

UNCLASSIFIED

FM BONN 081340Z APR 82

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 310 OF 08 APRIL

INFO PRIORITY BMG BERLIN (FOR HM AMBASSADOR) UKDEL NATO

WASHINGTON PARIS

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FALKLANDS: GERMAN PRESS COMMENT

1. IN COVERAGE OF THE CRISIS, WHICH STILL DOMINATES THE GERMAN PRESS, MOST COMMENTATORS ARE CLEAR ABOUT BRITISH RESOLVE TO REGAIN CONTROL OF THE ISLANDS. THE FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG (FAZ) SAYS QUOTE THERE SHOULD BE NO DOUBT ABOUT THE IRON LADY'S WILL UNQUOTE. THERE IS ALSO SUBSTANTIAL UNDERSTANDING OF THE UNDERLYING ISSUES AND THE OBLIGATIONS WHICH ALLIES MUST ASSUME. DIE WELT SAYS THAT LETTING ARGENTINA GET AWAY WITH IT WOULD ONLY TEMPT OTHERS TO TRY THE SAME TRICK. THE RHEINISCHE POST SAYS THAT THE SITUATION DEMANDS ALLIED SOLIDARITY, COST WHAT IT MAY.

2. THERE IS HOWEVER CONCERN IN SEVERAL PAPERS AT THE ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND HUMAN COSTS, AND EXPRESSIONS OF HOPE THAT SOME COMPROMISE CAN BE STRUCK. JANSSEN IN DIE ZEIT, ALTHOUGH HIGHLY CRITICAL OF THE ARGENTINE ACTION AND CLEAR THAT MORE THAN MERELY THE SELF-DETERMINATION OF QUOTE A COUPLE OF THOUSAND SHEPHERDS UNQUOTE IS AT STAKE, CONCLUDES NEVERTHELESS THAT A COMPROMISE IS CONCEIVABLE WITHOUT BRUISING THE PRIDE OF EITHER SIDE AND THAT THE DISPUTE IS NOT WORTH A DROP OF EITHER SIDE'S BLOOD. THE STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG SAYS THAT ARGENTINA MUST NOT PROFIT FROM HER ACTION BUT THE US MUST BE GIVEN TIME TO FIND AN ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISE. DIE WELT THINKS IT HOPEFUL THAT THE BRITISH ARE ONLY DEMANDING ARGENTINE WITHDRAWAL AND SUGGESTS THAT ON THE QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY SOME FORMULA CAN BE ARRIVED AT SATISFACTORY TO BOTH SIDES.

3. HAUSER WRITING FROM BRUSSELS IN THE GENERAL ANZEIGER AND THE FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU REMARKS THAT GERMAN INDUSTRY WILL BE MORE AFFECTED THAN THAT OF OTHER COMMUNITY COUNTRIES BY THE MEASURES TAKEN IN BRITAIN'S SUPPORT, AND SAYS THAT MASSIVE EC PRESSURE ON ARGENTINA IS URGENT. BRITAIN HAS UNTIL NOW NOT BEEN AN EXEMPLARY

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MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY. SOLID COMMUNITY SUPPORT INCLUDING AN ECONOMIC BOYCOTT, COULD BE A TURNING POINT IN BRITAIN'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COMMUNITY AND SHOW THAT THE EC IS SOMETHING TO BE RECKONED WITH. THIS MATTERS IN PARTICULAR FOR THE FRG, BECAUSE OF WEST BERLIN.

4. QUOTE JINGOISTIC ATTITUDES UNQUOTE IN THE UK DO NOT ESCAPE COMMENT. IN DIE ZEIT JANSSEN FINDS BRITISH JINGOISM OFF-PUTTING; AND UNDER THE HEADING QUOTE LARGE HAMMER, SMALL NAIL UNQUOTE DAHRENDORF WRITES IN THE SAME PAPER ABOUT QUOTE NINETEENTH CENTURY DRAMA UNQUOTE. FURTHERMORE PUBLIC REACTION TO THE CRISIS RAISES QUESTIONS OF NATIONAL IDENTITY : A COLONIAL OR EUROPEAN POWER ? IF THE FORMER, THE TRIDENT DECISION WAS WRONG. SEVERAL PAPERS ADVOCATE A COOLER APPROACH: GRODINSKI IN FAZ DETECTS A COOLER MOOD IN BRITAIN ALREADY.

TAYLOR

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