1/4/12
This paticles, READIN Conder on 1/12/12

ALDEST AND ABOULON Efforts +

Falled
blame theoryptus forth officiare.

No Agreement Reported

Officials See Slim Prospects or Solution Built on Ideas Haig Takes to London

By: Edward Schumacher, New York Times

Buenos Aires, April 11. Argentine officials and foreign diplomats said today that they were not optimistic about the prospects for a settlement between Britain and Argentina over the Falkland Islands based on the package of ideas Secretary of State, Alexander M. Haig, Jr., was carrying to London.

The Secretary left for London this morning after long meetings with Argentine officials.

The package of ideas Mr. Haig took to London, the Argentine officials and foreign diplomats said, includes a simultaneous callback of the British Navy and a withdrawal of Argentine forces from the Islands, but only after Britain recognizes Argentine sovereignty.

Britain has entertained the proposal in the past of giving Argentina sovereignty while allowing Britain to administer the Islands, as Britain does in the Chinese territory of Hong Kong. But the Argentine package rules out British administration.

Limited Local Autonomy

It would only allow for some form of limited local autonomy such as letting the Islanders share in local government despite the British citizenship of most of them.

Mr. Haig flew to London as the deadline approached for a British blockade of the Falkland Islands.

The blockade, declared agains Argentine shipping within 200 miles of the Islands, was scheduled to go into effect at 11:00 p.m. New York time. Immediate hostilities were considered unlikely because Argentina was not expected to challenge the blockade. Most of the Argentine navy is in port, under the defense of Argentina's air cover, Argentine military sources said.

Meanwhile, Jean J. Kirkpatrick, Chief American delegate to the United Nations, said there was a "reasonable likelihood" of a diplomatic solution to the dispute.

The Argentine military sources said several small warships were patrolling the continental coast outside the blockaded
zone area. They confirmed reports that four British submarines
-- three nuclear powered and one conventional powered -- have
moved into the area around the Islands. Argentina has placed
mines around the Islands, including at the harbor entrance
to Stanley, the capital, where several small Argentine navy
ships are moored, the sources said.

The mood in Buenos Aires was one of quiet expectation on an Easter Sunday, a contrast to the frenzy of Saturday's huge public rally supporting Argentina's claim to the Islands.

Few Argentines encountered here in the last week believe there will actually be a war, especially now that the United States has stepped in to negotiate.

"There is a stoic agony in thousands of the nation's families," President Leopoldo F. Galtieri said in an Easter message today, "because many men of our Argentina are on guard with their arms in territories that from now on we will not be claiming in vain."

Argentina has more than 6,000 troops dug in on the Island, 250 miles off its coast, and plans to build the force to between 9,000 and 10,000 in the next several days, the sources said.

The reinforcements and equipment, such as artillery and armored personnel carriers, are being ferried by American-made C-130 cargo planes and requisitioned civilian planes.

The air movement will be unaffected by the naval blockade, the sources said.

Argentina seized the Islands, a British colony, nine days ago. In addition to the declared blockade by submarines, Britain is also sending a naval armada which is scheduled to arrive here in about a week.

The Argentine military strategy is not to challenge the superior British navy, military sources said, but rather to try to control the air, taking advantage of its land airfield.

A British built airfield on the Falklands has been hardened and extended in the past week, and a squadron of French-made Mirage jets has been placed there.

Argentina has long laid territorial claims to the Islands. Mr. Haig, who began his diplomacy in London Thursday, met for almost 12 hours here Saturday with Argentine officials, including a session with President Galtieri that ended at almost 1:15 a.m. local time.

The State Department spokesman, Dean Fischer, said in a briefing here early this morning that the talks were "meaningful and open" and that Mr. Haig was carrying to London "specific ideas for further discussion."

Foreign Minister Micamor Costa Mendez of Argentina said later that the ideas "at best could serve as the basis for an agreement." But he added, "The conditions still do not exist for an agreement."

He said the talks with Mr. Haig failed to reach any conclusion. He said, nonetheless, that Argentina was postponing "for the moment" the meeting of the Organization of American States that it had planned to convoke Monday in Washington.

