

ENCLOSURE
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CWG066 13/1912 103B3682

FOR CWG

IMMEDIATE 131620Z APR 82

FROM COMMCEN FCO LONDON
TO MODUK
CINCFLEET

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SIC A3A/A2N/19F
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FM BONN 131620Z APR 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 325 OF 13 APRIL

INFO SAVING DUBLIN PARIS ROME LUXEMBURG COPENHAGEN THE HAGUE
UKREP BRUSSELS EMBASSY BRUSSELS ATHENS WASHINGTONUKDEL NATO
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FALKLANDS: GERMAN PRESS COMMENT

1. THE CRISIS HAS CONTINUED TO DOMINATE THE GERMAN PRESS DURING THE EASTER BREAK AND TODAY. MOST PAPERS REPORT A TELEVISION INTERVIEW IN WHICH HERR GENSCHER SAID THAT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CRISIS LAY WITH ARGENTINA, AND THAT WHATEVER THE UNDERLYING LEGAL POSITION, THE THREAT AND USE OF FORCE WERE UNACCEPTABLE. ALL EFFORTS, HE SAID, MUST BE DIRECTED TO ARGENTINE WITHDRAWAL. THE STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG SEES THIS VIEW AS A CENTRAL PART OF A BIPARTISAN CONSENSUS IN THE FRG ON THE QUESTION OF ARGENTINE OCCUPATION, BUT DETECTS A GENERAL HESITATION TO TAKE SIDES OVER THE SOVEREIGNTY ISSUE.

2. INCONCLUSIVE SPECULATION ABOUT SOVIET POLICY IS PROMPTED BY A FURTHER REPORTED COMMENT OF GENSCHER'S, THAT THE USSR'S INTEREST IN INCREASING ITS INFLUENCE IN SOUTH AMERICA MAKES IT NECESSARY TO AVOID CONFRONTATION AND FIND A POLITICAL SOLUTION TO THE CRISIS.

3. HAIG'S VISITS TO LONDON AND BUENOS AIRES HAVE STIMULATED DISCUSSION OF THE OPTIONS FOR A DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION, INCLUDING THE QUOTE HONG KONG UNQUOTE MODEL. MOST PAPERS AGREE THAT BRITAIN HAD UNDERESTIMATED ARGENTINE CHAUVINISM, AND ARGENTINA BRITAIN'S READINESS TO REPEL AGGRESSION. HAIG'S TASK WILL BE TO FIND SOME ROOM FOR MANOEUVRE ON EACH SIDE. THERE IS SOME ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, FOR INSTANCE FROM DIE WELT, OF THE USEFULNESS OF THE NAVAL TASK FORCE IN CREATING A CLIMATE IN WHICH DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATION IS POSSIBLE.

4. PRESS OPINION IS GENERALLY FAVOURABLE TO HAIG'S INVOLVEMENT, ALTHOUGH STILL DOUBTFUL ABOUT ITS OUTCOME. BUT A COMMON THEME OF COMMENT IS THE AMBIVALENCE OF THE US ATTITUDE COMPARED WITH THE CLEAR AND PROMPT SUPPORT FOR BRITAIN

N GIVEN BY THE EC: EG DIE

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WELT: QUOTE IN THE EC BRITAIN HAD A CLAIM TO PLITICAL LOYALTY
 THIS IS ALL THE MORE IMPORTANT SINCE LONDON HAS REGARDED THE EC
 HITHERTO SOLELY AS AN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY UNQUOTE. THE STUTTGARTER
 ZEITUNG SUMS UP A RECURRENT THOUGHT WHEN IT SAYS THAT CRITICS
 IN LONDON SHOULD NOW SEE THAT REMAINING IN THE EC PAYS POLITICAL
 DIVIDENDS.
 FCO PLEASE PASS SAVING ADDRESSEES

TAYLOR
 CCN LINE E PARA 4.
 COMMENT IS THE AMBIVALENCE OF THE US ATTITUDE COMPARED WITH THE
 CLEAR

BT

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