

OO UKMIS NEW YORK DESKBY 311400Z

OO WASHINGTON

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TO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK

TELNO 485 OF 31 MAY

FOR INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON

YOUR TELNO 894: FALKLANDS/SECRETARY GENERAL

1. PLEASE CONVEY THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO PEREZ DE CUELLAR,
WHICH HE MAY PUBLISH IF HE WISHES.
BEGINS.

I AM SENDING YOU THIS MESSAGE IN ORDER TO CONFIRM THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S POSITION WITH REGARD TO THE QUESTION YOU PUT TO SIR A PARSONS ON 26 MAY. YOU ASKED WHAT TERMS FOR A CEASEFIRE WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO US. AS YOU KNOW, WE HAVE ALREADY PARTICIPATED CONSTRUCTIVELY AND ACTIVELY IN SEVERAL MAJOR EFFORTS TO SECURE A RESOLUTION OF THE PRESENT CRISIS, MOST RECENTLY THAT WHICH YOU YOURSELF SO ENERGETICALLY CONDUCTED, AND WE SHOULD GREATLY WELCOME IT IF A CEASEFIRE COULD BE BROUGHT ABOUT. OUR ANSWER TO YOUR QUESTION IS THAT A CEASEFIRE MUST BE INSEPARABLY LINKED TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE WITHDRAWAL OF ARGENTINE FORCES AND TO THE COMPLETION OF THE WITHDRAWAL WITHIN A FIXED PERIOD. IN TAKING THIS POSITION, WE BASE OURSELVES SQUARELY ON SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 502, A MANDATORY RESOLUTION WHICH DEMANDED IMMEDIATE ARGENTINE WITHDRAWAL AND WHICH HAS NOW BEEN REAFFIRMED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL IN ITS RESOLUTION 505. WHILE WE SHOULD BE WILLING TO CONSIDER IN THE LONGER TERM THE POSSIBILITY OF ALTERNATIVE INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE ISLANDERS THERE IS NO QUESTION OF OUR

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Prime Minister

ODSA decided not to publish the
earlier reply to the Secretary - General. But
he wanted a reply to publish. R. Sym
therefore authorized this revised version.

A.F.C. 1/6

AGREEING TO THE WITHDRAWAL OF BRITISH FORCES IN PARALLEL TO ARGENTINE WITHDRAWAL.

YOU HAVE CONVEYED TO US THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT'S REPLY TO THE QUESTION YOU PUT TO THEM IN PARALLEL ON 26 MAY. THEIR REPLY SEEKS TO IMPOSE ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS WHICH ARE UNACCEPTABLE TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT. OUR POSITION REMAINS AS SET OUT ABOVE. IT IS GREATLY TO BE REGRETTED THAT ARGENTINA HAS STILL NOT SEEN FIT TO AGREE TO THE UNCONDITIONAL AND IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 502 IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE CHARTER. SUCH A CHANGE OF POSITION ON THE PART OF ARGENTINA WOULD TRANSFORM THE SITUATION. ENDS.

2. I RECOGNISE THAT YOU WILL NOW FACE A VERY DIFFICULT SITUATION IN THE COUNCIL IN WHICH YOU MAY WELL BE ISOLATED OR NEARLY SO. BUT TO HAVE GOT THIS FAF IS A CONSIDERABLE ACHIEVEMENT, FOR WHICH WE ARE MOST GRATEFUL.

PYM.