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FROM UKMIS GENEVA 380945Z APR 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELNO 161 OF 8 APRIL

INFO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK, PRIORITY WASHINGTON, ROUTINE UKDEL
NATO

TOP COPY

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YOUR TELNO 78: FALKLAND ISLANDS AND THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL

1. I SPOKE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL YESTERDAY EVENING (APRIL 7) IN ACCORDANCE WITH YOUR INSTRUCTIONS. THE FOLLOWING POINTS EMERGED:

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(A) HE ADHERES TO THE LINE HE DISCUSSED ON THE TELEPHONE WITH SIR A PARSONS (UKMIS NEW YORK TELNO 396) AND IS GRATEFUL TO KNOW THAT YOU APPROVE OF IT:

(B) HE HAS EXPRESSED PUBLICLY HIS REGRET AT THE ACTION TAKEN BY ARGENTINA EG IN A TELEVISION INTERVIEW WITH ABC, BUT HESITATES TO INITIATE COMMENT ON THIS SCORE FOR FEAR OF IMPAIRING HIS USEFULNESS. HE EMPHASISED THAT HE WAS "IMPARTIAL". I TOOK HIM UP ON THIS. HE COULD EASILY BE MISUNDERSTOOD. IT WAS ONE THING TO BE "IMPARTIAL" AS A SERVANT OF THE UN AND ITS DECISIONS. IT WAS ANOTHER TO BE "IMPARTIAL" BETWEEN ARGENTINA AND THE UK. PEREZ DE CUELLAR ACCEPTED THIS. HE SAID HE WOULD AVOID USE OF THE WORD WITH THE PRESS:

(C) MY ARGENTINIAN OPPOSITE NUMBER HAD GIVEN HIM TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE ARGENTINIAN PRESIDENT WAS READY TO NEGOTIATE ON THE BASIS OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 502. PEREZ DE CUELLAR COMMENTED THAT WHAT MARTINEZ HAD SAID WAS UNCLEAR AND HE WAS NOT CONVINCED OF HOW MUCH SPECIFIC AUTHORITY HE HAD TO SAY IT (THIS IS PAR FOR THE MARTINEZ COURSE):

(D) AT HIS PRIVATE AUDIENCE WITH HIM ON 6 APRIL THE POPE HAD EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN AT THE PRESENT SITUATION, BOTH WITHIN ARGENTINA AND AS BETWEEN ARGENTINA AND CHILE (BECAUSE OF HIS POSITION OF MEDIATOR) AND IN THE PERSPECTIVE OF HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT TO THE UK:

(E) PEREZ DE CUELLAR ENQUIRED ABOUT THE PURPOSE OF MR HAIG'S MISSION TO LONDON AND BUENOS AIRES.

3. AT THE END OF OUR CONVERSATION THE SECRETARY GENERAL URGED ME TO COME AND SEE HIM AT ANY MOMENT IF I WISHED TO DO SO. HE IS HERE UNTIL APRIL 18. WE SHALL KEEP HIS ENTOURAGE IN THE PICTURE EG ON THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE MARITIME EXCLUSION ZONE. YOU WILL NO DOUBT LET ME KNOW IF YOU WISH ME TO SAY ANYTHING FURTHER TO HIM.

MARSHALL

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CABINET OFFICE

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