

Falklands

DRAFT PRSIDENTIAL STATEMENT

President Reagan has directed Secretary of State Haig to proceed immediately to Buenos Aires at the invitation of President Galtieri.

The purpose of Secretary Haig's visit is to present to President Galtieri and the governing junta a United States proposal --- approved by President Reagan -- to settle peacefully the dispute between Argentina and the United Kingdom.

The framework for peace which Secretary Haig is bringing to Buenos Aires derives from the extensive discussions he has pursued over the past three weeks in Buenos Aires, London and Washington. It is based on Security Council Resolution 502 and on the purposes and principles of the UN Charter.

The chances of averting an ever widening armed conflict in the South Atlantic diminishes with each passing hour. At this critical juncture, it is the President's hope that the will for peace and the strength of statesmanship will prevail and that the United States proposal will be seen as an equitable basis for agreement.

Drafted: RLFunseth 4/6/82

Approved: The Secretary
Cleared: P:LEagleburger
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