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| ALD 05013 | | |
| RECEIVED IN REGISTRY | | |
| DESK OFFICER | REGISTRY | |
| INDEX | PA | Action Taken |

(53) see 65
see 69
see 71
see 44

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FROM U K MISSION NEW YORK 051832Z APRIL 82

TO FLASH FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 396 OF 5 APRIL

INFO IMMEDIATE PARIS, BONN, WASHINGTON, UKDEL NATO, MODUK SITCEN.
MY TELNO 393; FALKLAND ISLANDS; UN ASPECTS.

(50) 1. CORDOVEZ (ECUADORIAN UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL FOR SPECIAL POLITICAL AFFAIRS) TELEPHONED ME ABOUT AN HOUR AGO. HE SAID THAT THE ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER HAD SPOKEN ON THE TELEPHONE TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL IN ROME THIS MORNING. HE HAD MADE CLEAR THAT ARGENTINA WAS QUOTE IN A NEGOTIATING MOOD AND HAD THE BEST INTENTIONS TO NEGOTIATE ITS DIFFERENCES WITH H M & UNQUOTE. THE SECRETARY GENERAL WONDERED IF HE COULD DO ANYTHING AND WISHED TO SPEAK TO A BRITISH REPRESENTATIVE.

2. I TOLD CORDOVEZ THAT IT WOULD BE BEST IF THE SECRETARY GENERAL WERE TO TELEPHONE ME. I WOULD SAY THAT THE ONLY ACTION OPEN TO HIM AT PRESENT WAS TO URGE THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT IMMEDIATELY TO IMPLEMENT SCR 502 IN ALL ITS PARTS.

(32) 3. ESSAAFI (TUNISIAN CHIEF OF CABINET TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL) TELEGRAPHONED ME A FEW MINUTES LATER. HE SAID THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL WANTED TO USE HIS GOOD OFFICES TO PROMOTE DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN US AND ARGENTINA. I TOLD HIM OF MY CONVERSATION WITH CORDOVEZ AND REITERATED THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL SHOULD TELEPHONE ME DIRECT FROM ROME. I STRESSED THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S FIRST DUTY MUST BE TO URGE THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT TO IMPLEMENT THE MANDATORY RESOLUTION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL. ONLY WHEN FULL IMPLEMENTATION WAS UNDER WAY WOULD THERE BE A QUESTION OF HIS USING HIS GOOD OFFICES BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES.

4. THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAS JUST TELEPHONED ME FROM ROME. HE SAID THAT THE ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER SPOKE TO HIM ON THE FOLLOWING LINES. THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN PUT IN AN IMPOSSIBLE POSITION. THEY WERE VERY WELL DISPOSED TOWARDS NEGOTIATIONS AND INTERESTED IN A PEACEFUL SOLUTION. HE ASKED TO BE ALLOWED TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE SECRETARY GENERAL. THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAD REPLIED THAT HE DID NOT REGARD IT AS OPPORTUNE FOR HIM TO MAKE ANY MOVE AT THIS STAGE, ALTHOUGH HE WOULD GET IN TOUCH WITH ME.

5. PEREZ DE CUELLAR WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE WOULD NOT MAKE ANY PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUBSTANCE WITHOUT THE AGREEMENT OF BOTH PARTIES (HIS SPOKESMAN WOULD SIMPLY ANNOUNCE TODAY THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAD BEEN IN CONTACT WITH BOTH THE ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER AND WITH ME WITHOUT GOING INTO ANY DETAIL). HE THOUGHT THAT HE MIGHT HAVE A USEFUL ROLE TO PLAY AT SOME STAGE BUT THAT THAT STAGE HAD OBVIOUSLY NOT BEEN REACHED. I REITERATED WHAT I HAD SAID TO CORDOVEZ AND ESSAAFI, IE THAT THE ONLY DIPLOMATIC

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ACTION WHICH COULD BE TAKEN AT PRESENT WAS TO URGE THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT TO IMPLEMENT SCR 502 IN ALL ITS PARTS. PEREZ DE CUELLAR AGREED AND SAID THAT HE WOULD KEEP IN TOUCH WITH ME. HE DID NOT INTEND TO CUT SHORT HIS TRIP TO EUROPE AS THIS MIGHT GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT HE WAS ABOUT TO MAKE SOME DRAMATIC INTERVENTION BETWEEN THE PARTIES.

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