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INDEX	FA	Action Taken

229

see 239

see 233

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FM UKMIS NEW YORK 041507Z MAY 82

TO FLASH FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 645 OF 4 MAY

INFO FLASH WASHINGTON AND DUBLIN

220 + 221

DUBLIN TEL'S NO'S 124 AND 125: FALKLANDS IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

1. DORR (IRELAND) TELEPHONED ME FIRST THING THIS MORNING (4 MAY) TO SAY THAT HE HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS, FOLLOWING A CABINET MEETING IN DUBLIN, TO CALL FOR AN IMMEDIATE MEETING OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL IN ORDER TO GET A CEASEFIRE. I TOLD HOLMES (PRIVATE OFFICE) OF THIS BY TELEPHONE AND THEN RANG DORR BACK.

2. I DISEMBOWELLED HIM. WHEN I HAD DRAWN BREATH, I SUMMED UP AS FOLLOWS: HE COULD TELL HIS GOVERNMENT FOLLOWING HIS CONVERSATION WITH ME THAT

(I) I WAS NOT PLEADING FOR A DELAY. I WAS READY TO MOVE INTO THE COUNCIL IMMEDIATELY. BUT I WAS ALSO READY TO VOTE IMMEDIATELY ON ANY RESOLUTION WHICH HAD THE EFFECT OF ENABLING ARGENTINA TO CONTINUE TO CONSOLIDATE ITS POSITION IN THE FALKLANDS WHILE LEAVING US WITH OUR HANDS TIED:

(II) A COUNCIL MEETING AT THIS STAGE WOULD BE POLEMICAL AND DIVISIVE. THIS DID NOT WORRY ME PERSONALLY BUT WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY PRECLUDE ANY USEFUL ROLE IN THE FUTURE FOR THE COUNCIL OVER THIS CRISIS:

(III) SUCH A DEBATE AT THIS STAGE WOULD KILL THE CURRENT CONFIDENTIAL INITIATIVE TAKEN BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL.

3. I ADDED THAT I HAD HEARD THAT ONE OF HIS MINISTERS HAD DESCRIBED BRITAIN IN PUBLIC AS THE AGGRESSOR. I WARNED HIM THAT I MIGHT HAVE TO TOUCH ON THIS IN THE PUBLIC DEBATE IN THE COUNCIL.

4. DORR WAS OBVIOUSLY SHAKEN. HE KEPT ON SAYING THAT IT WAS TOO LATE, IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD GONE PUBLIC. HOWEVER, HE COULD ASK FOR AN IMMEDIATE MEETING WITHOUT INSISTING THAT THE MEETING SHOULD TAKE PLACE DURING THE NEXT DAY OR SO, IE HE COULD GIVE US AND THE ARGENTINES A CHANCE TO RESPOND TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S IDEAS. I SAID THAT HE KNEW AS WELL AS I DID THAT THIS IDEA WOULD NOT FLY. OUR ADVERSARIES, (I.E. PANAMA, THE SOVIET UNION AND POLAND) WOULD BE GLEEFUL AT THIS PLAIN EVIDENCE THAT THE WEST HAD SPLIT AND THAT ONE MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY HAD COME OUT IN OPEN OPPOSITION TO ANOTHER. AS SOON AS HE ASKED FOR AN IMMEDIATE MEETING THE NASTIES WOULD PRESS THINGS TO A HEAD AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. I WAS READY FOR THIS. I HOPED THAT HE WAS,

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5. URQUHART SUBSEQUENTLY TELEPHONED AND I TOLD HIM WHAT I HAD SAID TO DORR. HE AGREED WITH EVERY WORD AND IS GOING TO PRESS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO SPEAK TO DORR ON SIMILAR LINES, IE THAT, IF HE GOES AHEAD, HE WILL DESTROY ANY CHANCE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL PLAYING A USEFUL ROLE IN THE CRISIS.

PARSONS

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S AM D
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-2-

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