

ENCL No
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U N C L A S S I F I E D

CWG019 08/0423 098B0619

FOR CWG

IMMEDIATE 080055Z APR 82

FROM COMMCEN FCO LONDON
TO MODUK
CINCFLEET

U N C L A S S I F I E D

SIC A3A/A2N/19F

UNCLASSIFIED

FM WASHINGTON 080055Z APR 82

TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1182 OF 7 APRIL 1982.

FALKLANDS

1. WEINBERGER APPEARED ON U.S. TELEVISION THIS MORNING. THE FOLLOWING WERE THE EXCHANGES ABOUT THE FALKLANDS.

QUOTE

Q. MR SECRETARY, LET'S TURN TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS. HOW WILL THE UNITED STATES BE ABLE TO STAY OUT OF THAT DISPUTE WHEN, BY A 1962 AGREEMENT, WE MUST MAKE AN AIRFIELD IN THE ATLANTIC AVAILABLE TO THE BRITISH?

WEINBERGER: WELL, THAT AIRFIELD IS ON ASCENSION ISLAND AND THAT IS AN ISLAND OWNED BY THE BRITISH. AND WE HAVE USAGE OF IT AND OBVIOUSLY WE WILL CARRY OUT OUR TREATY COMMITMENT.

Q. WELL, WHAT IF THE ARGENTINES ASK US TO HONOUR THE RIO TREATY, WHICH WOULD REQUIRE US, AS AN AMERICAN STATE, TO DEFEND ANOTHER AMERICAN STATE FROM ATTACK?

WEINBERGER: WELL, I THINK THAT THERE IS NO SUGGESTION AT THIS POINT OF THAT TREATY COMING INTO EFFECT. WE HAVE TO BEAR IN MIND THAT, AS THE UNITED NATIONS POINTED OUT IN THEIR RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ARGENTINA, FORCE WAS USED TO TAKE THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Q. SO YOU WOULD NOT VIEW US AS IN VIOLATION OF THE RIO TREATY IF WE DID NOT COME TO ARGENTINA'S SUPPORT?

WEINBERGER. WELL, I.. THAT CERTAINLY IS FOR OTHERS TO LOOK AT THAN THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT. BUT I DON'T SEE ANY SUGGESTION OF THAT AT THIS POINT. NO. AND I DON'T THINK ANYONE HAS EVEN SUGGESTED

THAT THE TREATY IS IN EFFECT ... WOULD BE CALLED INTO EFFECT BY THE EVENTS THAT HAVE HAPPENED THUS FAR. THE OTHER TREATY IS SIMPLY A JOINT USE TREATY, OR A TREATY UNDER WHICH THE BRITISH AS SOVEREIGN OF THE ASCENSION ISLANDS HAVE AUTHORISED US TO USE AN AIRFIELD. THAT'S ... SO I DON'T SEE ANY CONFLICT OR ANY PROBLEMS ABOUT THAT AT THIS TIME.

U N C L A S S I F I E D

UNQUOTE.

HENDERSON
 C RESOLUTION
 CONDEMNING ARGENTINA, FORCE WAS USED TO TAKE THE FALKLAND ISLAND.
 Q. ETC
 BT

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 CAB 1 US of S(DP)
 C Q 1 DSC(SCPL)