

Date Printed:  
16-Jul-2001

DOC\_NBR: 1982STATE116672

CHANNEL: n/a  
HANDLING: [REDACTED]

42

PAGE 01 STATE 116672  
ORIGIN NODS-00

RELEASED IN FULL

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 (AS-01 NSCE-00)/000 R

DRAFTED BY FWG:RESERVICE:MAS  
APPROVED BY S/S O:RWERDMAN  
ARA:TOENDERS

-----107535 300644Z /12

O 300544Z APR 82 ZFF6  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

[REDACTED] STATE 116672

DECAPTIONED

INFO: 12065: RDS-3 4-29-02

TAGS: FA, URUS, AR

SUBJECT: FALKLAND ISLANDS: COSTA MENDEZ LETTER

1. [REDACTED] - ENTIRE TEXT.)

2. FOLLOWING IS TRANSLATION OF LETTER FROM FOREIGN  
MINISTER COSTA MENDEZ DELIVERED BY AMBASSADOR TAKACS  
TO ENDERS APRIL 29.

BEGIN TEXT:

MR. SECRETARY:

WE HAVE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED THE DOCUMENT THAT YOU TRANS-  
MITTED TO US, COMPARING IT WITH PREVIOUS PROPOSALS AND  
WITH THE POINTS OF VIEW THAT WE HAVE MAINTAINED IN OUR  
VARIOUS MEETINGS. THAT ANALYSIS REVEALS SIGNIFICANT  
DIFFERENCES, SOME OF WHICH RAISE PROBLEMS THAT MUST  
BE OVERCOME.  
AS MY GOVERNMENT HAS ALREADY INDICATED TO YOU, ARGENTINA'S  
[REDACTED]

PAGE 02 STATE 116672

OBJECTIVE IS THE RECOGNITION OF ITS SOVEREIGNTY OVER

THE MALVINAS ISLANDS. THAT CENTRAL ELEMENT OF OUR  
DISCUSSIONS IS THE ULTIMATE JUSTIFICATION FOR THE ACTIONS  
UNDERTAKEN BY MY COUNTRY AND. AS I HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY  
OF STATING TO YOU ON MANY OCCASIONS, IS FOR US AN  
UNRENOUNCEABLE GOAL.

ALONG WITH THE QUESTION ON SOVEREIGNTY, THE CURRENT

Page - 1

Date Printed:  
16-Jul-2001

DOC\_NBR: 1982STATE116672

CHANNEL: n/a  
HANDLING: [REDACTED]

42

CRISIS RAISES THE IMMEDIATE NEED TO ESTABLISH A PROVISIONAL REGIME FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ISLANDS AS AN ESSENTIAL STEP IN THE PROCESS OF SEPARATING THE TWO MILITARY FORCES AND AS A REASONABLE PAUSE IN VIEW OF THE LOGICAL IMPOSSIBILITY OF FORMALLY AGREEING UPON THEIR FINAL DESTINY AT THIS TIME.

THE TALKS THAT WE HAVE HELD HAVE BEEN FUNDAMENTALLY BASED ON THESE TWO QUESTIONS -- RECOGNITION OF SOVEREIGNTY AND REGIME OF PROVIS ADMINISTRATION. THE REMAINING PROBLEMS CAN BE SOLVED MORE READILY IF THERE IS AGREEMENT ON THE TWO POINTS THAT I HAVE JUST MENTIONED.

WHAT IS CERTAIN IS THAT BOTH ARE CLOSELY RELATED. TO THE EXTENT THAT THE PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE RECOGNITION OF OUR SOVEREIGNTY ARE IMPRECISE, WE DREM NECESSARY, IF WE WISH TO AVOID A RETURN TO THE FRUSTRATING SITUATION THAT EXISTED PRIOR TO APRIL 2, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MECHANISM THAT GIVE US GREATER POWER FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ISLANDS.

IF, ON THE CONTRARY, IT WERE CLEAR THAT ARGENTINE SOVEREIGNTY WILL ULTIMATELY BE RECOGNIZED, WE WILL BE MORE FLEXIBLE WITH RESPECT TO PROVISIONAL ADMINISTRATION.

PAGE 03 STATE 116672

THE DOCUMENT THAT YOU SENT FALLS SHORT OF ARGENTINE DEMANDS AND DOES NOT SATISFY ITS MINIMUM ASPIRATIONS ON EITHER OF THE TWO POINTS. ON THE CONTRARY, UNFAVORABLE CHANGES HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED IN BOTH. REGARDING ADMINISTRATION OF THE ISLANDS, THE NUMBER OF ARGENTINE REPRESENTATIVES HAS BEEN REDUCED, AND THERE IS NO LONGER THE POSSIBILITY OF INCREASING MY COUNTRY'S CONTROL IN THE EVENT THAT NEGOTIATIONS ON THE SUBSTANTIVE QUESTION DRAG ON WITHOUT A SOLUTION BEING FOUND. WE THUS FACE THE DEFINITE POSSIBILITY THAT A PREDOMINATELY BRITISH ADMINISTRATION WILL BE ESTABLISHED WITH NO FIXED TIME OF EXPIRATION. AS CONCERNS THE QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY, ALL PRECISION REGARDING THE CONCEPT OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY HAS BEEN ABANDONED, AND A NEW ELEMENT HAS BEEN INTRODUCED, A VITAL REFERENDUM TO DETERMINE THE "WISHES" OF THE INHABITANTS, IN OPEN OPPOSITION TO UNITED NATIONS

RESOLUTION 2065 AND TO THE POSITION UNWAVERINGLY MAINTAINED BY ARGENTINA.

YOU REALIZE, MR. SECRETARY, THAT WE CANNOT ACCEPT THESE CHANGES. IN MY OPINION, OTHER FORMULAS MUST BE FOUND, - A TASK FOR WHICH WE WILL ALWAYS REMAIN AT YOUR DISPOSAL. THEY SHOULD REFLECT THE EQUILIBRIUM TO WHICH I REFERRED

## UNCLASSIFIED

Date Printed:  
16-Jul-2001

DOC\_NBR: 1982STATE116672

CHANNEL: n/a  
HANDLING: [REDACTED]

42

[REDACTED]

EARLIER IN ORDER TO BE ADEQUATELY THE DATA REGARDING THE QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY WITH PROVISIONS FOR THE PROVISIONAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE ISLANDS. THESE PROVISIONS SHOULD BE OF FIXED DURATION AND ALLOW FOR PROGRESSIVE ARGENTINE PARTICIPATION OR, FAILING THAT, OF SUCH PRECISION THAT THEY ASSURE RECOGNITION OF THE RIGHTS OF ARGENTINA WITHIN A GIVEN PERIOD OF TIME.

IF THIS ARGENTINE POSITION WERE UNDERSTOOD, AGREEMENT WOULD BE ENORMOUSLY FACILITATED, AND THE FINAL DRAFTING OF THE DOCUMENT WOULD PRESENT NO INSURMOUNTABLE DIFFICULTIES.

PAGE 04 STATE 116672

I THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR ARDUOUS EFFORTS, AND ASSURE YOU, MR. SECRETARY, OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

NICANOR COSTA MENDEZ. END TEXT. HAIG

[REDACTED]

NN  
<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

UNCLASSIFIED