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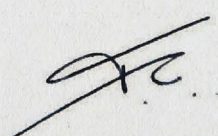
~~Secretary of State~~

FALKLAND ISLES

We had a talk in the Cabinet Office this afternoon. There is no news from Haig; the Junta is split; Haig is thinking of a "break" tomorrow morning (Washington time) and then publishing the proposals. The Foreign Secretary has asked for warning and consultation.

2. Several problems here but particularly:
 - a. timing of publication in relation to debate;
 - b. what comment should HMG make;
 - c. how is the diplomatic process to be carried forward.
3. The suggestion was made that FCO should provide draft telegram and message to Haig for discussion by Ministers tomorrow at OD(SA).
4. The view began to emerge that we should stay with Haig for the diplomatic process but try and dissuade him from publishing proposals, at least until we have exerted some more military pressure. All were against publication during the debate. There was general recognition that Government would need to respond rapidly if Haig (or Argentinians) published. FCO were asked to go away and think.
5. Point also made that US guarantee needed more precise definition and to be given some meaning (eg US Marines on Falklands) if it was to have any respectable validity.

28th April 1982


Frank Cooper