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ZZ WASHINGTON
GRS 385
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FM FCO 062345Z APR 82
TO FLASH WASHINGTON
TELEGRAM NUMBER 658
FOLLOWING FROM PRIVATE SECRETARY
FALKLAND ISLANDS

ALQ 50/309/1		
RECEIVED IN REGISTRY		
DESK OFFICER		REGISTRY
INDEX	PA	Action Taken

1. HAIG RANG ME LATE THIS EVENING (6 APRIL). AFTER CONGRATULATIONS AND SAYING HOW MUCH HE LOOKED FORWARD TO WORKING WITH ME, HE SAID THAT HE HAD JUST HAD AN HOUR WITH YOU FOLLOWED BY AN HOUR WITH THE ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR AND EXPECTED TO SEE THE ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER SHORTLY. HE HAD NOT YET TALKED TO PRESIDENT REAGAN BUT WAS ANXIOUS TO ACT QUICKLY TO STOP THE VERY SERIOUS SITUATION GETTING OUT OF CONTROL. EMOTIONS WERE RUNNING HIGH ON BOTH SIDES AND POSITIONS WOULD BECOME MORE RIGID WITH TIME. HE THEREFORE WANTED TO COME TO LONDON VERY SOON, POSSIBLY AS EARLY AS 7 APRIL, TO SOUND OUT OUR VIEWS AND TO TRY OUT ON US SOME IDEAS BEFORE GOING ON TO BUENOS AIRES. HE THOUGHT HE HAD A PRETTY GOOD IDEA OF THE ARGENTINE BOTTOM LINE AND HE SAW SOME POSSIBILITIES.
2. I MADE CLEAR THE VERY STRONG VIEW HERE THAT THE ARGENTINE ACTION COULD NOT IN ANY WAY BE TOLERATED AND MUST BE REVERSED. WE ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO US INFLUENCE ON ARGENTINA AND TO THE HELP OF OUR FRIENDS AND ALLIES. THE PRIME MINISTER HAD SENT A MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT REAGAN ASKING FOR HIS HELP ON ECONOMIC MEASURES TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE ARGENTINES. I WAS GRATEFUL FOR THE US INTEREST DEMONSTRATED BY HAIG'S OFFER, BUT I WONDERED WHETHER IT MIGHT NOT BE BETTER IF I WERE TO GO TO WASHINGTON. HAIG INSISTED THAT HE WANTED TO COME TO LONDON FOR EXPLORATORY TALKS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND THEN FLY TO BUENOS AIRES. A VISIT TO WASHINGTON BY ME COULD LOOK AS IF WE WERE COLLUDING AGAINST ARGENTINA. IT WAS LEFT THAT I SHOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH HIM AGAIN SOON WITH A RESPONSE TO HIS SUGGESTION.
3. I WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR VIEWS BY 070630Z ON HAIG'S OFFER. AT FIRST SIGHT IT TENDS TO CONFIRM OUR FEARS ABOUT THE

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MEDIATORY ROLE THE AMERICANS SEE THEMSELVES PLAYING. WE MUST BE VERY CAREFUL NOT TO SEEM TO ALLOW THE AMERICANS TO SAP OUR DETERMINATION TO REVERSE THE ARGENTINE FAIT ACCOMPLI AND TO RESTORE BRITISH ADMINISTRATION. AT THE SAME TIME, WE DO NOT, OF COURSE, WISH TO REBUFF HAIG.

4. THE TACTICS OF THIS WILL REQUIRE CAREFUL THOUGHT AND CONSULTATION AT THIS END. YOU SHOULD THEREFORE MAKE CLEAR TO HAIG'S OFFICE THAT HE SHOULD NOT EXPECT AN ANSWER FROM US BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THE WORKING DAY OF 7 APRIL IN WASHINGTON.
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