It is unclear if Britain could accept only those concessions that Secretary Haig is carrying to London, given the strong stamp of the administration of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to recover the Islands.

At the same time, The Galtiere regime -- which, like Mrs. Thatchers's government, has been politically weak at home -- is also under pressure from the Argentine public to keep the Falklands. It has already installed a government there. According to the sources, part of the pessimism over the package is that it is filled with "ideas" and not hard proposals, partly because the Argentine government is not unified on the point.

Though General Galtieri is President and Commander of the Army, ultimate power lies with the military junta on which he sits with the Commanders of the Navy and the Air Force.

The two other members, Admiral Jorge Isaac Anaya and the Air Force General Basilio Lami Dozo, joined in the meetings with Mr. Haig for a short time Saturday night. General Galtieri is clearly the most powerful member of the junta, but the other two hold at least a little power or can delay any solution. Moreover, they generally act within a consensus of the snior officer corps, which demands its say in major decisions.

One sticking point in the immediate objective of Mr. Haig's mission to avert a war is that the British demand Argentine troop withdrawal before even beginning to negotiate the status of the Islands. That would doom a package approach

of negotiating withdrawal and final status at the same time. The Argentines failed to resolve this, the sources said.

Among the ideas considered in the meetings with Mr. Haig was bringing in a third country to help administer the Islands during the negotiations.

Folles MK

ARGENTINES TAKING A PESSIMISTIC VIEW ON FALKLAND CRISIS

No Agreement Reported

Officials See Slim Prospects or Solution Built on Ideas Haig Takes to London

By: Edward Schumacher, New York Times

Buenos Aires, April 11. Argentine officials and foreign diplomats said today that they were not optimistic about the prospects for a settlement between Britain and Argentina over the Falkland Islands based on the package of ideas Secretary of State, Alexander M. Haig, Jr., was carrying to London.

The Secretary left for London this morning after long meetings with Argentine officials.

The package of ideas Mr. Haig took to London, the Argentine officials and foreign diplomats said, includes a simultaneous callback of the British Navy and a withdrawal of Argentine forces from the Islands, but only after Britain recognizes Argentine sovereignty.

Britain has entertained the proposal in the past of giving Argentina sovereignty while allowing Britain to administer the Islands, as Britain does in the Chinese territory of Hong Kong. But the Argentine package rules out British administration.

Limited Local Autonomy

It would only allow for some form of limited local autonomy such as letting the Islanders share in local government despite the British citizenship of most of them.

Mr. Haig flew to London as the deadline approached for a British blockade of the Falkland Islands.

The blockade, declared agains Argentine shipping within 200 miles of the Islands, was scheduled to go into effect at 11:00 p.m. New York time. Immediate hostilities were considered unlikely because Argentina was not expected to challenge the blockade. Most of the Argentine navy is in port, under the defense of Argentina's air cover, Argentine military sources said.

Meanwhile, Jean J. Kirkpatrick, Chief American delegate to the United Nations, said there was a "reasonable likelihood" of a diplomatic solution to the dispute.

The Argentine military sources said several small warships were patrolling the continental coast outside the blockaded
zone area. They confirmed reports that four British submarines
-- three nuclear powered and one conventional powered -- have
moved into the area around the Islands. Argentina has placed
mines around the Islands, including at the harbor entrance
to Stanley, the capital, where several small Argentine navy
ships are moored, the sources said.

The mood in Buenos Aires was one of quiet expectation on an Easter Sunday, a contrast to the frenzy of Saturday's huge public rally supporting Argentina's claim to the Islands.

to try by opintrol the six, try control of the six

Few Argentines encountered here in the last week believe there will actually be a war, especially now that the United States has stepped in to negotiate.

"There is a stoic agony in thousands of the nation's families," President Leopoldo F. Galtieri said in an Easter message today, "because many men of our Argentina are on guard with their arms in territories that from now on we will not be claiming in vain."

