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ENCL No.  
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R E S T R I C T E D

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FOR CWG

IMMEDIATE 131415Z APR 82

FROM COMMCEN FCO LONDON  
TO MODUK  
CINCFLEET

R E S T R I C T E D

SIC A3A/A2N/19F

COW 131415Z APR 82

TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 191 OF 13TH APRIL

FOR INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON UKMIS NEW YORK UKDEL NATO AND BONN.

MY TELNO 188: FALKLAND ISLANDS: SOVIET ATTITUDE.

1. SOVIET PRESS COVERAGE HAS FOR THE TIME BEING GENERALLY SETTLED IN TO THE LINE DESCRIBED IN TUR: ANTI-BRITISH AND CRITICAL OF THE UNITED STATES FOR ALLEGEDLY SUPPORTING BRITAIN. HOWEVER, THE PRESS HAS NOT YET EXPLICITLY SUPPORTED ARGENTINA'S INVASION OR ITS CLAIM OF SOVEREIGNTY, THOUGH THIS IS IMPLICIT IN THE SOVIET LINE (PARA 2 OF TUR) THAT THE CONFLICT IS THE RESULT OF BRITAIN'S RESISTANCE TO THE UNGA REQUIREMENT FOR DECOLONISATION OF THE FALKLANDS.
2. THIS LINE REFLECTS THE LANGUAGE USED BY TROYANOVSKY IN THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL'S 3 APRIL DEBATE. IT WAS FURTHER DEVELOPED IN PRAVDA'S AUTHORITATIVE 'INTERNATIONAL REVIEW' COLUMN ON 11 APRIL: 'THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT BRITAIN'S ATTEMPTS TO RE-ESTABLISH THE COLONIAL STATUS OF THE ISLANDS BY FORCE ARE INADMISSIBLE. THEY DIRECTLY CONTRADICT THE KNOWN DECISIONS OF THE UN ON DECOLONISATION OF THE FALKLAND (MALVINAS) ISLANDS.....!!'
3. THE CRISIS HAS ALSO BEEN USED AS A PEG ON WHICH TO HANG MORE WIDE RANGING CRITICISM. GENSCHER WAS ATTACKED IN A TASS PIECE ON 12 APRIL (NOT SO FAR PRINTED IN THE PRESS) FOR AN INTERVIEW WITH SUEDEUTSCHER RUNDFUNK IN WHICH HE REPORTEDLY CRITICISED THE SOVIET UNION FOR SEEKING TO BENEFIT FROM THE CONFLICT BY ENCOURAGING ARGENTINA, FOLLOWING ITS ACT OF VIOLENCE. TASS COMMENTED THAT IT WAS STRANGE THAT GENSCHER SAW VIOLENCE 'IN PLACES WHERE THE PEOPLES ARE RESISTING COLONIALISM!!', BUT DID NOT SEE IT WHERE IT ACTUALLY TOOK PLACE, AS IN ULSTER, EL SALVADOR, AND IN ISRAELI PROVOCATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST. CHUKSEYEV (TASS CORRESPONDENT IN LONDON) WRITING IN 'SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA' ON 10 APRIL SUGGESTED USE OF FORCE BY BRITAIN OVER THE FALKLANDS COULD HARDLY BE RULED OUT WHEN BRITAIN WAS CONDUCTING AN UNDECLARED WAR TO MAINTAIN ITS COLONY OF NORTHERN IRELAND. IZVESTIA OF 10 APRIL CHOSE TO CONCENTRATE ON GIBRALTER, COMMENTING THAT THE FALKLANDS CRISIS COULD INTENSIFY THE ANGLO-SPANISH DISPUTE. FINALLY, PRAVDA'S LONDON CORRESPONDENT MASLENNIKOV ON 12 APRIL

R E S T R I C T E D



SET THE CRISIS IN A MORE GENERAL CONTEXT: !!A BROAD CONFLICT BETWEEN ONE OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE GLOBAL STRATEGIC INTERESTS OF THE IMPERIALIST POWERS IN THE AGGRESSIVE NATO BLOC!!.

4. OTHER POINTS FROM THE SOVIET PRESS INCLUDE:
- A) DISPARAGEMENT OF HAIG'S EFFORTS. (PRAYDA DESCRIBED HIM AS AN ENVOY FOR THE BRITISH NEOCOLONIALISTS).
  - B) CRITICISM OF HMG'S !!BELLICOSE!! POSITION THAT WITHDRAWAL OF ARGENTINE TROOPS WAS A RECONDITION FOR NEGOTIATIONS.
  - C) A TASS REPORT FROM BUENOS AIRES ON 12 APRIL THAT SOME AREAS OF APPROACHES TO THE ARCHIPELAGO HAD BEEN MINED IN SOME AREAS.
  - D) ARGENTINA CRITICISM OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY'S IMPORT EMBARGO.

BROOKE TURNER

CCN: PARA 4 B) SHOUD READ... WAS A PRECONDITION FOR NEGOTIATONS.  
BT

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