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FM MOSCOW 051210Z MAY 82
TO IMMEDIATE F C O
TELEGRAM NUMBER 254 OF 5 MAY
INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON, UKMIS NEW YORK, UKDEL NATO

MY TEL NO 251 : FALKLAND ISLANDS : SOVIET ATTITUDE

1. BREZHNEV INTRODUCED A CLEAR, THOUGH UNSPECIFIC, REFERENCE TO THE FLKLANDS CRISIS INTO A SPEECH LAST NIGHT TO THE VISITING NICARAGUAN LEADER, DANIEL ORTEGA :

"THE PEOPLES WANT TO BE MASTERS OF THEIR LAND, IN THEIR HOUSE, BE IT IN CENTRAL AMERICA OR IN THE SOUTHERN ATLANTIC. AND IF IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE, TOO, THERE EMERGE DANGEROUS COMPLICATIONS AND CONFLICT SITUATIONS, IT IS PRECISELY BECAUSE THERE ARE FORCES WHICH ARE TRYING TO PRESERVE OR RESTORE THEIR POSITIONS OF DOMINANCE AND TO IMPOSE FWREIGN OPPRESSION ON THE PEOPLES. THEY DO NOT STOP AT THREATS AND PRESSURE, BLACKMAIL AND BLOCKADE, OR THE USE OF ARMS, AND RESORT TO ACTIONS HAILING BACK TO THE TIME OF COLONIAL BRIGANDAGE. HERE, AS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE GLOBE, THE SOVIET UNION FOLLOWS ITS PRINCIPLED POLICY, THAT OF REMOVING THE EXISTING SEATS OF TENSION AND PREVENTING NEW ONES, PREVENTING INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF STATES AND PEOPLES, AND SETTling DISPUTES BY PEACEFUL MEANS, AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE."

2. THE TASS SUMMARY OF THE FIRST DAY'S TALKS, CARRIED IN TODAY'S PRAVDA, ATTRIBUTED THE FOLLOWING REMARKS TO BREZHNEV :

"THE IMPERIALIST ESSENCE OF WASHINGTON'S POLICY TOWARDS THE LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES HAS AGAIN BEEN GRAPHICALLY BORNE OUT IN CONNECTION WITH THE ANGLO-ARGENTINE CONFLICT OVER THE FALKLAND (MALVINAS) ISLANDS". THE US WAS SIMILARLY THE MAIN TARGET IN AN IZVESTIA ARTICLE YESTERDAY IN WHICH THE CONFLICT WAS SAID TO BE AS MUCH, IF NOT MORE, WITH THE US AS WITH BRITAIN.

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3. APART FROM TROYANOVSKY'S UNSPEECH ON 3 APRIL, THE ONLY OTHER AUTHORITATIVE SOVIET PUBLIC STATEMENT HAS BEEN A PRAVDA REPORT ON 30 APRIL OF AN UNDATED MEETING HERE BETWEEN CANDIDATE POLITBURO MEMBER PONOMARYOV AND FAVA, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ARGENTINE COMMUNIST PARTY. BOTH SIDES CONDEMNED BRITAIN'S MILITARY ACTIVITIES AND CALLED FOR A RESOLUTION OF THE FALKLANDS PROBLEM BY PEACEFUL MEANS THROUGH TALKS BASED ON THE UN DECISIONS ON DECOLONISATION. "ATTEMPTS TO RE-ESTABLISH THE COLONIAL STATUS OF THE ISLANDS BY FORCE CONTRADICT THESE DECISIONS AND CREATE A THREAT TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY". THE "WARM AND FRIENDLY" MEETING WAS HELD "IN A SPIRIT OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING CHARACTERISTIC OF RELATIONS" BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES. FAVA SAID THAT HIS PARTY EXPRESSED THE DESIRES OF THE WIDE POPULAR MASSES IN DEFENDING ARGENTINA'S INDEPENDENCE AGAINST IMPERIALIST PRESSURE AND IN FAVOURING "DEMOCRATISATION OF PUBLIC LIFE". HE PRAISED THE SOVIET UNION'S POSITION OVER THE FALKLANDS CONFLICT. (THE FRENCH EMBASSY HAVE LEARNT THAT FAVA HAS BEEN IN MOSCOW SINCE 20 APRIL ON A SEMI-OFFICIAL BASIS, HAVING BEEN BRIEFED ON THE FALKLANDS CRISIS FOR HIS VISIT BY THE ARGENTINE UNDER-SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN BUENOS AIRES BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE).

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