Argentina has more than 6,000 troops dug in on the Island, 250 miles off its coast, and plans to build the force to between 9,000 and 10,000 in the next several days, the sources said.

The reinforcements and equipment, such as artillery and armored personnel carriers, are being ferried by American-made C-130 cargo planes and requisitioned civilian planes.

The air movement will be unaffected by the naval blockade, the sources said.

Argentina seized the Islands, a British colony, nine days ago. In addition to the declared blockade by submarines, Britain is also sending a naval armada which is scheduled to arrive here in about a week.

The Argentine military strategy is not to challenge the superior British navy, military sources said, but rather to try to control the air, taking advantage of its land airfield.

A British built airfield on the Falklands has been hardened and extended in the past week, and a squadron of French-made Mirage jets has been placed there.

Argentina has long laid territorial claims to the Islands. Mr. Haig, who began his diplomacy in London Thursday, met for almost 12 hours here Saturday with Argentine officials, including a session with President Galtieri that ended at almost 1:15 a.m. local time.

The State Department spokesman, Dean Fischer, said in a briefing here early this morning that the talks were "meaningful and open" and that Mr. Haig was carrying to London "specific ideas for further discussion."

Foreign Minister Micamor Costa Mendez of Argentina said later that the ideas "at best could serve as the basis for an agreement." But he added, "The conditions still do not exist for an agreement."

He said the talks with Mr. Haig failed to reach any conclusion. He said, nonetheless, that Argentina was postponing "for the moment" the meeting of the Organization of American States that it had planned to convoke Monday in Washington.

It is unclear if Britain could accept only those concessions that Secretary Haig is carrying to London, given the strong stamp of the administration of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to recover the Islands.

At the same time, The Galtiere regime -- which, like Mrs. Thatchers's government, has been politically weak at home -- is also under pressure from the Argentine public to keep the Falklands. It has already installed a government there. According to the sources, part of the pessimism over the package is that it is filled with "ideas" and not hard proposals, partly because the Argentine government is not unified on the point.

Though General Galtieri is President and Commander of the Army, ultimate power lies with the military junta on which he sits with the Commanders of the Navy and the Air Force.

The two other members, Admiral Jorge Isaac Anaya and the Air Force General Basilio Lami Dozo, joined in the meetings with Mr. Haig for a short time Saturday night. General Galtieri is clearly the most powerful member of the junta, but the other two hold at least a little power or can delay any solution. Moreover, they generally act within a consensus of the snior officer corps, which demands its say in major decisions.

One sticking point in the immediate objective of
Mr. Haig's mission to avert a war is that the British demand
Argentine troop withdrawal before even beginning to negotiate
the status of the Islands. That would doom a package approach

A British built airfield on the Falklands has been hardened and extended in the past week, and a squadron of French-made Mirage jets has been placed there.

Argentina has long laid territorial claims to the Islands. Mr. Haig, who began his diplomacy in London Thursday, met for almost 12 hours here Saturday with Argentine officials, including a session with President Galtieri that ended at almost 1:15 a.m. local time.

The State Department spokesman, Dean Fischer, said in a briefing here early this morning that the talks were "meaningful and open" and that Mr. Haig was carrying to London "specific ideas for further discussion."

Foreign Minister Micamor Costa Mendez of Argentina said later that the ideas "at best could serve as the basis for an agreement." But he added, "The conditions still do not exist for an agreement."

He said the talks with Mr. Haig failed to reach any conclusion. He said, nonetheless, that Argentina was postponing "for the moment" the meeting of the Organization of American States that it had planned to convoke Monday in Washington.

It is unclear if Britain could accept only those concessions that Secretary Haig is carrying to London, given the strong stamp of the administration of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to recover the Islands.

At the same time, The Galtiere regime -- which, like Mrs. Thatchers's government, has been politically weak at home -- is also under pressure from the Argentine public to keep the Falklands. It has already installed a government there. According to the sources, part of the pessimism over the package is that it is filled with "ideas" and not hard proposals, partly because the Argentine government is not unified on the point.

