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TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1604 OF 5 MAY

INFO PRIORITY SANTIAGO, MONTEVIDEO AND BRASILIA.

YOUR TELNO 897

JAMMING OF BBC LATIN AMERICAN SERVICE.

1. WE HAVE SPOKEN TO USICA AT SENIOR LEVEL (JOCK SHIRLEY), WHO HAD EVIDENTLY BEEN APPROACHED BY THE U S EMBASSY IN LONDON. HIS RESPONSE (AND THAT OF STATE DEPARTMENT, TO WHOM WE ALSO SPOKE) WAS POSITIVE. USICA HAVE RECENTLY STRENGTHENED THE VOICE OF AMERICA (VOA) BUREAU IN LONDON, WHICH NOW HAS TWO CORRESPONDENTS. THEY HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO AND REPORT OFFICIAL STATEMENTS IN LONDON, ESPECIALLY FROM THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE. SHIRLEY SAID THAT, AS A RESULT, VOA BROADCASTS TO ARGENTINA ARE NOW CARRYING VIRTUALLY ALL RELEVANT INFORMATION COMING OUT OF LONDON.

2. SHIRLEY ADDED THAT VOA RECEPTION IN ARGENTINA WAS NOT VERY GOOD. USICA WERE THEREFORE TRYING TO BUY TIME ON A BRAZILIAN RADIO STATION, IN ORDER TO GET A STRONGER SIGNAL INTO ARGENTINA. SHIRLEY ASKED THAT THIS INFORMATION SHOULD BE PROTECTED, SINCE DISCLOSURE COULD PREJUDICE THE DISCUSSIONS.

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