY TO ALL FORMS OF AGGRESSION AND ITS DESIRE TO PROMOTE RESPECT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD FOR INTERNATIONAL DECISIONS." IN THIS REGARD, THE FRENCH CABINET HAD EXPRESSED ITS CONVICTION THAT IT "WAS NECESSARY TO APPLY SCRUPULOUSLY THE DECISION OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL CALLING FOR THE CESSATION OF ALL HOSTILITIES, WITHDRAWAL OF ARGENTINE FORCES FROM THE FALKLANDS, AND A DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION OF THE DISPUTE." GALBRAITH

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