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FM WASHINGTON 271922Z APR 82
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 1479 OF 27 APRIL
INFO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK

CC
PS
PS/Mr Hurd
PS/Mr Onslow
PS/PUS
Mr Giffard
Mr Wignit
Mr Gillmore
Mr Ure
Mr Team
Mr Weston
Mr Malleyby
Mr Williams(unsd)
PS/No 10
PS/Home Sec.
PS/Chancellor
PS/Mr. Dotti
PS/Sir
Amstrong
PS/Sir M
Fallisen

FALKLANDS

1. SO THAT THERE SHOULD BE A RECORD OF EVENTS, I SHOULD REPORT BY TELEGRAPH, THOUGH I HAVE ALREADY DONE SO ORALLY, THE SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS I HAVE HAD WITH HAIG SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE DAY.
- 2 HAIG TOLD ME THAT GALTIERI, WHEN PRESENTED WITH THE U S PROPOSALS, SHOWED GREAT INTEREST IN THEM, PARTICULARLY WHEN HE HEARD THAT THEY WERE U S PROPOSALS AND THAT THE U S GOVERNMENT WERE PREPARED TO MAKE THEM PUBLIC. ACCORDING TO HAIG, GALTIERI WAS NOW MUCH QUIETER AND LESS RUMBUSTIOUS. HE DID NOT AT ALL WANT A CONFRONTATION. HE WAS COMPLAINING AT THE INABILITY OF THE U S TO EXERCISE ADEQUATE RESTRAINT ON LONDON. HE WOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE U S PROPOSALS WITH THE JUNTA.
3. HAIG TELEPHONED SUBSEQUENTLY AT 1415 HOURS TO SAY THAT THE JUNTA HAD NOW DISCUSSED THE SUBJECT AND THE MATTER HAS BEEN REFERRED TO THE CORPS COMMANDERS.

4. HAIG ASKED ME EARLY ON TODAY TO LET HIM HAVE DETAILS, IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST FROM GALTIERI, ABOUT THE ARGENTINE PRISONERS AND WHERE AND WHEN WE WERE GOING TO RETURN THEM. HAIG SAID THAT GALTIERI WAS COMPLETELY WITHOUT INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT. HAIG WAS SURE THAT IF HE COULD GIVE GALTIERI FACTUAL INFORMATION ABOUT OUR INTENTIONS THIS WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL IN THE PRESENT CLIMATE.

5. AFTER CONSULTING LONDON I REFERRED HAIG TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT ABOUT THE PRISONERS. WE WOULD BE INTENDING TO RETURN THEM TO ARGENTINA, THERE HAD ONLY BEEN ONE CASUALTY, A MAN WHOSE LEG HAD BEEN AMPUTATED, WHO WAS NOW BEING LOOKED AFTER ON ONE OF OUR SHIPS. WE WERE NOT AT WAR WITH THE ARGENTINE BUT THEIR PRISONERS WERE BEING TREATED ACCORDING TO ALL THE CORRECT PROCEDURES.

6. HAIG TELEPHONED ME LATER TO SAY THAT WHEN HE HAD PASSED ON THIS INFORMATION TO GALTIERI IT HAD HAD A MOST HELPFUL EFFECT. HAIG WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE HIMSELF HAD HEARD THERE WERE STILL 20 PEOPLE AT LARGE IN SOUTH GEORGIA, OF WHICH HE ASSUMED WE HAD KNOWLEDGE.

7. HAVING HEARD LONDON'S PRELIMINARY REACTION AND THE SHORTNESS OF TIME AVAILABLE, I TOLD HAIG IN ONE OF MY CONVERSATIONS THAT IT DID NOT LOOK TO US AS THOUGH THERE WOULD BE TIME FOR HIM TO PAY YET ANOTHER VISIT TO BUENOS AIRES AS HE HAD HINTED MIGHT BE NECESSARY AFTER HIS FIRST MEETING WITH COSTA MENDEZ TODAY. IF HE WERE TO GO ONCE AGAIN TO BUENOS AIRES THIS WOULD MEAN A DELAY OF AT LEAST 36 HOURS. WE REALLY DID NOT HAVE THIS SORT OF TIME TO PLAY WITH AND IN ANY CASE THE IMPORTANT THING WAS TO KEEP UP PRESSURE ON THE ARGENTINIANS. HAIG SAID THAT HE ENTIRELY ACCEPTED THIS. HE WOULD KEEP THE ARGENTINIANS TO DEADLINES AND WOULD GIVE UP THE IDEA OF A FURTHER VISIT TO BUENOS AIRES.

HENDERSON

HNNN