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FM WASHINGTON 021737Z APR 82

TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1081 OF 2 APRIL 1982

INFO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES, UKMIS NEW YORK.

FALKLANDS

1. THE WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN SAID THIS MORNING THAT PRESIDENT REAGAN TELEPHONED PRESIDENT GALTIERI AT 8.20 P.M. LAST NIGHT AND SPOKE TO HIM FOR FIFTY MINUTES TO EXPRESS HIS CONCERN, DESIRE TO SEE THAT HOSTILITIES WERE AVOIDED AND WILLINGNESS TO CONTRIBUTE TO A PEACEFUL SOLUTION. HE ADDED THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD COMMUNICATED WITH THE PRIME MINISTER AND WITH OFFICIALS OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS.

2. SPEAKES, WHEN ASKED, WAFFLED INSTEAD OF CONDEMNING THE ARGENTINE ACTION AND CALLING FOR WITHDRAWAL. THE STATE DEPARTMENT, APOLOGIZING FOR THE FACT THAT HE WAS INADEQUATELY PREPARED, ARE MAKING CLEAR TO THE PRESS THAT THE U.S. POSITION IS AS STATED IN MY TELEGRAM NO. 1075.

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HENDERSON

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