Though General Galtieri is President and Commander of the Army, ultimate power lies with the military junta on which he sits with the Commanders of the Navy and the Air Force.

The two other members, Admiral Jorge Isaac Anaya and the Air Force General Basilio Lami Dozo, joined in the meetings with Mr. Haig for a short time Saturday night. General Galtieri is clearly the most powerful member of the junta, but the other two hold at least a little power or can delay any solution. Moreover, they generally act within a consensus of the snior officer corps, which demands its say in major decisions.

One sticking point in the immediate objective of
Mr. Haig's mission to avert a war is that the British demand
Argentine troop withdrawal before even beginning to negotiate
the status of the Islands. That would doom a package approach

of negotiating withdrawal and final status at the same time. The Argentines failed to resolve this, the sources said.

Among the ideas considered in the meetings with Mr.

Haig was bringing in a third country to help administer the

Islands during the negotiations.

3. "MRS. KIRKPATRICK SAYS FALKLANDS ACCORD IS LIKELY BY BERNARD GWERTZMAN, NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, APRIL 11--THE CHIEF AMERICAN DELEGATE TO THE UN SAID TODAY THAT THERE WAS "A REASONABLE L, KELIHOOD" THAT HAIG'S MISSICN TO BRITAIN AND ARGENTINA COULD ACHIEVE A DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION AND AVOID A CLASH OVER THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.

KIRKPATRICK SAID "I'M HOPEFUL, VERY HOPEFUL, AND I THINK I AM REASONABLY OPTIMISTIC."

LARRY SPEAKES TOLD REPORTERS ABOARD THE PRESIDENT'S PLANE THAT HAIG'S DISCUSSIONS IN ARGENTINA WERE "MEANINGFUL" AND THAT THIS WAS SHY THE SECRETARY WAS RETURNING TO BRITAIN TODAY.

MRS. KIRKPATRICK SAID IN A TELEPHONE INTERVIEW THAT THERE DID NOT SEEM TO BE ANY QUICK SOLUTION TO THE LONGSTANDING DISPUTE BETWEEN BRITAIN AND ARGENTINA.

IN AN EARLIER TELEVISION INTERVIEW ON THE CBS NEWS PROGRAM "FACE THE NATION," KIRKPATRICK SAID: "THE POSIBILITY OF AVOIDING BLOODSHED SEEMS TO ME TO EXIST. AND WE ARE WORKING ON IT. AND THE STAKES ARE VERY HIGH OF COURSE, FOR EVERYONE.

,WE THINK THAT THERE IS A REASONABLE LIKELIHOOD THAT A LAST-MINUTE SORT OF RESOLUTION MAY BE FOUND TO THE CRISIS WHICH WILL, AT LEAST, AVOID WAR OR BLOCDSHED BETWEEN THE PARTIES, SHE SAID.

IN THE TELEPHONE INTERVIEL, KIRKPATRICK REPEATED HER EXPRESSION OF OPTIMISM BUT SAID, ; I WAS SPEAKING FOR MY-SELF."

"A LOT OF PROBLEMS ARE INSOLUBLE," SHE SAID. "THIS DOES NOT SEEM TO BE THAT KIND OF A PROBLEM."

SHE ADDED THAT SHE WAS UP TO DATE ON THE LATEST LEVELOPMENTS IN HAIG'S MISSION BUT THAT HER OPTIMISTIC STATEMENTS WERE NOT PART OF AN AGREED-UPON ADMINISTRATION POSITION.

KIRKPATRICK, IN THE TELEVISION INTERVIEW, DEFENDED THE ADMINISTRATION DECISION TO ALLOW HER AND STOESSEL TO ATTEND A DINNER AT THE ARGENTINE EMBASSY ON APRIL 2, THE DAY ARGENTINE TROOPS SEIZED THE FALKLANDS.

SHE SAID THAT SINCE THE QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE ISLANDS HAD NEVER BEEN SETTLED, "IT ISN'T AS THOUGH THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT HAD ATTACKED THE BRITISH EMBASSY IN EUENOS AIRES AND SEIZED THE INHABITANTS AS PRISONERS."

