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TEXT OF PALAZZO CHIGI COMMUNIQUE OF 26 APRIL IS AS FOLLOWS (OUR TRANSLATION):- BEGINS:

A NOTE FROM PALAZZO CHIGI EXPRESSES PROFOUND APPREHENSION AND GREAT DISQUIET AT THE RECENT SERIOUS DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC SITUATION. THE CLASHES OF THE LAST FEW HOURS INTRODUCE A DRAMATIC ELEMENT INTO THE DISPUTE BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND ARGENTINA, WHICH COULD PROVOKE A CHAIN OF UNFORESEEN REACTIONS, WITH THE RISK OF PREJUDICING THE DIFFICULT WORK OF MEDIATION OF THE AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE.

THE GOVERNMENT, IN HARMONY WITH THE DECISIONS TAKEN IN A COMMUNITY CONTEXT, HAD A FEW DAYS AGC RENEWED ITS FULL SUPPORT FOR THE AMERICAN ACTION AND HAD LAUNCHED AN URGENT APPEAL TO ENTREAT THE PARTIES CONCERNED TO USE GREATER MODERATION. THAT APPEAL TODAY IS EVEN MORE TOPICAL AND IMPORTANT, THAT PROLONGATION AND EXPANSION OF THE CLASHES CAN ONLY MAKE MORE DIFFICULT THE SOLUTION WHICH EVERYONE HOPES FOR.

THIS SOLUTION CAN ONLY BE BASED ON DIALOGUE AND ON A PEACEFUL

EXCHANGE (CONFRONTO) BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES, ON THE BASIS OF ALL THE
FACTS CONNECTED WITH THE WHOLE PROBLEM. THAT WOULD LEAD TO A SLACKENING OF TENSION AND TO A RENEWAL OF THE NORMAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS
OF OUR COUNTRY WITH ARGENTINA.

THERE IS STILL SPACE FOR A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT: IT IS OUR GREAT HOPE THAT GREAT BRITAIN AND ARGENTINA SHOULD SHOW THE WILLINGNESS TO PURSUE THAT OBJECTIVE, FAVOURING THE APPLICATION OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION, AND THUS AVOIDING THE PLACING OF OBSTACLES IN THE WAY OF AMERICAN WORK OF MEDIATION.

ARCULUS

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CABINET OFFICE

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