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TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELEGRAM NO 1251 OF 12 APRIL

INFO IMMEDIATE: UKMIS NEW YORK, MEXICO CITY, SAN JOSE, TEGUCIGALPA, PANAMA CITY, BOGOTA, CARACAS, QUITO, BRASILIA, SANTIAGO, MONTEVIDEO, ASUNCION, KINGSTON, BRIDGETOWN, PORT OF SPAIN

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FALKLANDS/OAS

1. OAS DELEGATIONS RESUMED DISCUSSION TODAY (12 APRIL) ON THE DRAFT COLOMBIAN RESOLUTION (MY TELNOS 1195 AND 1196 (NOT TO ALL)). BECAUSE OF CONTINUED DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN MEMBERS, THE MEETING WAS HELD IN PRIVATE. IT ADJOURNED LATE THIS EVENING WITHOUT APPROVING ANY AGREED TEXT.

2. IN THE MARGINS OF THE MEETING, WE LEARNED THAT SEVERAL GROUPS ARE OPPOSED TO THE ORIGINAL COLOMBIAN DRAFT AND TO A REVISED ONE WHICH OMITTS REFERENCE TO THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION. THE ANGLOPHONE CARIBBEANS HAVE SOUGHT (SO FAR UNSUCCESSFULLY) TO INCLUDE IN THE RESOLUTION A PHRASE REFERRING TO THE NON-USE OF FORCE TO SETTLE DISPUTES. THE AMERICANS SEEM ANXIOUS TO PREVENT THE OAS FROM SETTING UP A "MEDIATION" INITIATIVE WHICH MIGHT CUT ACROSS HAIG'S OWN EFFORTS. THE ARGENTINES THEMSELVES ARE SAID TO BE OPPOSED TO THE WHOLE RESOLUTION SINCE THEY BELIEVE IT COULD INHIBIT THEM FROM INVOKING THE RIO TREATY. A NUMBER OF OTHERS ARE SEEKING TO AVOID INVOCATION OF THAT TREATY BY COMMITTING THE OAS TO A CONCILIATORY POSITION IN ORDER TO MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR ARGENTINA TO FORCE THROUGH MEASURES AGAINST THE UK UNDER ITS TERMS.

3. THUS THE DEADLOCK CONTINUES. OAS MEMBERS FEEL OBLIGED TO TAKE SOME ACTION GIVEN THE ORGANIZATION'S REGIONAL ROLE, BUT THEY REMAIN DIVIDED AS HAIG'S MISSION CONTINUES AND NO (NO) INCIDENT HAS YET OCCURRED IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC. WE HAVE ARGUED IN THE MARGINS OF THE MEETINGS THAT THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY IN WHICH THE OAS COULD HELP REACH A PEACEFUL SOLUTION WOULD BE FOR IT TO APPEAR TO ARGENTINA TO ABIDE BY ITS COMMITMENTS UNDER THE OAS AND UN CHARTERS AND TO IMPLEMENT UNSCR 502.

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