

Date Printed:
16-Jul-2001

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HANDLING: [REDACTED]

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PAGE 01 STATE 112303
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 /000 R

RELEASED IN FULL

DRAFTED BY FWG;RESERVICE;ARA;TOENDERS;MMF
APPROVED BY S:THE SECRETARY
P:LEAGLEBURGER
ARA;TOENDERS
S/S-O;RHSTERN

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Z O 270607Z APR 82 ZFFF
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PLASH
INFO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

[REDACTED] STATE 112303
DECAPTIONED

E.O. 12065: RDS-3 4/26/12
TAGS: PBOR, MILLI, US, AR, UK
SUBJECT: FALKLAND ISLANDS: DEMARCHE TO JUNTA

1. [REDACTED] - ENTIRE TEXT

2. COSTA MENDEZ HAS INFORMED ME THAT THE GOA DOES NOT WISH ME TO COME TO BUENOS AIRES BEFORE WEDNESDAY. ACCORDINGLY YOU SHOULD IMMEDIATELY SEEK A MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT AND THE OTHER COMMANDERS IN CHIEF TO DELIVER COPIES OF THE ENGLISH AND SPANISH LANGUAGE TEXTS OF THE PEACE PROPOSAL THAT ARE BEING TRANSMITTED TO YOU BY SEPTELS. WE ARE ALSO GIVING YOU AN ANNOTATION OF THE TEXT.

3. YOU SHOULD MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS ORALLY:

-- AS YOU KNOW SECRETARY HAIG OFFERED TO RETURN TO BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATELY WITH THE REVISED TEXTS

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OF THE AGREEMENT THAT WE HAVE BEEN WORKING ON FOR THE PAST TWO WEEKS. WE REGRET THAT HAS NOT BEEN POSSIBLE WITHIN THE TIMEFRAME CIRCUMSTANCES ALLOW.

-- WE BELIEVE THAT FULL-SCALE CONFLICT WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM IS IMMINENT. THIS INFORMATION COMES

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FROM OUR OWN SOURCES; THE BRITISH DO NOT CONSULT WITH US ON SUCH MATTERS; NOR DO WE HAVE ANY MEANS OF RESTRAINING THEM.

-- THE BRITISH ARE DETERMINED TO RETAKE ALL THE ISLANDS IF THERE IS NO DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION. THE COST IN HUMAN LIVES WILL BE TREMENDOUS. NO ONE WILL GAIN.

-- ARGENTINA MAY HOPE THAT MFM WILL PROVIDE BROAD SUPPORT AND STOP BRITISH. THAT WILL NOT RPT NOT OCCUR. MFM WILL PROBABLY AGREE ON TRUCE PROPOSAL ALONG PERUVIAN LINES, CALL FOR REVERSAL OF EC SANCTIONS; AND SUPPORT FOR U.S. PEACEMAKING EFFORT. THAT WILL NOT RPT NOT STOP BRITISH.

-- PEACE NOW DEPENDS ON IMMEDIATE ACCEPTANCE BY BOTH PARTIES OF THE AGREEMENT AS IT NOW STANDS. WE BELIEVE THAT THE AGREEMENT IN ITS PRESENT FORM PRESERVES THE HONOR AND THE JUST POSITION OF YOUR GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS THE BRITISH.

-- BECAUSE OF THE IMMINENCE OF MAJOR CONFLICT, I ASK YOU TO INFORM MY GOVERNMENT BY 2400 APRIL 27 BUENOS AIRES TIME WHETHER YOU CAN ACCEPT THE AGREEMENT, WHICH WE DO NOT CONSIDER CAN BE CHANGED. THAT MAY JUST GIVE TIME TO PREVENT A TRAGEDY, ALTHOUGH

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THERE CAN BE NO GUARANTEE. THIS IS NOT AN ARBITRARY DEADLINE SET BY US, BUT A REFLECTION OF OUR BEST ESTIMATE OF THE POINT OF EARLIEST DANGER OF FURTHER HOSTILITIES. WE ARE ALSO SENDING THE TEXT TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

-- WE ARE PREPARED AT THIS POINT TO DESCRIBE THE TEXT AS AN AMERICAN PROPOSAL, BASED ON OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH YOUR GOVERNMENT AND THAT OF THE UK. SHOULD EITHER OR BOTH GOVERNMENTS NOT BE ABLE TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL, WE PLAN TO MAKE IT PUBLIC AND TO DEFEND IT AS REASONABLE AND FAIR.

-- IN THAT REGARD YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT IF ARGENTINA CANNOT ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL AND FULL-SCALE FIGHTING BEGINS, AS SECRETARY HAIG TOLD YOU, IT WILL BE POLITICALLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION TO AVOID PROVIDING VARIOUS TYPES OF ASSISTANCE TO THE UNITED KINGDOM.

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-- PRESIDENT REAGAN AND THE SECRETARY REALIZE THE DIFFICULTIES YOU FACE IN THIS MATTER. BUT THEY ASK THAT YOU CONSIDER CAREFULLY THE OVERALL INTERESTS OF BOTH OUR COUNTRIES AND OUR COMMON INTERESTS IN THE HEMISPHERE.

-- OUR PROPOSAL WILL ENABLE YOU TO SET AN ENTIRELY NEW DIRECTION FOR THE ISLANDS, ONE WHOSE ULTIMATE OUTCOME CANNOT BE IN QUESTION EVEN IF IT CANNOT BE MADE FULLY EXPLICIT. YOU WILL HAVE MADE YOUR POINT. THE COURSE OF ARGENTINE HISTORY WILL BE IRREVOCABLY CHANGED.

-- YOU WILL HAVE ENSURED THE BASIS FOR RENEWED STRENGTHENING OF THE BONDS THAT JOIN US WITHIN THIS HEMISPHERE AND TO OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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-- THERE CAN BE NO GREATER TRIBUTE TO LEADERSHIP THAN THE WILL TO MAKE A DIFFICULT BUT RIGHT DECISION.
HAIG

[REDACTED]

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