

HAIG PRESSES DIPLOMATIC SHUTTLE ON FALKLANDS CRISIS

*Follas 4/12/82*

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LONDON (UPI) -- SECRETARY OF STATE ALEXANDER HAIG, PRESSING ON WITH HIS ACROSS-THE-WORLD FALKLANDS PEACE SHUTTLE, MONDAY HANDED ARGENTINA'S PROPOSALS FOR ENDING THE CRISIS TO PRIME MINISTER MARGARET THATCHER JUST HOURS AFTER BRITAIN IMPOSED A NAVAL BLOCKADE AROUND THE ISLANDS IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC.

A TIRED-LOOKING HAIG LANDED BEFORE DAWN AFTER AN 18-HOUR ALL NIGHT FLIGHT FROM BUENOS AIRES. FOUR HOURS LATER, HE MET MRS. THATCHER AT HER NO. 10 DOWNING ST. OFFICE.

BRITAIN'S NEW FOREIGN SECRETARY, FRANCIS PYM, AND DEFENSE SECRETARY JOHN NOTT JOINED IN THE TALKS, WHICH CONTINUED THROUGH A +WORKING LUNCH+ AND WERE STILL GOING ON EIGHT HOURS AFTER THEY BEGAN. HAIG GAVE REPORTERS NO DETAILS OF THE PROPOSALS HE CARRIED. HE WAS TO FLY BACK TO BUENOS AIRES TUESDAY WITH BRITAIN'S REPLY.

THERE WERE NO REPORTS OF INCIDENTS ON THE FIRST FULL DAY OF BRITAIN'S BLOCKADE WITHIN A 200 NAUTICAL MILE RADIUS OF THE ISLANDS. IN WASHINGTON, DEPUTY WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY LARRY SPEAKES SAID +THERE'S CERTAIN HOPE+ WAR BETWEEN BRITAIN AND ARGENTINA COULD BE AVERTED.

+WE CLEARLY FAVOR A WITHDRAWAL (BY THE ARGENTINES) AND A DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION,+ SPEAKES TOLD REPORTERS. HE SAID PRESIDENT REAGAN RECEIVED AN UPDATE ON THE SITUATION AND MAINTAINED +A CONSTANT FLOW OF CABLE TRAFFIC+ WITH HAIG ON EFFORTS TO DEFUSE THE CONFRONTATION.

+IT'S A MATTER THAT IS BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS,+ SPEAKES SAID. +IT'S A MATTER THAT IS SERIOUS,+ ON ARRIVAL IN LONDON, HAIG SAID, +WE HAVE SOME IDEAS WHICH HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED ON THE BASIS OF U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 502,+ WHICH ORDERED ARGENTINA TO REMOVE ITS OCCUPATION FORCES AND BOTH SIDES TO SEEK A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. ARGENTINE FORCES INVADED THE BRITISH-RULED FALKLANDS APRIL 2.

ACCORDING TO UNCONFIRMED BUENOS AIRES REPORTS, THE PROPOSALS FORMED A PACKAGE UNDER WHICH ARGENTINA WOULD PULL OUT ITS TROOPS IN RETURN FOR BRITAIN CALLING OFF THE BLOCKADE AND ORDERING BACK ITS NAVAL TASK FORCE NOW HEADING FOR THE FALKLANDS.

BUT THE PACKAGE REPORTEDLY ALSO PROVIDED THE ISLANDS SHOULD REMAIN UNDER ARGENTINE SOVEREIGNTY, WITH THE ARGENTINE FLAG STILL FLYING -- SOMETHING BRITAIN WOULD FIND DIFFICULT, IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE, TO STOMACH.

PYM SAID SUNDAY THE RESTORATION OF BRITISH SOVEREIGNTY WAS NOT NEGOTIABLE.

OTHER PARTS OF THE PLAN, ACCORDING TO UNCONFIRMED BUENOS AIRES REPORTS, WERE THAT THE 1,800 ENGLISH-SPEAKING ISLANDERS WOULD GOVERN THEMSELVES THROUGH AN ELECTED COUNCIL AND A UNITED NATIONS OR ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES PEACE-KEEPING FORCE WOULD REPLACE THE ARGENTINE TROOPS.

THE BRITISH NAVAL BLOCKADE TOOK EFFECT AT 11 P.M. EST SUNDAY. ANY ARGENTINE WARSHIPS FOUND IN THE AREA WERE LIABLE TO BE SUNK.

THE DEFENSE MINISTRY SAID AN UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF BRITISH SUBMARINES WERE PATROLLING THE AREA. THE MAIN BRITISH NAVAL TASK FORCE WAS EXPECTED TO TAKE AT LEAST ANOTHER 10 DAYS TO REACH THE AREA.

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WAS NOT SURPRISED AT THE LACK OF INCIDENTS. THE DEFENSE MINISTRY SAID MOST, IF NOT ALL, THE ARGENTINE NAVY HAD LEFT THE BLOCKADE ZONE AND HOLED UP IN OR NEAR MAINLAND BASES.