THE US HAS MADE ITS OPPOSITION TO THE USE OF FORCE CLEAR AT THE UN, SHE SAID, BUT ALSO WANTED "TO RETAIN OUR HISTORIC US POSITION THAT WE ARE NOT TAKING SIDES ON THIS

Jestil. Market

UNCLASSIFIED

QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY ON THESE ISLANDS."

MRS. KIRKPATRICK FLABORATED: "THE US GOVERNMENT HAS NEVER TAKEN A POSITION ON THAT DISPUTED TERRITORY. ON THE OWNERSHIP OF THAT DISPUTED TERRITORY. AGAIN AND AGAIN, WE HAVE DECLINED TO TAKE A POSITION ON THAT. WE DECLINED IN 1831 AND IN 1878 AND IN 1948 AND IN 1930. WE HAVE ALWAYS DECLINED. WE DECLINED TO TAKE A POSITION ON ALMOST ALL THE TERRITORIAL DISPUTES IN LATIN AMERICA. SHE ALSO DESCRIBED THE "FUNDAMENTAL RELATIONSHIP" EETWEEN THE US AND BRITAIN AS, "I SUPPOSE, THE CLOSEST RELATIONSHIP WE HAVE WITH ANY NATION IN THE WORLD.

4. "HAIG CARRIES PLAN FROM ARGENTINA ON THE FALKLANDS' MEETING WITH THATCHER SET FOR TODAY IN LONDON; SOVEREIGNTY IS ISSUE" BY EVERETT G. MARTIN, WALL STREET JOURNAL.

BUENOS AIRES--HAIG CARRIED PROPOSALS FROM ARGENTINA TO BRITAIN FOR TACKLING THE FALKLANDS CRISIS, JUST AS THE UK WAS PREPARING TO CLAMP A NAVAL BLOCKADE AROUND THE ERITISH SOUTH ATLANTIC COLONY.

OFFICIALS WITH MR. HAIG'S PARTY WERE TIGHT-LIPPED ABOUT THE PROPOSALS FROM GALTIERI. BUT ARGENTINE OFFICIALS INDICATED TO BUENCS AIRES NEWSPAPERS THAT THEY WERE SEEKING A FORMULA THAT RECOGNIZED ARGENTINE SOVEREIGNTY CVER THE ISLANDS IN RETURN FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE INVASION FORCE. SCME DIPLOMATIC SOURCES IN LONDON SAID HAIG WAS CARRYING MORE THAN ONE ARGENTINE PROPOSAL.

LARRY SPEAKES DESCRIBED HAIG'S DISCUSSION -N ARGENTINA AS "MEANINGFUL. SPEAKING TO REPORTERS EN ROUTE TO WASHINGTON FROM BARBADOS, WHERE PRESIDENT REAGAN WAS VACATIONING, MR. SPEAKES SAID THAT "VERY DETAILED CABLE INSTRUCTIONS HAVE GONE BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND HAIG." HE WOULDN'T SAY, THOUGH, WHETHER THE US IS ITSELF PUSHING PROPOSAL FOR ENDING THE CONFRONTATION.

THE PROSPECT OF A BATTLE EASED SOMEWHAT WHEN UK DEFENSE MINISTRY OFFICIALS IN LONDON ANNOUNCED THAT THEY DIDN'T ANTICIPATE ANY IMMEDIATE MILITARY CONFLICT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. THE OFFICIALS SAID THAT THEY BELIEVED THAT ALL ARGENTINE WARSHIPS WOULD BE WITHDRAWN FROM THE 200-MILE. EXCLUSION ZONE AROUND THE FALKLANDS THAT BRITAIN DECLARED EFFECTIVE 11 P.M. EST YESTERDAY. BY EARLIER YESTERDAY, ACCORDING TO THE ØRITISH OFFICIALS ARGENTINA HAD WITHDRAWN ALL VESSELS BUT ONE DESTROYER AND A FRIGATE.

