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CONFIDENTIAL

FM BUENOS AIRES 24/1546Z MAR 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 97 OF 24 MARCH 1982

INFO IMMEDIATE PORT STANLEY (PERSONAL FOR GOVERNOR)

YOUR TELNO 69: INCIDENTS AT LADE OFFICE

1. WE HAD ALREADY PASSED TO BALCARCE THE GIST OF PORT STANLEY TELNO 27. HE CONFIRMED THAT THE DETAILS COINCIDED WITH THOSE IN THE MFA'S OWN REPORTS FROM STANLEY. I HAVE NOW SPOKEN TO BLANCO IN THE TERMS OF PARAGRAPH 2 OF TUR. I ALSO INFORMED HIM THAT IN VIEW OF CONTINUING EXAGGERATED VERSIONS OF THE INCIDENT IN THE LOCAL PRESS, THE EMBASSY HAD TODAY ISSUED A LOW-KEY PRESS STATEMENT DENYING THAT THERE HAD BEEN A MOB ATTACK ON THE LADE OFFICE, ANY ASSAULT ON LADE PERSONNEL, ANY HAULING DOWN OF AN ARGENTINE FLAG FROM THE FRONT OF THE BUILDING OR ANY DAUBING OF SLOGANS ON AN ARGENTINE FLAG. I ALSO TOLD HIM WE HAD PUT OUT ANOTHER STATEMENT DENYING A PRESS REPORT THAT I HAD YESTERDAY REQUESTED THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE LADE OFFICE.

WILLIAMS

[FALKLAND ISLANDS]

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