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FROM ROME 241115Z APR 82  
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TELNO 197 OF 24 APR 82  
INFO ROUTINE ATHENS, BONN, COPENHAGEN, THE HAGUE, PARIS,  
BRUSSELS, DUBLIN, LUXEBOURG, UKREP BRUSSELS, WASHINGTON,  
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INFO SAVING OTTAWA , CANBERRA , WELLINGTON , TOKYO

149 MY TELNO 138: FALKLAND CRISIS: ITALIAN VIEWS.

see 162

THE ITALIAN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE ON THE  
FALKLANDS CRISIS ON 23 APRIL, OF WHICH OUR TRANSLATION IS IN  
MIFT. [sic - ? MIFT]

2. THE PRIME MINISTER'S DIPLOMATIC OFFICE AND THE MFA ASSURE US THAT THIS STATEMENT REPRESENTS NO CHANGE IN ITALIAN SUPPORT FOR THE BRITISH POSITION, AND CLAIM THAT IT IS DESIGNED TO PUT PRESSURE ON ARGENTINA TO CONFORM WITH SCR 502.
3. BOTH HAVE TOLD US IN CONFIDENCE THAT THE STATEMENT AND ITS WORDING ARE A SOP TO THE SOCIALISTS, WHO ISSUED A DECLARATION ON 22 APRIL STATING THAT "ITALY MUST ACTIVELY SUPPORT WHATEVER INTERNATIONAL MEDIATION IS POSSIBLE AND USEFUL TO AVOID CONFLICT AND TO MAKE REASON PREVAIL"

(FULL TEXT FOLLOWS BY BAG).

FCO PLEASE PASS TO SAVING ADDRESSEES

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[sic - ? MIPT]

MIPT: FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF COMMUNIQUE:

AFTER HEARING A FULL ACCOUNT FROM THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, ON. EMILIO COLOMBO, OF THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CONTROVERSY OVER SOVEREIGNTY OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS/MALVINAS, THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS EXPRESSED THEIR PROFOUND CONCERN OVER THE MOUNTING TENSION AND PROLONGATION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS AIMED AT THE RESOLUTION OF THE ISSUE BETWEEN THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED, AND ISSUED A PRESSING APPEAL TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND ARGENTINA TO GIVE PROOF OF THEIR SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY AND DO EVERYTHING IN THEIR POWER TO FACILITATE THE DIFFICULT WORK OF MEDIATION WHICH THE US SECRETARY OF STATE IS DOING.

THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT, WHICH SEES ITSELF AS PARTICIPATING IN THE POSITION TAKEN BY THE TEN, RENEWS ITS FULL SUPPORT FOR CURRENT AMERICAN ACTION AND HOPES THAT THIS WILL BE CROWNED WITH SUCCESS, LEADING THE INTERESTED PARTIES TO CONTINUE TO THE END OF THE ROAD OF DIALOGUE AND NEGOTIATION, IN CONFORMITY WITH THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL. IT REMAINS THE FIRM CONVICTION OF THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT THAT THE RESOLUTION OF THE CONTROVERSY, EXACERBATED AFTER MANY YEARS OF INCONCLUSIVE NEGOTIATIONS, WILL BE POSSIBLE ONLY AS A RESULT OF PEACEFUL DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES ON THE BASIS OF ALL THE FACTS WHICH FOR YEARS HAVE BEEN THE ORIGIN OF THE PROBLEM, WHICH WOULD ALLOW FOR A RELAXATION OF CURRENT TENSION AND THIS THE REVOCATION OF THE COMMERCIAL MEASURES TAKEN BY THE EC AGAINST ARGENTINA.

IN REITERATION OF ACTION ALREADY TAKEN ON ALL DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS AVAILABLE AND MULTILATERALLY IN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE EC, INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE SENT TO ITALIAN AMBASSADORS IN LONDON BUENOS AIRES TO CONVEY THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT'S POSITION TO THE GOVERNMENTS TO WHICH THEY ARE ACCREDITED.  
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