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Falklands
4/14/82

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(TEXT) HAIG STATEMENT ON FALKLANDS DISPUTE (700)
HAIG TO RETURN TO ARGENTINA WITH 'NEW IDEAS'

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WASHINGTON -- SECRETARY OF STATE HAIG SAYS HE WILL FLY TO BUENOS AIRES APRIL 15 IN A RENEWED EFFORT TO AID IN THE SEARCH FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS DISPUTE.

THE STATE DEPARTMENT PRESS OFFICE SAID HAIG WILL LEAVE WASHINGTON AT 1300 GMT APRIL 15.

RESOLUTION OF THE CRISIS, HAIG SAID IN A PREPARED STATEMENT, WOULD "REQUIRE FLEXIBILITY ON BOTH SIDES -- NOT ABANDONMENT OF PRINCIPLE -- BUT RESPONSIBLE AND DEFENSIBLE ADJUSTMENTS."

HE SAID ON THE BASIS OF HIS CONVERSATIONS IN LONDON WITH PRIME MINISTER THATCHER AND OTHER BRITISH OFFICIALS, PLUS TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS APRIL 14 WITH LEADERS OF BOTH COUNTRIES, "I HAVE DEVELOPED NEW IDEAS WHICH I HAVE DESCRIBED TO THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT. BASED ON THESE NEW IDEAS, THE ARGENTINIANS HAVE INVITED ME TO RETURN TO BUENOS AIRES. I PROPOSE TO DO SO TOMORROW (APRIL 15).

THE SECRETARY DID NOT ELABORATE ON THE "NEW IDEAS" HE HAS DEVELOPED, IN KEEPING WITH THE NEED FOR CONFIDENTIALITY SPELLED OUT EARLIER IN THE DAY BY PRESIDENT REAGAN, WHO SAID THE SITUATION WAS ONE OF EXTREME SENSITIVITY.

HAIG UNDERScoreD THAT, FROM THE OUTSET OF THE CRISIS, THE UNITED STATES HAS VIEWED ITS ROLE AS THAT OF ASSISTING THE TWO COUNTRIES IN SEEKING A PEACEFUL SOLUTION, AND HE SAID THE U.S. ABILITY TO DO SO WAS BASED ON LONG-STANDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH BOTH COUNTRIES.

"FAILURE TO LIVE UP TO EXISTING OBLIGATIONS -- OR GOING BEYOND THEM -- WOULD OBVIOUSLY JEOPARDIZE OUR ABILITY TO PLAY THE ROLE BOTH COUNTRIES WISH US TO PERFORM," HAIG SAID. HE DID NOT ELABORATE, BUT U.S. OFFICIALS SUGGESTED HE MAY HAVE BEEN ATTEMPTING TO COUNTER NEWS REPORTS THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN "TILTING" TOWARD THE BRITISH VIEW IN THE DISPUTE.

HAIG SPECIFICALLY SAID THE UNITED STATES, SINCE THE ONSET OF THE CRISIS, HAS NOT ACCEDDED TO REQUESTS THAT WOULD GO BEYOND "THE SCOPE OF CUSTOMARY PATTERNS OF COOPERATION BASED

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ON EXISTING BILATERAL AGREEMENTS.

"THAT WILL CONTINUE TO BE OUR STAND WHILE OUR EFFORTS ARE UNDERWAY," HAIG DECLARED.

HAIG WAS ASKED IF HE PLANNED TO GO ON TO LONDON AFTER VISITING BUENOS AIRES.

"WE'LL SEE," HE SAID.

THE SECRETARY RETURNED TO WASHINGTON FROM LONDON APRIL 13 AFTER SIX DAYS OF SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY THAT TOOK HIM FIRST TO LONDON, THEN TO BUENOS AIRES AND THEN BACK TO LONDON.

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF HAIG'S STATEMENT:

(BEGIN TEXT)

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I WANT TO MAKE A STATEMENT ON THE DISPUTE BETWEEN ARGENTINA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM. IT IS AN EXCEPTIONALLY DIFFICULT -- AND EXCEPTIONALLY DANGEROUS -- PROBLEM. THE POSITIONS THAT BOTH COUNTRIES HOLD ARE DEEPLY FELT, AND IN MANY CASES MUTUALLY CONTRADICTORY. BUT THE LEADERS OF BOTH COUNTRIES HAVE ASSURED ME AND IN TURN THE PRESIDENT, AGAIN TODAY, THAT THEY ARE PREPARED TO GO ON WORKING WITH US TO REACH A PEACEFUL SOLUTION. THAT WILL REQUIRE FLEXIBILITY ON BOTH SIDES -- NOT ABANDONMENT OF PRINCIPLE -- BUT RESPONSIBLE AND DEFENSIBLE ARGUMENTS. AS A RESULT OF MY CONVERSATIONS IN LONDON, PLUS TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS TODAY, I HAVE DEVELOPED NEW IDEAS WHICH I HAVE DESCRIBED TO THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT. BASED ON THESE NEW IDEAS, THE ARGENTINIANS HAVE INVITED ME TO RETURN TO BUENOS AIRES. I PROPOSE TO DO SO TOMORROW.

FROM THE OUTSET OF THIS CRISIS, THE UNITED STATES HAS VIEWED ITS ROLE AS THAT OF ASSISTING THE TWO COUNTRIES IN FINDING A PEACEFUL SOLUTION. OUR ABILITY TO DO THIS IS BASED ON OUR LONG-STANDING RELATIONS WITH BOTH THE UNITED KINGDOM AND ARGENTINA. WE HAVE BEEN CAREFUL TO MAINTAIN THESE RELATIONSHIPS IN ORDER TO PRESERVE OUR INFLUENCE IN BOTH GOVERNMENTS. FAILURE TO LIVE UP TO EXISTING OBLIGATIONS -- OR GOING BEYOND THEM -- WOULD OBVIOUSLY JEOPARDIZE OUR ABILITY TO PLAY THE ROLE BOTH COUNTRIES WISH US TO PERFORM.

SINCE THE ONSET OF THE CRISIS, THE UNITED STATES HAS THEREFORE NOT ACCEDED TO REQUESTS THAT WOULD GO BEYOND THE

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SCOPE OF CUSTOMARY PATTERNS OF COOPERATIONS BASED ON EXISTING BILATERAL AGREEMENTS. THAT WILL CONTINUE TO BE OUR STAND WHILE OUR EFFORTS ARE UNDER WAY.

THE EXCHANGES OF THE LAST SEVERAL DAYS INDICATE THAT EACH GOVERNMENT WELCOMES OUR ROLE AND RECOGNIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF PRESERVING OUR ABILITY TO CONTINUE IT.

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