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30 APR 1982	
OFFICER	
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Weska / Wright /
Cappas / Bullard / Uno

FM FCO 201030Z APRIL 82

TO FLASH WASHINGTON

TELEGRAM NUMBER 771 OF 20 APRIL

STRICTLY PERSONAL FOR AMBASSADOR

1. YOU ALREADY KNOW OUR PRELIMINARY REACTION TO HAIG'S LATEST PROPOSALS AND ARE AWARE OF THE SUGGESTION THAT I SHOULD COME TO WASHINGTON FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS, PROBABLY ON THURSDAY.
2. STRICTLY FOR YOUR OWN INFORMATION ONLY, YOU SHOULD ALSO KNOW THAT WE WILL BE IN A POSITION TO MOUNT AN OPERATION TO RECOVER SOUTH GEORGIA AS FROM 21 APRIL. WE WOULD ENDEAVOUR TO DO THIS WITH MINIMUM LOSS OF LIFE.
3. I DO NOT WANT YOU TO CONSULT ANYBODY ELSE BUT WOULD WELCOME YOUR OWN PERSONAL VIEW ON THE IMPACT THAT THIS WILL HAVE ON THE PRESIDENT, HAIG AND THE LIKELIHOOD FOR CONTINUED AMERICAN SUPPORT IN THE WEEKS AHEAD AMOUNTING TO THEIR CLEARLY COMING OFF THE FENCE ON OUR SIDE AND TAKING PRACTICAL MEASURES AGAINST THE ARGENTINE.
4. THROUGHOUT OUR TALKS HAIG HAS EMPHASISED THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING MILITARY PRESSURE. HE HAS SAID THAT OUR TACTIC HAS BEEN ABSOLUTELY RIGHT AND HE HAS REITERATED THIS IN HIS LATEST MESSAGE TO ME. PRESUMABLY US INTELLIGENCE KNOWS THAT ADVANCE ELEMENTS OF OUR FORCE ARE NEARING SOUTH GEORGIA AND WHEN THE DGI WAS TALKING TO HIS OPPOSITE NUMBERS RECENTLY THEY SUGGESTED THAT THIS WOULD BE AN EARLY ELEMENT IN OUR PLAN. I DOUBT VERY MUCH THEREFORE WHETHER THE OPERATION WOULD COME AS ANY SURPRISE TO HAIG AND I WOULD EXPECT HIM TO CONSIDER IT JUSTIFIED AND SENSIBLE. IT SHOULD BE A WAY OF SHOWING ABSOLUTELY CLEARLY THAT WE MEAN BUSINESS WITHOUT HOPEFULLY TOO MANY CASUALTIES.
5. ON THE OTHER HAND, IT WILL BE SOMETHING OF AN AFFRONT TO

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ARGENTINIAN PRIDE AND HAIG MAY THINK THAT IT WILL MAKE THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS MORE DIFFICULT.

6. OUR VERY STRONG FEELING HERE IS THAT WE SHOULD GO AHEAD BUT I THOUGHT IT RIGHT THAT WE HAVE YOUR ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT ON AMERICAN THINKING BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE TO REVERSE ANY DECISION. I WOULD NOT (NOT) PROPOSE TO TELL HAIG IN ADVANCE BUT DEPENDING ON THE ACTUAL SITUATION COULD HAVE A COMPLETELY PRIVATE WORD WITH HIM, IF AND WHEN I COME TO WASHINGTON.

7. SORRY TO RUSH YOU, BUT WE NEED AN ANSWER BY 1700 LONDON TIME (1600Z).

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