5. BRITISH BEGIN BLOCKADE: ARGENTINES SHOW NO NAVAL ACTIVITY AROUND FALKLANDS, BALTIMORE SUN.

EUENOS AIRES (AP) - A BRITISH WAR ZONE TOCK EFFECT AROUND THE FALKLAND ISLANDS EARLY TODAY AS HAIG, FLEW TO LONDON WITH ARGENTINA'S PEACE PLAN.

COSTA MENDEZ SAID HAIG WAS CARRYING "A VERY INTERESTING ARGENTINE PROPOSAL" TO DISCUSS WITH BRITISH LEADERS.

HAIG SAID HIS 12 HOURS OF TALKS WITH ARGENTINE LEADERS SATURDAY PRODUCED NO ARGEEMENT.

COSTA MENDEZ, DECLINED TO ELABORATE ON THE ARGENTINE FROPOSAL, EUT SAID "IT IS NOT IMPROBABLE" THAT HAIG WOULD RETURN TO EUENOS AIRES. "IT DEPENDS ON HOW HE DOES IN LONDON."

THE SOURCES SAID ARGENTINE LEADERS ALSO TOLD HAIG ARGENTINA WOULD BE WILLING TO DISCUSS BRITISH FARTICIPATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ISLANDS' NATURAL RESOURCES. THE ISLANDS, WHICH LIE ON THE EDGE OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF, ARE BELIEVED TO CONTAIN VALUABLE OIL AND GAS RESERVES.

"WE ARE READY TO FIGHT, ALTHOUGH WE WOULD PREFER A PEACEFUL SCLUTION," SAID A HIGH-RANKING ARGENTINE ARMY OFFICER WHO ASKED NOT TO BE IDENTIFIED. "IT ALL DEPENDS ON THE BRITISH NOW."

O. POPE ASKS ACCORD ON FALKLAND ISSUE: EASTER MESSAGE URGES BRITAIN AND ARGENTINA TO RESOLVE THE DISPUTE PEACEFULLY. BY HENRY KAMM, NEW YORK TIMES.

ROME, APRIL 11 - POPE JOHN PAUL II TODAY USED HIS TRADITIONAL EASTER GREETING, TO THE CITY AND THE WORLD, TO IMPLORE BRITAIN AND ARGENTINA TO SETTLE THEIR CONFLICT OVER THE FALKLAND ISLANDS WITHOUT BLOODSHED.

"I EXPRESS THE FERVENT HOPE AND THE PARTICULARLY PRESSING APPEAL TO THE PARTIES INVOLVED TO DILIGENTLY SEEK WITH RESPONSIBLE COMMITMENT AND WITH ALL GCCD WILL, WAYS OF A PEACEFUL AND HONORABLE SETTLEMENT OF THE DISPUTE WHILE THERE IS STILL TIME TO PREVENT A STRUGGLE INVOLVING PLOODSHED," THE POPE SAID.

2000

HE WORDED HIS FALKLANDS APPEAL TO PRECLUDE ANY SUGGESTION OF TAKING SIDES, AND HE PRAYED FOR THE SUCCESS OF THIRD PARTIES SEEKING TO RESOLVE THE DISPUTE.

7. "FALKLANDS DISPUTE: THE USES, DANGERS OF POWER, NAVY'S LEHMAN: CRISIS PROVIDES LESS FOR U.S."
BY BRAD KNICKERBOCKER

THE DISPUTE BETWEEN ARGENTINA AND GREAT BRITAIN OVER THE FALKLAND ISLANDS HAS CLEAR AND TROUBLING LESSONS FOR THE NATO ALLIANCE AND PARTICULARLY FOR THE U.S. SAYS JOHN LEHMAN.

IN A MONITOR INTERVIEW, LEHMAN SAID THE GROWING MILITARY CONFRONTATION IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC POINTS UP THE NEED FOR THIS COUNTRY'S EUROPEAN ALLIES TO REEXAMINE THEIR NAVAL FORCES, WHICH IN GENERAL HAVE BEEN SHRINKING IN RECENT YEARS.

