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FM UKMIS NEW YORK 010025Z JUN 82

TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 900 OF 31 MAY 82

INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON.

(93)  
MIPT, FALKLANDS; SECRETARY GENERAL

1. ALTHOUGH ROS GAVE NO INDICATION OF A CHANGE IN THE ARGENTINE POSITION (PARA 2 OF MIPT), I BELIEVE THAT THIS IS A GENUINE EFFORT BY PEREZ DE CUELLAR TO TRY TO FIND A LAST-MINUTE SOLUTION WHICH WILL AVOID FURTHER BLOODSHED. I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT HE IS PLAYING SOME KIND OF DOUBLE GAME.

2. HOWEVER, AS I SEE IT, HIS PROPOSALS ARE UNACCEPTABLE. FIRST, IF UN OBSERVERS WERE IN SITU UNDER A MANDATORY RESOLUTION, AND THE ARGENTINES FOUND PRETEXTS NOT TO WITHDRAW, IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT FOR US TO RESUME MILITARY ACTION. SECONDLY, HIS PLAN INVOLVES SOME BRITISH WITHDRAWAL. THIRDLY, IT COULD RESUSCITATE THE WHOLE IDEA OF UN INTERIM ADMINISTRATION, TARGET DATES AND UN SUPERVISION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR A FINAL SOLUTION.

3. NEVERTHELESS, IT ENABLES US TO BUY A LITTLE MORE TIME: PEREZ DE CUELLAR IS OBVIOUSLY THINKING OF DELAYING HIS REPORT TO THE COUNCIL UNTIL WEDNESDAY IN ORDER TO EXPLORE HIS IDEAS TO THE FULL. HE AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL HAVE ALREADY DRIVEN OFF THE PANAMANIAN WHO FORMALLY REQUESTED AN URGENT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL THIS AFTERNOON (MONDAY), APPARENTLY ON THEIR OWN INITIATIVE.

4. I RECOMMEND THEREFORE THAT I SHOULD BE INSTRUCTED TO GIVE HIM A REASONED RESPONSE: POINTING OUT THE GENUINE OBJECTIONS TO HIS PROPOSALS, DRAWING ATTENTION TO THE POSITIVE ELEMENTS, AND SEEKING CLARIFICATION OF THOSE POINTS WHICH ARE OBSCURE, E.G. THE RELATIONSHIP IN TIME BETWEEN POINTS (4) AND (5) AND WHAT IS MEANT BY "TOKEN". I SHOULD IF POSSIBLE LET HIM HAVE A RESPONSE BY 1900Z TOMORROW, 1 JUNE.

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5. IN FACT, AS WAS THE CASE WITH HIS AIDE MEMOIRE AT THE END OF THE LAST ROUND, HIS PROPOSALS POSE GREATER DIFFICULTIES FOR THE ARGENTINES, SINCE THEY INVOLVE TOTAL ARGENTINE WITHDRAWAL WITH THE FACE-SAVERS OF TOKEN BRITISH WITHDRAWAL AND A RATHER VAGUE FORMULATION ABOUT NEGOTIATIONS. THIS IS ANOTHER REASON WHY IT WILL BE IN OUR INTERESTS TO TALK TO HIM ABOUT HIS PLAN RATHER THAN REJECTING IT OUTRIGHT.

PARSONS

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