THE FALKLANDS SITUATION ALSO DEMONSTRATES "THE WILLINGNESS OF POWERS TO SEIZE TERRITORY BY FORCE," HE SAID, PARTICULAR-LY IF THERE IS A PERCEPTION OF WEAKNESS ON ONE SIDE.

ALSO MADE THESE PCINTS: THE PUBLIC IS BEING "MANIPULATED BY SIMPLISTIC SLOGANEERING" TO SUPPORT A U.S.-SOVIET "FREEZE" ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

STATEMENTS BY SOME STRONG DEFENSE SUPPORTERS INCLUDING AT LEAST ONE SENIOR PENTAGON OFFICIAL THAT A LARGE NAVY ARE HIGHLY VULNERABLE ARE NONSENSE, LEHMAN SAID.

THE NAVY HAS MADE GOOD PROGRESS IN SOLVING PROCUREMENT PROBLEMS. COMPETITION FOR SHIP-BUILDING HAS INCREASED AND THE ADMINISTRATION IS REQUIRING CONTRACTORS TO ACCEPT MORE OF THE COST OF CONTRACT OVERRUNS.

PROBLEM OF RECRUITING AND KEEPING PERSONNEL HAS ABATED, SAID, AND ALL NAVY SHIPS NOW ARE AT "BUNK CAPACITY."

HE DISMISSES CALLS FOR DEFENSE CUTS FROM LIBERALS AND CONSERVATIVES ALIKE (INCLUDING MOST RECENTLY REPUBLICANS REP. JOHN J. RHODES OF ARIZONA AND FORMER PRESIDENT GERALD FORD) AS ONE OF THOSE TRENDY THINGS PEOPLE LOVE TO JUMP ON-

"WHAT ARE WE PREPARED TO DO TO DEFEND AGAINST SEIZURES OR ELOCKADES OR INFRINGEMENTS AGAINST OUR VITAL INTERESTS AND THOSE OF OUR ALLIES THAT WE ARE BOUND TO BY TREATY?" HE ASKED. WE SEE THAT THE MOST LIKELY CONTINGENCIES IN THE WORLD -- IN THE REAL WORLD -- ARE LARGELY UNPREDICTABLE. SECOND, THEY ARE LIKELY TO TAKE PLACE AT THE CONVENTIONAL LEVEL WHERE CONVENTIONAL FORCES -- PARTICULARLY NAVAL FORCES -- ARE THE DETERMINANT OF THE OUTCOME EVEN

THOUGH THE NUCLEAR BALANCE PROVIDES THE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH THAT KIND OF THREAT CAN BE CARRIED OUT."

HE SAID "A GENERAL SLOWDOWN IN THE MODERNIZATION OF THE NATO NAVIES" OUGHT TO BE "REEVALUATED."

HE REITERATED HIS MAIN THEME THAT THE U.S. SHOULD ATTAIN "CLEAR MARITIME SUPERIORITY" AND BE "VISIBLY OFFENSIVE."

"YOU CAN'T KEEPING SAYING 'PARITY' FOREVER," HE SAID.
"WE STARTED CUT SAYING PARITY -- AND I KNOW BECAUSE I WAS
THE CHIEF SALT-SELLER IN 1972 -- AND WE HAVEN'T DEPLOYED
A THING SINCE THEN.

LEHMAN SAID HE DOES NOT THINK THE PUBLIC IS DELUDED, NAIVE, OR MISGUIDED, AND THAT MOST PEOPLE STILL SUPPORT THE ADMINISTRATION'S PLANNED MILITARY BUILDUP. BUT HE ADDED "THIS COUNTRY IS NOT RUN BY PLEBISCITE, IT'S NOT RUN BY REFERENDUM. IT'S A REPUBLICAN FORM OF GOVERNMENT AND FOR GOOD REASON, BECAUSE OBVIOUSLY THE PUBLIC OPINION CAN BE MANIPULATED BY SIMPLISTIC SLOGANEERING."

4/4 UNCLASSIFIED

STATE Ø97225 TOSEC Ø5Ø165